



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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Editor's Page

Cover Photo: Red Squirrel by Alan Ruiz Design: Lee Scammacca

Letter From The Editor

MANY PEOPLE WERE disappointed to hear that the ALDI proposal for Auld Mart Road was refused – read about that and the real reasons for refusal on p7. It is nothing to do with 20-minute neighbourhoods, as incorrectly reported in the regional press. Reactions were mixed as always, but most are still hopeful that a discount supermarket will make it to Kinross in the near future.

We were sad to learn that plans for the sale of the Golf Ball have halted (see p5) and very much hope that the AeroSpace Science Centre project can relocate to another location in Kinross-shire.

The Farmers' Market returns to the High Street on Saturday 27 April from 10-2pm. The Spring Market will be on Saturday 25 May from 10am-3pm at the Market Park. There is always a fabulous variety of food, drink and craft stalls. The Spring market will also showcase some fabulous entertainment from local musicians - please come along and show your support.

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

I can't begin to describe my excitement for the return of the Portmoak Gala (Saturday 1 June) and the Portmoak Festival (begins Sunday 2 June).

Pudding Club is undoubtedly my favourite event of the year and I am going to buy some new (larger) trousers in anticipation. The Festival programme is on p24 and there is everything from weaving and mosaic workshops and jazz nights to art exhibitions and cream teas.

It's great to see another lovely new shop for the High Street, Jean's Sparkle Style Gifts. If you haven't yet been, have a look down at 205 High Street. Jean is lovely and looks forward to meeting you – read more about her move from Cowdenbeath on p11.

Plans for the new playparks at Scotlandwell and Davies Park are now making good progress. On p11 you can see the illustrations of the proposed play equipment planned for Davies Park which has now gone out to tender. Davies Park is long overdue for refurbishment and it will be great to see children enjoying the new equipment when it finally arrives.

I was sad to read about a recent case of squirrelpox virus discovered with the death of a red squirrel just down the road in Dunfermline. This is the first time a case has been confirmed north of the central belt. Greys carry the virus, which does not affect them, but it can be lethal when passed to the reds.

Please keep an eye out for, and take pictures of, any ill-looking red squirrels and send them to the Scottish Wildlife Trust. You can also report all sightings of both species using the contact form on their website <https://scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/>.

Hannah Phillips, Editor

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The State We're Bin

THE STATE OF the PKC refuse bins in Kinross is appalling. I refuse to believe they are acceptable, the bins are rubbish.

The picture is a bin along Junction Road, close to the wetland which is part of the Rain-gardens Trail there. It doesn't help create a positive appreciation of the

landscape features when the litter bins are in such a poor state. 'Scrap' should replace the litter sign on the bin.

Brian D'Arcy, Kinnesswood

YEE – HAW!

We are hoping to have a summer BBQ for CHAS families at Rachel House on Saturday 20 July. We would like to have a Wild west theme so are looking for a line dancing group and a country and western band to come and perform. If you can help please contact Alison Blair at alisonblair@chas.org.uk

Alison Blair, Activities Co-ordinator CHAS

Our New MP

I READ THE account of the Clydeside Blitz written by our MP, John Nicolson in the April Newsletter. It was a moving and well-constructed piece.

But I could not help recalling a previous letter in the Newsletter mentioning that Mr Nicolson almost never wrote anything about his constituency. My conclusion is that he struggled to

find a suitable subject as he knew so little about Kinross-shire, due to his very infrequent visits.

Fortunately for Mr Nicolson – and for us – he has been selected by the SNP to stand in a new constituency in the forthcoming election, so we will be no longer presented with his irrelevant articles in our Newsletter.

We can only hope that our new MP – be that Pete Wishart, Luke Graham or from another party – will take more interest in this area than Mr Nicolson has done.

Alan Thomson, Kinross

Congratulations!



HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO Joy Tiley, who celebrated her 100th birthday on 21 April 2024 in Ashley House.

Mrs Jeffy Erskine, Deputy Lieutenant of Kinross-shire, presented

Joy with a card from His Majesty The King. Born in Manchester in 1925, Joy was an evacuee during the Second World War. She went on to become a primary school teacher, college lecturer and intrepid traveller and driver, once driving a car up a ramp on to an aeroplane!



Thanks



FIONA AND ANDREW TURNBULL would like to thank everyone who donated supplies and dropped off blankets, tools, food or medical supplies for the recent collection for Ukraine. The container was open for all of March and it filled up so quickly it was emptied three times. We met so many lovely people and the generosity was just amazing.

We received this lovely feedback from TASH for Ukraine, the group that sorts out the donations and transports them to the places in Ukraine where they are needed.

It is fantastic when businesses like Fruix Storage kick start and facilitate collections of donations and bring their community together to help. This is not only crucial for gathering aid but also highlights the continuing plight of the citizens of Ukraine. The situation in Ukraine is worse than it has ever been and the aid we provide to those most in need all over Ukraine is a lifeline. We can't do what we do without support from businesses such as FRUIX STORAGE and TASH for Ukraine would very much like to thank Fiona and Andrew Turnbull for their support and hard work to make this happen.'

Andrew and a volunteer loading up the van



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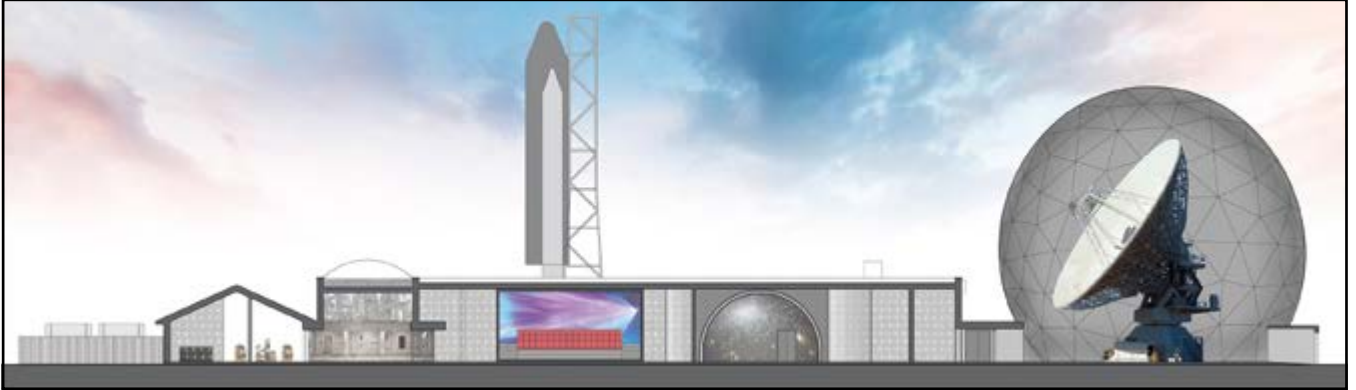
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GOLF BALL DEAL FALLS THROUGH



THE GOLF BALL SITE at Balado is no longer on track to become a proposed Aviation, Astronomy and Space Flight Science Centre.



Plans for the purchase of the former MOD Balado Bridge Satellite Communications Station at Kinross have gone back to the drawing-board, after the site owner declined a formal offer to buy the land.

This is an unfortunate setback for the much talked-about project, which has been keenly supported by Kinross residents. But it is not the end for the plans to build the new family-oriented aero-space-themed visitor attraction.

Plans are underway for a new design on a new site, and everyone is wishing Aero Space every success with relocating the project, which would be a fantastic addition to the area.

Chairman of ASSET Alastair Stewart said, 'The position is that we made a formal legal offer to buy the golf ball site which was declined by the owner. For reasons of commercial sensitivity and confidentiality I cannot go into detail, but the offer we made was significantly higher than the price previously



contained in Heads of Terms agreed with the vendor.

'Consequently we have now engaged our architect to design a new building which could be located on any suitable alternative site. Once the design has been finalised and costed we will liaise with our funders and then seek to acquire a suitable site.'

'There are currently two potential interesting locations on our radar. We hope to be able to share our new plans with our supporters and the local community in the autumn.'

No word has been forthcoming over the current owner's views as to the future of the site.

The Great Daffodil Appeal



The Great Daffodil Appeal is being well supported this year by our local businesses who are displaying boxes of daffodils. Collections are also taking place over

two weekends at Sainsburys and Greens with several volunteers from the community assisting with collections. The totals from these will be published next month. The Ploughing Competition at Lochend Farm raised £550 for Marie Curie. A spokesperson told the *Newsletter*, 'We are so very grateful for all this support.'

Our next fundraising event will be an Open Gardens Day for Marie Curie on Saturday 29 June from 12- 4 pm. There will be 10 lovely gardens to explore between Kinross and Milnathort. These will include the Potager Garden and plant sale and the allotment gardens.

Tickets will be £10 per adult and free for children. Tickets will be available in June by contacting Marg Meade at 07907 192097 or get them from the gardeners on the day. This event was a great success in 2021 and got rave reviews. The sunshine is on order!

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MIXED REACTIONS AS PKC REFUSE ALDI DEVELOPMENT

THERE HAS BEEN MIXED local reaction to the news that proposals for a new Aldi store at the Auld Mart Road site have been turned down by PKC planning officers.

Some Milnathort residents were jubilant that a development they had seen as a safety hazard to local schoolchildren, one that was likely to increase local traffic levels and, in their view, was of concern to the environment – not to mention the economic health of Milnathort town centre – has been kicked into touch by council officials.

Others, however, were furious to hear that the possibility of discount retail food shopping, especially one that brought the prospect of local employment, would not be sited quite as locally, or as quickly, as they had hoped.

The justification for refusal given in the decision notice was that 'the proposal is not in accordance with the development plan'. It states:

- The site is allocated for employment use in the Local Development Plan 2 (LDP2) and the proposal is for retail use.
- The proposal is contrary to Policy 28, Retail, of National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4), specifically 28 a) iii which does not support retail proposals in out of centre locations.

Cllr Neil Freshwater said, 'It's frustrating the decision has taken so long. I know there is huge demand in Kinross-shire for a discount supermarket like Aldi or Lidl so the news will be disappointing for many residents. I do hope that we will see such a store here soon.'

One Auld Mart resident told the *Newsletter*, 'Within a few weeks of Aldi making this application, I was confident that it should not be approved

due to zoning, incompatibility with the LDP and inappropriate size of development in this location. However we were warned by people who have experience of local government and planning decisions that this did not always guarantee refusal as there can be pressure put on the planning department from large commercial organisations and a desire to satisfy populist demand.

'So it has been a worrying period for local residents who felt strongly against this development.

'So credit where credit is due, PKC planning department has made the correct decision for the correct reasons.'

Another Kinross resident said, 'I'm pleased that the PKC has rejected the application for the Aldi store at Auld Mart. The proposed location is entirely unsuitable for retail premises. I have no objection at all to Aldi having a shop in Kinross. Indeed I would welcome it as long as the location is suitable for the purpose.'

As the decision was made by PKC council officers Aldi could now appeal to the local review body, which consists of three councillors. Whether they will is unknown at this time. Aldi were not available to comment.

This, of course, is not the end of plans for a discount food retailer in the locality. Plans to develop the BCA site in Kinross into a retail park consisting of four stores, along the lines of the one in Cowdenbeath, are still active. Whatever happens, Kinross-shire will gain a food shopping resource that many recognise is badly needed in times that place so much pressure on the household budget.



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DISCUSSION GENERATED BY WINDFARM DEBATE

A RECENT PUBLIC DEBATE about wind-farms chaired by former councillor Mike Barnacle was held before an almost full lecture theatre at the campus.

A panel, consisting of Murdo Fraser (Conservative MSP), Luke Graham (prospective candidate for Perth & Kinross-shire), Helen McDade (prospective Reform Party candidate) and Andrew Montford (director, Net Zero Watch) each spoke before taking questions from the audience.

At the meeting Mike expressed his disappointment that despite his 'strenuous efforts to provide a balanced panel' there were no parliamentary representatives from the Greens, Labour, Liberal or Scottish Nationalist Parties, with six members declining an invitation. He had also invited local Councillors.

The debate centred around the local and national picture.

Mike explained, 'Firstly, nationally, the Scottish Government adopted National Planning Framework 4 in February 2023, which had no stand-alone policy on landscape but provided strong support for the development of renewable energy projects. Where there is incompatibility between Local Authority Plans and NPF4, the more recent development plan should prevail. I noted that Policy 4d of the Framework limits circumstances where development can proceed in landscapes identified for protection in LDP's; interestingly the Ochil Hills are a Local Landscape Area in PKC's LDP2'. APRS (Rural Scotland) are currently involved in a review of Scotland's Landscape Charter for this autumn.

Mike went on to explain that while he is in support of a transition to renewable energy, particularly hydro schemes, he has concerns about the height, cumulative impact and related infrastructure of windfarms on landscapes with protected designations.

There are currently three new proposals for the Ochils. These are Craighead Windfarm, Brunthill and Windburn, on the Clackmannan/PKC border.

Mike wrote to CCs reminding them of the 'aspiration' for the Ochils to be a Regional Park (agreed previously by Kinross-shire Local Committee), indicating that that would be seriously weakened by further windfarm developments. In previous cases of Ochil windfarm proposals, conjoined public inquiries have been held, in particular to assess impacts on the landscape. He concluded that these latest proposals should be subject to a similar approach.

Fossoway CC carried out a windfarm survey and presented their findings in February. Caution was expressed about reading too much into them, particularly in relation

to percentage response, lack of historical background provided and significant reference to 'community benefit', which it was confirmed should be a separate issue to planning consent.

Among the points raised were:

- *Why aren't our local members more engaged in this process?*
- *Consultation is difficult and apparent apathy around this issue is surprising with examples quoted of other communities campaigning against 'monster' turbines!*
- *Why are we importing quality timber from elsewhere when we have an abundance of waste timber for biomass generation?*

to take oil and gas out of national waters and reconsider fracking.'

Helen McDade said, 'The proposed 200m high turbines were actually designed for offshore sites. Bringing them to these landscapes is a much bigger threat to local residents and the landscape than wind power stations which are already in the Ochils. It would also open the door to more such developments. These developments would not achieve a significant reduction in global carbon. Community funds will come at the cost of electricity consumers, with renewables subsidies coming from energy bills... we have gone too far and there is a risk of electricity blackouts... we should continue



- *Why are we not exploring small nuclear reactor sites?*
- *Scepticism about some of the claims for wind energy generation.*
- *UK has around 80% of the world's peat resource: removal should be avoided.*
- *How green are turbines when they end up in landfill at the end of life?*
- *How should those living near the proposals avoid appearing 'NIMBY' by objecting; suggested landscape designation, cumulative effect and visibility of turbines*
- *Concern at the loss of habitat for some bird species*

Luke Graham said, 'It was an informative debate. There was broad agreement that planning needs reform, and we must pro-

to take oil and gas out of national waters and reconsider fracking.'

Murdo Fraser commented, 'I valued the opportunity to engage in the debate. I outlined my concerns about the planning system and how local decisions made by democratically-elected and accountable Councillors can be so easily overturned on appeal by Scottish Ministers.'

Andrew Montford said, 'the debate was excellent, with two voices broadly in favour and two broadly against. I think people were shocked when I explained that National Grid's plans suggest a cost of nearly £20,000 per household just to upgrade the wires.

He also said 'Renewables are a disastrous mistake, and the costs far outweigh the benefits.'

CAN WE FIX IT? YES WE CAN!

ORGANISERS AND VOLUNTEERS were delighted with the inaugural Kinross-shire Repair Cafe held at the Kinross Church Centre on Saturday 20 April. Talented repairers were on hand to try to mend clothing, jewellery, bikes, laptops, electronics and small ceramic or wooden items.

Those with items in need of repair could enjoy learning repair skills, swapping clothes at the Swap Shop and having some excellent refreshments at the pop-up climate cafe.

Jim Fairlie MSP opened the cafe and said he was 'Absolutely delighted' to open the repair cafe. He told the *Newsletter*, 'The community spirit in Kinross is tremendous and it is a real pleasure and honour to be here.'

'Repairing something older and of better quality is a really important start if we are going to achieve our climate targets. We missed our 2030 target and it is really important that we don't miss the 2045 one. It is really hard to get people to buy into it. We need to do something.'

Gosia Stanton expressed her thanks for funding from the Community Investment Fund and the Green Living Fund for supporting the idea, as well as the amazing repairers who give up their time and skills for free. Thanks were also given to the Climate Cafe Group for their



Right: Talented repairers and volunteers
Below and right: Repairs to ceramics and electronics taking place

Bottom l-r: The opening: Gosia Stanton, Andy Middlemiss and Jim Fairlie, MSP

pop-up cafe and support, as well as Jim Fairlie for coming along to officially open the event.

If you missed the first Repair Cafe, save your items for the next one, in Milnathort

Town Hall on Saturday 29 June. There will be another in the same location on 21 September and then another back in Kinross Church Centre on 16 November.



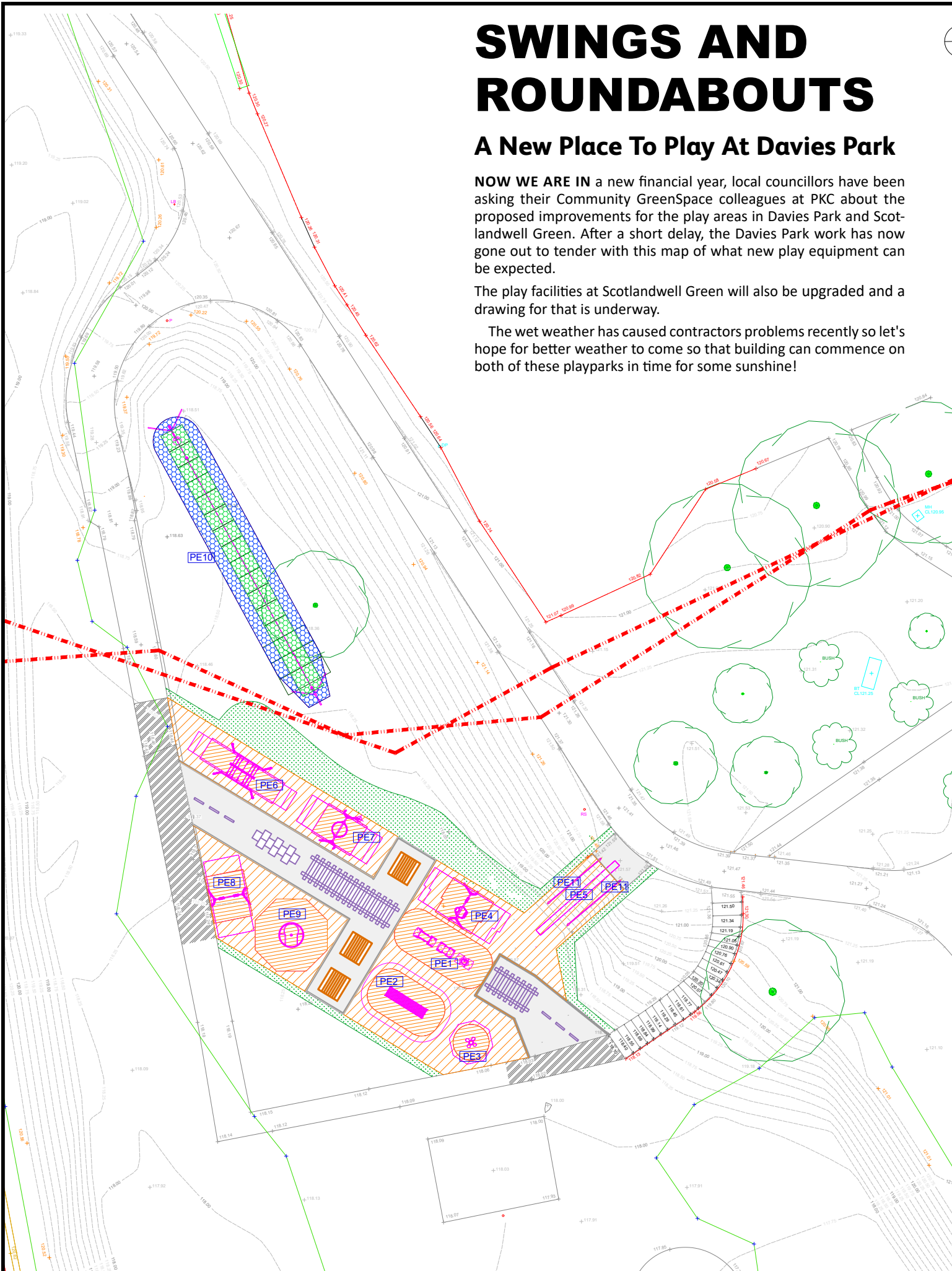
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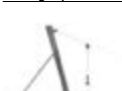
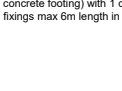










A New Place To Play At Davies Park

NOW WE ARE IN a new financial year, local councillors have been asking their Community GreenSpace colleagues at PKC about the proposed improvements for the play areas in Davies Park and Scotlandwell Green. After a short delay, the Davies Park work has now gone out to tender with this map of what new play equipment can be expected.

The play facilities at Scotlandwell Green will also be upgraded and a drawing for that is underway.

The wet weather has caused contractors problems recently so let's hope for better weather to come so that building can commence on both of these playparks in time for some sunshine!



Key:		Play Equipment:	
Extent of Works:		ALL ITEMS TO BE INSTALLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH ASSOCIATED SAFETY SURFACING INFORMATION & SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION	
	Site Boundary		PE1 Imaginative Play Structure : Play House Train Proludic Type J2616 or approved equivalent. (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_70_84_90) Refer to data sheet
Existing Features:			PE2 Trampoline Proludic Type R34-ETP-004 or approved equivalent. NOTE - Requires Concrete frame surround and formwork construction - confirm with manufacturer Pr-40-70-84-90 and data sheet). Depending on groundwater level following trial dig, install land-drain pipe to soakaway.
	Existing Spot Height Level		PE3 Play Rockers : Inclusive Springer Unit (4 seats) Proludic Type J839 or approved equivalent. https://www.proludic.co.uk/product/839/ (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_79)
	Existing Contour		PE4 Infants Swings : Inclusive Double Bay Swing Proludic Type J437-C or approved equivalent. Description / Dims etc (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_67)
	Existing Tree Retained		PE5 Play Slides : Stainless Steel Trough Slide (3.38m) Massey & Harris Type 1006 or approved equivalent. To be designed by manufacturer(As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_66)
	Tree Root Protection Area		PE6 Play Swings : Beam Swing Proludic Type J442 or approved equivalent. Description / Dims etc (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_67)
	Existing Amenity Grass		PE7 Play Swings : Inclusive Cradle Swing Proludic Type J435-C or approved equivalent. Oak Effect - Refer to data/installation sheet (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_70_84_90)
	Existing Bitmac Path		PE8 Play Swings : Double Bay Flat Swing Proludic Type J432-C or approved equivalent. Oak Effect (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_67)
Services / Utilities:			PE9 Play Roundabouts : Inclusive Roundabout Play and Leisure (Ref Code ERB05) or approved equivalent. Description / Dims etc (As Spec Clauses Ss_40_70_55_83 and associated data Sheet)
	SSEN: Scottish & Southern Energy Networks Underground Power Cables		PE10 Play Cableways Proludic Type J514 or approved equivalent. Metal Cableway for level surface. (As Spec Clauses Pr_40_30_61_59) NB Position Indicative only. Exact location to be advised on site by Contract Administrator following location and marking of power cables.
NB. Location of services / utilities indicative only. The Contractor is responsible for location and marking all services on site.			PE11 Rope Pull up/down - 2no. one either side of slide Post & Rope Feature (3 x 800m high round timber post 100mm dia (800mm out of the ground into steel feet socket into concrete footing) with 1 drill hole inc. natural manilla rope & fixings max 6m length in total.
Proposed:			
	Proposed Contour		
Hardworks:			
	Precast Concrete Flat Top Edging 150x50mm bedded and haunched ST1 Concrete Foundation. (As Spec Clauses PR_25_93_60_15)		
	Hot Rolled Asphalt - laid to crossfall (As Spec Clauses Ss_30_14_05_35)		
	Wetpour Rubber Surfacing Where overlaying former asphalt surface ensure asphalt is drilled to enable percolation of surface water. Wetpour Chase Edging to Grass. Laid to crossfall towards grass Pin Kerb Edging to Path		
	Grass Mat : Single Layer To Outer Area of Zip Line Description / Dims etc As Spec Clauses Pr_35_57_71_74 and Detail Dwg		
	Grass Mat : Double Layer To Inner Area of Zip Line Description / Dims etc As Spec Clauses Pr_35_57_71_74 and Detail Dwg		
	Thermoplastic Line Markings Railway Track ; Road Markings ; Hopscotch Pr_35_31_85_88		
Planting and Softworks:			
	Existing foliage		
	Amenity Grass Turf Spread 50mm site won topsoil from site stockpile and cultivate. Lay amenity grass turf type "Turfit" "Standard" (Tel 01592 869000) or approved equivalent. (As Spec Clauses PR_45_57_91 / 300)		
Furniture:			
	Picnic Table Timber Construction As Specification Pr_40_50_12_07		

Jean's Sparkle Style Gifts



IT'S GREAT TO SEE another new shop for Kinross Town Centre. Jean's Sparkle Style Gifts, at 205 High Street, is a ladies retail boutique and gift shop offering stylish casual clothing, handbags, jewellery and gifts. It's a lovely, quirky wee shop and we hope it does well.

For the last eight years Jean had the shop Uptown Girl in Cowdenbeath (the shop has been there for 40 years). Uptown Girl primarily sold wedding outfits, but Jean moved to Kinross when she felt it was time for something 'completely different'. Jean told the *Newsletter*, 'I am very excited to be in Kinross. This is something I have always wanted to do and everyone here has been very welcoming and very positive.'

There is a great range of gifts on offer and you will find something at a price point that suits you. If you haven't been down to see the shop yet, go and have a look and a chat with Jean – she will be delighted to see you!



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SOCCER SUCCESS FOR STUART



KINROSS-SHIRE YOUNGSTER STUART McDowell was awarded his first Scotland football cap at Hampden Stadium. He was also awarded the pennant from the game against Wales after scoring both Scotland goals. Mum Corrie said, 'I want to thank the school's support over the last six years with allowing him out of school to train and play.'

Stuart told the *Newsletter*, 'Playing in this tournament has been a brilliant experience both off and on the pitch. The highlight was scoring for my country twice in the one game against Wales and receiving my cap at Hampden Stadium.'

Proud Kinross High School PE teacher Mr Lavery said, 'Well done to Stuart for representing Scotland and receiving his football cap. Such an outstanding achievement! We are all very proud of you at KHS.'

Stuart receiving his Scotland cap at Hampden Stadium



Who Ya Gonna Call? SPEEDBUSTERS!

THINGS ARE PROGRESSING NICELY with the local community speedwatch group. As well as having their own speed detection equipment and branded hi-viz clothing, they now have roughly 33 volunteers. Six are vetted and seven fully trained. However, the Venn diagram of trained vs vetted volunteers results in only two volunteers being both vetted and trained. It is hoped that a few of the vetted volunteers will be trained in the next few weeks so they can start getting out and about in Kinross-shire.

A spokesperson said, 'A big thanks to the local Kinross-shire community police officers PC Ben Samson, PC Ashleigh Duncan, and PS Mark Craig for all the help and support they have given us on this journey and most recently on training us in the use of our speed detection equipment.'

Local councillors have also given their support for this initiative with. Cllr Richard Watters said 'Kinross-shire Speedwatch is a fantastic initiative! It is great to see it finally coming together. I know that speeding issues are a common concern and it's great that we've had so many volunteers sign up for this.'

Cllr Willie Robertson added "I am delighted to hear that the Kinross-shire Community Speedwatch initiative is now up and running. When trialled in Fossoway a number of years ago Speedwatch proved very successful in monitoring speeding hotspots and preventing excess speeds through our built-up areas. I am sure this new initiative will have a real positive impact in reducing speeding in Kinross-shire and I wish it every success."

Community Speedwatch is not about enforcement, it is about providing a gentle visual reminder to motorists to reduce their speed thus improving the safety and quality of lives of the local community. Volunteers do not enforce penalties: records of vehicles travelling above the speed limit, plus a generous margin of error, are forwarded to Police Scotland who will write to the registered keepers advising them of their speed and reminding them to obey the speed limits for safety reasons.

Speedwatch volunteers must stand in pre-defined locations and there are three, wearing high visibility clothing at each session. They use a speed detection laser which is approved by the home office and is calibrated annually. All volunteers are trained to operate the equipment to Police enforcement standards and have been vetted and approved.

Volunteers are still needed so if you want to



help out in any way or would just like some more information please visit and follow the Facebook page www.facebook.com/KSspeedwatch or email speedwatch.ks@gmail.com. If you see any of the volunteers out and about then please say hi!

NEW SEPA FLOODING CONSULTATION

SEPA ARE LOOKING FOR your views on areas liable to flood, which they call potentially vulnerable areas (PVAs). SEPA are the official flooding consultees for planning applications, which means they would highlight any potential flooding problems to council planning officers. SEPA say, 'Your views and the views of communities on the proposed PVAs will inform essential future flood risk management work so we can improve flooding resilience together and best prepare for a changing climate.'

Visit <https://consultation.sepa.org.uk/evidence-and-flooding/potentially-vulnerable-areas> to help SEPA identify PVAs.

While the designation of PVAs is a science and evidence-led process, feedback from public partners and local communities is key to making sure all relevant impacts are taken into consideration.

You can respond to the consultation on PVAs via Citizen Space until 24 June 2024.

CONCERN AFTER RECENT ROAD ACCIDENTS

NOT FOR THE FIRST time, a serious car crash at the Milnathort mini roundabout left locals stunned and incredulous the next morning when they saw the damage caused. The accident, which happened early in April, left a gaping hole in the wall of newly restored business premises next to Milnathort Town Hall. Thankfully no pedestrians were injured as the car mounted the pavement.

Witnesses also saw a car accidentally mounting the pavement in Kinross High Street in April outside the Central Fish Bar, and several bollards were damaged. No one was injured.

There have been several instances of speeding vehicles coming off the road in the Kinross-shire, and many local residents feel 'lucky' that there has not been a fatality in Milnathort, which in particular, would seem to be a dangerous spot.

Police Scotland appealed for information following the one vehicle road crash where the car collided with a building at the mini roundabout in Milnathort.

Their statement said, 'Around 11.20pm on Wednesday, 10 April, 2024, a white Mercedes A250 was driving northbound on the A922 South Street towards the A91 Stirling Road when it lost control at the mini roundabout and struck a building.'

Emergency services attended and the 18-year-old male driver of the vehicle was taken by ambulance to Ninewells Hospital in Dundee for treatment.

Inspector Michelle Burns from Road Policing said: 'We have already spoken to a number of witnesses and would continue to urge anyone with information to come forward in order for us to establish a full picture of the circumstances.'

'In particular we would ask anyone with private CCTV or dash-cam footage of the area from Wednesday night to please make us aware of anything which could be of significance to our enquiries.'

'Anyone with information is asked to contact Police Scotland on 101, quoting incident number 3948 of Wednesday, 10 April, 2024.'

Cllr Robertson commented, 'Milnathort residents were very shocked by the recent serious traffic accident in the centre of the village. It has led to calls for more traffic calming. The area both this crash and the previous one occurred were in a 20mph zone. It is difficult to know what needs to be done to prevent this happening again. Myself and my fellow ward councillors will be discussing this with the Council's roads safety engineers.'

Cllr Freshwater added, 'We obviously have to wait until the police conclude their investigations but on the face of it seems like dangerous driving and an unfortunate coincidence that there have been two accidents at the same spot.'



Cllr Cuthbert noted, 'The council does its best to make our roads and pavements as safe as possible.'

'I am not sure what happened outside the Salutation, in Kinross, but the accident in Milnathort was caused by a joy-rider, who reached a terrifying speed (rumoured to be almost 100 mph) and they were lucky to survive the accident.'

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EASTER PARTY AT RACHEL HOUSE



Maisie Reid with mum Stephanie and pony.

RACHEL HOUSE HOSTED a fun Easter party for the children supported by the hospice and their families.

As well as the usual visit from the Easter Bunny, some lovely Shetland ponies and real life baby bunnies made a surprise visit.

The children enjoyed meeting and petting the animals and also took part in lots of games, an Easter egg hunt and arts and crafts activities with the hospice's Activities Team and CHAS vol-

unteers. Families also enjoyed some delicious delicacies laid on by the Rachel House Catering Team.

CHAS Community Fundraiser Lyndsay Stobie said: 'It was a wonderful Easter party full of fun and joy, made all the more special by Lee Scammacca bringing her two beautiful Shetland Ponies along and Kaci Watson bringing her baby bunnies. The children really enjoyed meeting all the special visitors.'

Housekeeping supervisor Margaret Clunie with Shetland pony. We don't know what joke she told him, but it must have been really funny.



MORE KINROSS WINNERS AT PERFORM IN PERTH

THE GOOD REPRESENTATION OF Kinross-shire continued at Perform in Perth - the 100th Perthshire Musical (Competition) Festival – after last month's *Newsletter* went to press. Kinross-shire winners of the later competitions were:

- | | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Cello Solo (Advanced) | Daisy Ramsay |
| Woodwind Solo (Grade 5) | Sarah Kader |
| Flute Solo (Level 2) | Amy Lockhart |
| Clarinet Solo (Level 4) | Jessica Henry |
| Xylophone Solo (Level 3) | Andrew Robertson |
| Vocal Solo, Scots Song (18 & over) | Irene McFarlane |

Well done all!

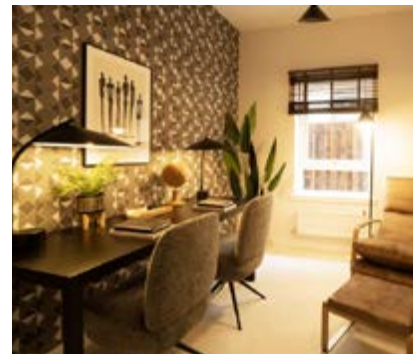


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IT'S NOT JUST FOR FARMERS!



LOCAL FARMER SCOTT BLACK is the new President of Kinross-shire Agricultural Society (KAS). Taking over from Dora Smith, Scott will lead the committee through the organising of the 2024 Kinross Show which is due to take place on Saturday 10 August at RSPB Loch Leven.



Scott has a long association with the agricultural show circuit having accompanied his father to a show almost every Saturday during his childhood. Scott says 'My Dad was an enthusiast of Clydesdales; he established the Forthar Mill show team on the farm that I grew up on near Freuchie. I was the youngest of four brothers so it was me who would help Dad to get the Clydesdales ready and prepared for the show and then

we would set off to exhibit. We travelled to all the shows in Fife and up to Perth, Angus, sometimes as far afield as Aberdeen too. One of our mares, Forthar Mill Patricia, won many prizes and after showing was over in the morning it was standard practice to stand with the mare all afternoon. I always got that job so when Dad stopped showing Clydesdales, I was quite relieved and could then get involved in other aspects of shows such as pulling in the Young Farmers Tug of War or a bit of socialising in the trade stands.'

It's the trade stand area that Scott wishes to shine a spotlight on during his presidency. 'The support from the traders who take a stand at the show is brilliant. Our visitors really enjoy the opportunity to see the machinery up close. Agriculture is highly mechanised nowadays and at Kinross Show the public can see the kit that farmers are investing in to produce food.' Scott is keen to point out that the trade stand area is not just for farming-related businesses, it is open to any business and he wants to encourage local traders to take a pitch. He says, 'Taking a pitch at Kinross Show is a great way to engage with local people, we run free buses to the showfield and the parking is also free so if the weather is good, we can welcome up to 3000 people. That's probably the biggest opportunity to showcase your business locally,' he adds. The standard pitch size is 3m frontage, prices

start from £55 and increase in line with the size required (in increments of 3m). Table top pitches are also available in the Arts and Crafts Marquee. Check out www.kinross-show.co.uk for more info on how to have a trade stand at Kinross show.

Scott has been farming at Mawmill Farm near Cleish since 1986 and moved there with his wife Elaine in 1993. Mawmill is predominately a cereal and potato growing farm and Scott also grows haylage to supply to other farms and horse yards. With his sons David and Daniel also now involved they have added renewables into the mix and operate a biomass plant, ground source heat and cooling system and solar power to support the energy requirements of the farm. Looking ahead to a busy summer on the farm and getting ready for the show, Scott pays tribute to the massive effort from his committee and the hardworking secretaries who have preparations well underway.

So, keep an eye out in the *Kinross Newsletter* and on Facebook for further information and remember: 'The Kinross Show is not just for farmers!'



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NEW TREES FOR MEMORIAL GARDEN

AS A RESULT OF storm damage prior to Remembrance Sunday last year, two established trees were damaged and had to be removed from within the Orwell Memorial Garden, Milnathort.



Thanks to local business Soho Green, in collaboration with Milnathort and Orwell Community Council, replacement trees have now been installed in the garden.

There was a short ceremony attended by local councillors, Rev Robert Colson and members of the local community.

Captains of Kinross High School planted new saplings, very ably assisted by pupils from Milnathort Primary School.

The Captains of High School said after the event, 'The tree planting ceremony in Milnathort Memorial Garden was a lovely experience. It was a privilege for us as the School Captains of Kinross High School to be invited to attend the ceremony, allowing us to represent our school in the wider community.'

Above: Ellis digging a hole for the new tree

Above right: Cllrs Neil Freshwater and Willie Robertson with Rev Robert Colson, together with children from Kinross High and Milnathort Primary Schools

Right: Neill Bingham from Milnathort CC with local schoolchildren admiring their work



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GRAFFITI OUTRAGE



THERE SEEMS TO BE more and more graffiti springing up in Kinross.

There are reports of it being visible on houses, fences, traffic bollards and shop walls, to name just a few places.

New graffiti has recently sprung up between Lomond Place and Gallowhill Road.

Sadly most of this graffiti is less of the artistic Banksy kind and more of the just mindless scrawling type.

It is been spotted (and reported) on Seaforth drive, Springfield Road, outside Kinross Primary School, at the cash machine in the High Street, at the wall beside the Park & Ride, in Green Road Park beside Keystore More and in various other places.

PKC officers were recently asked to see what can be done to catch the offenders.

Safer community co-ordinators are responsible for organising the removal of graffiti which is reported to PKC.

They have organised for a team to remove the graffiti as best as they can.

Unfortunately there is not a timescale for this but if you see any offensive graffiti, please email the details to SCT@pkc.gov.uk. They say they aim to remove it within a week, availability of staff permitting.



CYCLISTS DAMAGE HERITAGE TRAIL PATH

THE PATH FROM RSPB Loch Leven to Kinross is currently closed. It should by now be open again after repair works, but a section of the path with a new Flexipave surface has been severely damaged.

The surface had been laid, but needed

time to set and harden. Although security fencing was installed, cyclists broke through that and have caused irreparable damage. The section will have to be rebuilt which will take at least another two weeks.

Cllr Willie Robertson said, 'I was very disappointed to learn that shortly after it was laid people have tried to cycle over it, despite the numerous signs. The path will have to be relaid which is a very expensive process.'

ADVERTORIAL

ARCHITECTURE ON A DIFFERENT LEVEL



CAMERON BROWN ARCHITECTS are a new design-focused Chartered Architecture practice based in Fossoway, Kinross-shire, led by Cameron Brown ARB RIBA RIAS.

Cameron began his career in the family construction business learning the practical side of building whilst studying at the University of Dundee. Since then, he has worked for award-winning practices in London, Glasgow and Central Scotland, amassing over a decade of experience in bespoke residential and commercial sectors.

Cameron is active with various community groups in Fife and Kinross, including maintaining local heritage page Fossoway Memories. Alongside a passion for heritage and landscape his practice has a local and community focus aspiring to bring a deep-rooted sense of place to every project.

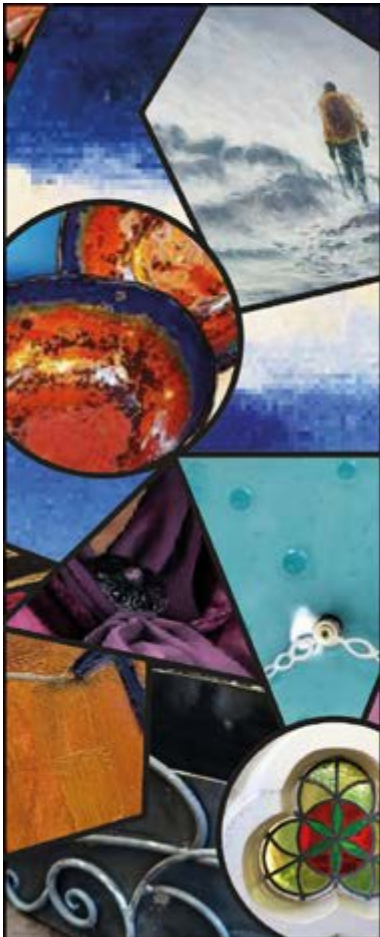
As a chartered practice they work to most current industry standards and are qualified to work within a range of builds and contexts including new-build homes, extensions, renovations, listed buildings, conservation areas, and commercial developments.

They offer a client-centred service that goes beyond drawings, identifying your needs and aspirations to develop a design that is unique to you – from first concept sketch to final handover of the building, and all stages in between – they even create digital 3D models of your design that can be viewed in virtual reality!

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7th April Arthur Jones, South Beach Baptist Church

14th April Graeme Gunn, LLC

21st April Stephen Jones, LLC

Mark 1:1-11

The identity parade: How Jesus reveals Himself to us as God's King

28th April Robin Kent, LLC

Communion Sunday

5th May Bruce Lockhart, Missions Development Manager, SU Scotland

Mark 2:1-12

The loving warning: How Jesus diagnoses us with a heart problem

12th May Richard Gibb, LLC

Mark 15:16-39

The rescue mission: How Jesus saves us from our sin

19th 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

26th May Andy Hunter, FIEC

Communion Sunday

2nd 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

9th June Gavin Matthews, Assistant Director, SOLAS

Mark 8:22-9:7

The costly commitment: How Jesus expects us to find following Him difficult

16th 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

23rd June Stephanie Staples Rostad, Musician from Nashville, US

Summer concert at Loch Leven's Larder

30th June Testimonies

Communion Sunday

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

HAPPY 100TH, ALEX!



ALEXANDER FRASER WAS BORN in 10 Sandport, Kinross on 29 May 1924. He was the second youngest of six children.



When he was 13 years old his mother died, followed by his father within a year. He was then brought up by grandparents and his elder sisters and brother, Marian, David, Mary and Catherine.

As a boy, he used to deliver the newspapers in Kinross and on leaving school he was apprenticed to Bob McGee, a local carpenter.

He joined the Royal Air Force in 1942 when he was 18 and did his initial training at Donibristle in Fife, followed by his air engineering training at RAF St Athan in Wales. On completion of his engineering training he joined 630 Lancaster Bomber Squadron who were stationed at East Kirby in Lincolnshire.

His first mission was to Koenigsberg, Germany over 10 hours flying and at very high altitude to conserve fuel. The temperature in the aircraft would drop to -40°C and, to cope with these temperatures, he wore his pyjamas under his uniform. His aircraft was badly shot up, losing all communication systems, part of the tail and it was leaking fuel. The crew limped home on just two of their four engines, luckily with no major injuries.

The life expectancy of Lancaster crews was only five missions. This crew managed to complete the target of 30 which should have completed their tour of duty. However, as his squadron had lost 25% of aircraft and their crews within a week, it was decided that all crews would have to do an extra six missions.

Alex was devastated when his brother David was killed in action at sea on the HMS *Indomitable* in August 1942. After the war he married his sweetheart Jean who hailed from Dunfermline. They had two boys Brian and Ian. Further air engineering training was



Alex sitting astride the engine together with his crew

completed in Lossiemouth and Belfast before he finally settled in Wootton Bassett.

He served in the Royal Air Force for 40 years, always in a flying role, worked and flew in many different types of aircraft including the Handley Page Halifax and Hastings, Avro Shackleton, Lockheed Hercules, de Havilland Comet and Vickers VC10.

In 1951 he was awarded the Kings Commendation for valuable service in the air in the New Year's Honours List. Then, again, in 1971 he was again awarded a commendation for valuable service in the air in the New Year's Honours List by Queen Elizabeth II.

During his career he has flown many senior politicians including Margaret Thatcher and many members of the Royal Family including Prince Charles and Princess Diana returning from their honeymoon.

On retiring from the Air Force he settled in Sidmouth, Devon and was an active member at 630 Squadron Reunions both there and abroad. He returns annually to Kinross to meet his many nephews and nieces.

Happy Birthday, Alex!

SUMMER FAYRE AT KPS



PREPARATIONS FOR THE Kinross Primary School Summer Fayre on Saturday 15 June are well underway, and it is hoped to repeat the success of last year's event with a fun afternoon for the whole community!

The event is running 12pm-2.30pm with stalls and activities for all interests, and all money raised goes directly towards funding

activities for children at Kinross Primary, so your pennies and pounds really do make a difference in providing a huge range of opportunities for all year groups across the school.

Organisers want to make it a fun welcoming event for the whole community, and are trying to make the Fayre as affordable as possible while also raising funds to provide a huge range of opportunities for all the children. Many of the games and activities will be free and organisers are hugely grateful for the generosity of parents, carers, and local businesses.

It is simply not possible to run the Fayre without help on the day, and any time volunteers can spare to help run stalls is hugely appreciated. There is

a Google form to sign up on the Kinross Primary Parent Council Facebook page. They'd love as many volunteers as possible to help out for short stints so everyone can have a chance to enjoy the event. We will have more details about the Fayre for you next month!

Photos: John Davie Photography: <https://www.johndavie.com>



ACADEMIC ACCLAIM FOR PHYSICIST CAITLÍN

LEAVING KHS IN 2015, and completing a Masters in Physics degree at the University of St Andrews in 2019, Caitlín Duffy from Crook of Devon secured a PhD studentship at the High Field Magnetic Laboratory at Radboud University, Nijmegen, Netherlands.

She recently successfully defended her PhD thesis – ‘Strange metallicity and high-Tc superconductivity in electron and hole-doped cuprates’ – against an array of Professors from Canada,



France, Germany, Netherlands and the UK, and was awarded a Doctorate in Physics from the University of Radboud. Dr Duffy currently holds a Postdoc position at The Laboratoire National des Champs Magnétiques Intenses (LNCMI), Toulouse, France, in continuing pursuit of her passion for theoretical research in physics.

Caitlín is hugely appreciative of the support and encouragement she

received from her teachers at Kinross High, particularly those in the Physics Department who nurtured and enthused her interest in physics. She is a strong advocate for women in STEM and would encourage more girls and young women to consider a STEM career.

NEW LOOK FOR BAILLIES



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COUNTDOWN TO PORTMOAK GALA

ORGANISERS ARE VERY EXCITED that this year's Portmoak gala will be on 1 June at 2pm. Due to improvement works in Scotlandwell park there will be a change of venue this year.

The gala has been given use of some of the Drysdale's field down Grahamstone road. The procession will start as normal from the Church car park.

There will be bouncy castles, stalls, food vendors, raffle, tombola, tug of war, activities for children; and in the evening a bar, music and a rodeo bull!

If you are able to volunteer, even for an hour, it would be greatly appreciated. You can sign up on the link on the Facebook page or chat to one of the committee to let them know.

If you would like a stall please contact organisers via the Facebook page. It is £10 for a pitch to bring your own gazebo and table. There are a small number of spaces remaining. If you are a local business that could donate have a raffle price it would be greatly appreciated. Bottle donations are also welcome for the tombola.

Raffle tickets will go sale shortly. Get in touch if you'd like one, we have lots of exciting prizes already including a £250 cash prize! Teams of five people are welcome to sign up on the Facebook page for the Tug Of War.



The theme this year is birds in line with Kinnesswood in Bloom's theme. To celebrate birds this year, there will be some bird-themed crafts.

There will be a limited number of blue badge holder spaces on the field and you are requested not to park on Grahamstone road please. There are parking facilities in Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood if needed.

A spokesperson said, 'We hope you'll join us for a great day out. We are very grateful to the Drysdale's for the use of their land and would politely remind everybody to ensure themselves and their children respect the land and stay out of the farmers crops which will be taped off. We look forward to seeing you there!'

FARMERS' MARKETS

Farmers' Markets are back on the following Saturdays:

27 April 10-2pm
High Street

25 May 10-3pm
Market Park

22 June 10-2pm
High Street

Gas Pipe Upgrades

SGN ARE DOING essential work to upgrade the gas network in Kinross. This involves the replacement of old metal gas mains with new plastic pipe. The project began on 2 April and will take approximately 28 weeks to complete over six phases.

The first phase (lasting six weeks) will affect Lomond Place, Argyll Road, Sandwood Place, Rannoch Place, Sutherland Drive and Seaforth Drive. Phase two will affect Springfield Road.

To find out more about how the road closures may affect your area in the coming weeks, visit the drop-in session at the library on Thursday 2 May between 1pm and 6pm.

SGN apologise for any inconvenience their work causes and thank road users for their patience.

To help you understand more about our work, and how the necessary road closures may impact you, we're holding a drop-in session on Thursday 2 May at:
Loch Leven Community Library
Loch Leven Community Campus
Muir's
Kinross KY13 8FQ
Please come along to speak to our project team any time between 1pm and 6pm.

NEW EXHIBITION AT DOLLAR MUSEUM

DOLLAR MUSEUM'S NEW exhibition for 2024 is 'Dollar Shops', a nostalgic look at shopping in Dollar over the years.

The museum's opening times are:
Saturdays 11am-1pm
2pm-4.30pm;
Sundays 2pm to 4.30pm.
Entrance is free.

SALON 62 KINROSS CHAIRS FOR RENT

Due to retirement, Salon 62 has an opportunity for an experienced hairstylist to rent a number of chairs.

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Portmoak Festival

	Sat 1st	Sun 2nd	Mon 3rd	Tues 4th	Wed 5th	Thurs 6th	Fri 7th	
Morning		BIRDSONG WALK WITH SCOTT PATERSON 8am	MOSAIC WORKSHOP WITH KATY GALBRAITH 10am-3pm BOOKING REQ	PORTMOAK UNDER 5s 9.30-11.45am	BIRDSONG WALK WITH SCOTT PATERSON 8am		PORTMOAK UNDER 5s 9.30-11.45am	Morning
Afternoon	PORTMOAK COMMUNITY GALA 2-10pm		EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS AND CRAFTS 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS GAELIC CONVERSATION 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS AND CRAFTS 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS AND CRAFTS 2-4pm	ART SESSION 2-4pm	Afternoon
Evening	PORTMOAK COMMUNITY GALA 2-10pm	FAMILY FILM NIGHT 6.30pm			MUSIC NIGHT - TOLL 8pm Doors Open 6pm			Evening
	Sat 8th	Sun 9th	Mon 10th	Tues 11th	Wed 12th	Thurs 13th	Fri 14th	
Morning	PICKLEBALL TRY OUT SESSION 10am-12pm		WEAVING WORKSHOP WITH NORMA 10am-3pm BOOKING REQ	PORTMOAK UNDER 5s 9.30-11.45am		BADMINTON TRY-IT SESSION 10am-12pm	PORTMOAK UNDER 5s 9.30-11.45am	Morning
Afternoon		MUSIC IN THE ORCHARD 3-4.30pm BYOB	EXHIBITION 10-3pm					Afternoon
Evening			PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION 6-8pm	PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION 6-8pm	PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION 6-8pm			Evening
Evening	Sat 15th JAZZ/MUSIC NIGHT 8-10.30pm TICKET ONLY BYOB	THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN WHEN EVENTS ARE ON AND BY ARRANGEMENT						
		prtmkfestival@gmail.com						
		facebook:~ portmoak festival						

PORTMOAK FESTIVAL 2024

THE PORTMOAK GALA TAKES place in June. The Festival follows on from the Gala and runs for two weeks. All of Portmoak will be looking good as the in-bloom groups work their magic. Look out for the cake theme around the figures in Kinnesswood. Here is what organisers hope to offer.....



After the success of wild flowers last year, the art exhibition this year is on the theme of birds. Each class in the school has represented birds in different ways, sewing, fimo penguins, birds illustrated in an Australian style and 3D papercraft. It will be a stunning exhibition.

Also on display will be artwork by local artist Anne Taylor, whose work is inspired by nature and walking in Portmoak Moss and areas around the loch. Some of her original artwork, prints and cards will be for sale. So why not pop in and talk about her work and see her making a new drawing or painting. There will be photos from Michael McGinnes from the Portmoak

Community Woodland and an opportunity to buy their calendar. The exhibition will be open during all the festival events and can be viewed by arrangement at other times.

In the first week the Ladies Friendship Circle will be hosting cream teas from 3-6 June. Invite your friends for a gorgeous cream tea while you browse the artwork.

On Monday 3 June there will be a mosaic workshop from 10am-3pm led by Katy Galbraith. Come and try cutting and assembling a mosaic picture using recycled crockery and ceramics. Bookings are limited to 8 places.

There will also be an opportunity to try out some crafts during the afternoon teas, and to try out some Gaelic conversation, and explore Gaelic bird names with your strùpag on the Tuesday afternoon.

During the second week you can look forward to three nights of the ever-popular pudding club from Monday 10-12 June. As usual, there will be an amazing variety of puddings provided and served by enthusiastic local folk.

On Monday 10 June Norma Smith will be holding a weaving workshop from 10am-3pm. Why not try weaving a fish, making a small seascape or learning how to make Dorset buttons. No experience is required and all materials will be provided.

The Portmoak Babies and Toddlers will be joining in with their own fun activities. The badminton ladies will be hosting a try-it day for pickleball on 8 June and badminton on 13 June.

There will hopefully be the usual festival quiz and music nights in the Well Inn and at Balgedie Toll. Dave Bachelor will be organising a



music/jazz night on the second weekend. More details about tickets and music events will be announced shortly.

If anyone wants to hold an event during the festival please let the organisers know. Also needed are a few folk to help with moving furniture, selling raffle tickets and so on. Any offers of help are very welcome.

There will be regular updates on Facebook to let you know what is happening in more detail. Don't forget the raffle. All profits from the festival go towards local organisations!



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Cleish Fete and Classic Car Show



SATURDAY 11TH MAY 2024
1.00pm - 3.30pm



Hog Roast by Rootin & Roamin

Teas & Cakes in the Village Hall, Ice Cream,
Produce, Cakes & Jams, Tombola, Plant Stall, Other stalls,
Classic Car Show

All pre-2004 cars welcome – Please be in field by 12.00pm
Entry to Classic Car Show free – Prizes for selected best cars
(donations to Cleish Church/Cleish Village Hall Association please)
CONTACT – DAVID LESLIE on 07778 772349 or cleishcarshow@cleish.org to confirm car details and entry.

All proceeds to Cleish Church (Charity No SCO03168)
and the Cleish Village Hall Association (Charity No SC007793)

£££ PLEASE BRING CASH ON THE DAY £££

ARTS @ ST PAUL'S – SOMETHING NEW FOR 2024

ART @ ST PAULS are getting off to an exciting start this year with two new initiatives.

The first two exhibitions this year will give A Taste of What is to Come as they celebrate the diversity of work produced by the full range of talented artists and photographers exhibiting with them throughout the year. They hope to put all their artists in the frame with two mixed exhibitions of 2D work at the beginning of the first season of exhibitions on 27/28 April and 11/12 May.

Crafts will also feature in every exhibition. Local makers Tracy Mould of Goosetown Pottery and Lorraine Holdsworth of Siskin will start the ball rolling on 27/28 April. They will exhibit and have for sale or commission a great range of Tracy's unique handmade ceramics, including new innovative designs incorporating wood and a selection of Lorraine's beautifully crafted homewares, gifts and accessories in high-end and traditional fabrics.

They will be followed in the next exhibition on 11/12 May by two new makers. Firstly, Dunfermline-based ceramicist Joan Borland of Poppies who will bring a different dimension with her decorative work in earthenware which is inspired by nature.

She will be partnered by Jill Ronaldson of Pure and Simple from Newton of



Jo Middlemiss with the painting which is to be raffled, entitled 'Hens at Barcaldine'

Falkland who makes a range of beautiful environmentally friendly soaps and skincare products.

This first season of exhibitions finishes towards the end of June. There will be a break in the summer and exhibitions begin again in autumn with the first exhibition on 24/25 August through to 7/8 December. Exhibition dates and further details will be advertised nearer the time.

Now for the second initiative. Arts @ St Paul's is non-profit making, and their main aim is to promote the work of artists and craftspeople and to celebrate and encourage creativity.

Though they are a separate organisation they also aim to support the continued existence and contribution made by St Paul's to the community in Kinross. St Paul's is a little gem of a church and looking after a listed building is no mean task for its small church community, so when they can, they aim to help.

Last year Crieff artist Iain McIntyre Younger exhibited his work, and being highly supportive, he kindly donated a painting to sell as a fundraiser. Iain is a well-established artist who paints mainly in oils and acrylics in a very distinctive and lively style. His work is so uplifting as it is full of energy, rich colour and textures.

His painting, *Hens at Barcaldine*, will be raffled as a fundraiser.

It would retail at over £350 and, at just £10 a go, a small investment could win this beautiful artwork.

The proceeds will be shared between St Paul's Restoration Fund and Arts @ St Paul's. Committee member Jo Middlemiss, seen here admiring the painting, will oversee the raffle which will be drawn as soon as all 100 tickets are sold. You can view the painting and buy a ticket at the upcoming exhibitions so that is another very good reason to go and see the ever-changing arts and crafts at Arts @ St Paul's 2024. They look forward to meeting you there.

BETTER PLACE TO LIVE: THE LAST WORD

THE BETTER PLACE TO LIVE Fair was a highly successful community event, well supported by workers, clubs, groups and members of the public.

There were 78 stalls promoting a wide range of social, sporting and volunteering organisations. Activities were available for all age groups from Book Bug in the library to free Trishaw rides round the outside of the campus and, as always, the Aerospace Planetarium and Funky Sphere were popular with everyone.

So much was going on that the huge plasma screens, used for the first time this year, kept everyone aware of which activity was happening where and at what time.

KYTHE provided a fun, entertaining, drop-in for young people and their excellent treasure hunt kept a huge number of children interested and entertained throughout the day.

A FREE musical programme, arranged by KLEO, was a welcome new addition

and will, hopefully, be included in future events.

The free bouncy castle run by Live Active Leisure was a huge draw for the under 5s while older children and adults took advantage of several Come & Try sports sessions organised by local clubs and set up by the staff of LAL.

Many of the 2000+ visitors on the day enjoyed snacks, free Primary and High School dinner menu tasters and a barbeque, prepared and served by the Tayside Contracts team.

None of it would have been possible without the mammoth task of setting up so many tables, stalls, etc., (and then taking them all down again afterwards!) by Grant Clunie and his Mitie Team.

A terrific event, made possible by the hard work of Kinross-shire Partnership and Loch Leven Community Campus & Partners and, of course, by everyone in the community who took part. It did show that Kinross-shire definitely is a Better Place to Live.





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Lindsay Ross Ballantyne

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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:

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- Understand why tax relief = 'money for nothing'
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SARAH RANKIN COOKS



I AM SO PLEASED to be launching my very first cookbook locally at Loch Leven's Larder on 16 May.

Kith is a selection of Scottish, seasonal recipes that celebrate cooking for those you love using fresh, local ingredients and produce.

There are over 100 recipes, as well as sections

on basics like sauces and pastry, cocktails and a section featuring little bits and pieces that add sparkle to your cooking, called Things of Beauty.

The Larder event will include a drink and nibbles from the team, as well as a cookery demo by me showcasing some of the recipes in Kith. Books will be available to purchase

and I'll be signing copies too.

In the spirit of celebration, here is my go to cocktail recipe, perfect for springtime, lighter nights and shrugging off winter. Even if the weather around Kinross tells us different. Drink it while wearing your winter woollies, I won't judge.

LEMON & BASIL SPRITZ



You Will Need

(Makes 1)

50ml vodka

20ml sugar syrup

Prosecco or Cava

Juice of half a lemon and a slice of rind



CHILL A TALL GLASS in the freezer. Add the sugar syrup, basil leaves and lemon juice. Muddle together. Add the vodka, stir and top off with your favourite fizz. Either prosecco or cava will do, or soda water if you' prefer it a little less boozy. Twist the rind over the top to release the oils and drop into the glass.

Enjoy on a sun dappled terrace in the Alps. Or at home, whichever you prefer.

This is fabulous served as an aperitif with my parmesan crisps as a sharp and savoury nibble on the side.

Simply grate 250g of parmesan in little piles directly onto a piece of parchment on a baking tray. Use a pastry cutter to

shape roughly into discs of whatever size you like and sprinkle each with a little finely chopped sage. Bake for 10 minutes or so at 160°C (fan), keeping an eye on them. Once they start to bubble, remove from the oven but leave on the tray to crisp up. You can store them in an airtight container for a week, but I tend to devour them in one sitting.



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LOCH LEVEN'S LARDER



UPCOMING EVENTS

Sarah Rankin – Book Launch ‘Kith’

We're thrilled to host the local book launch of Kinross resident & MasterChef finalist Sarah Rankin with her debut cookbook 'Kith'. With nibbles, cocktails, cooking demos and book signings, this evening is guaranteed to be an unforgettable evening!

MAY
16

Sunday Herbal Walks with Call of the Wild (May To August)

This course offers an introductory session on observing and valuing wild plants amidst the cozy setting of Loch Leven's Larder. Led by Hamish from Call of the Wild, an expert in herbal lore and sustainable living.

MAY
26

All tickets and information on our events can be found on our website:
www.lochlevenslarder.com

KINROSS FLOWER SHOW

Saturday 10 August, 2024

FLOWER SECTION

POT PLANT FLOWERING

- 1 Pot Plant – Flowering
- 2 Pot Plant – Begonia
- 3 Pot Plant - Foliage
- 4 Vase Mixed Herbaceous
- 5 Vase Mixed Annuals
- 6 4 Marigolds to be displayed on board (provided)
- 7 4 Pansies/Violas to be displayed on board (provided)
- 8 Vase of 3 Dahlias – Decorative
- 9 Vase of 3 Dahlias – Cacti
- 10 Vase of 3 Dahlias – Pompom/Ball
- 11 Best Single Rose – any variety
- 12 Vase of Mixed Roses
- 13 Vase of 5 Sweet Peas – ONE COLOUR ONLY
- 14 Vase of 5 Sweet Peas – mixed
- 15 1 Spike Gladioli



CHILDREN'S CLASSES

- 16 Bowl of Floating Flowers (8yrs & under) Any number of flowers but make a good pattern.
- 17 Bowl of Floating Flowers (9-14yrs) Any number of flowers but make a good pattern.
- 18 A Farm Animal made from Vegetables (8yrs & under)
- 19 A Farm Animal made from Vegetables (9-14yrs)
- 20 Arrangement of Garden Flowers in a Jam Jar (8yrs & under)
- 21 Garden in a Seed Tray (8yrs & under) Not exceeding 40cms x 25cms using natural material only. Accessories allowed.
- 22 Garden in a Seed Tray (9-14yrs) Not exceeding 40cms x 25cms using natural plant material. Accessories allowed.
- 23 Model Farm in a Seed Tray (8yrs & under) Models allowed.
- 24 Model Farm in a Seed Tray (9-14yrs) Models allowed.



25 A Decorated Wellington Boot (8yrs & under)

26 A Decorated Wellington Boot (9-14yrs)

(This year's theme is **Time For Tea** so please make your boots as posh as possible, making them suitable for a tea party. We suggest lots of ribbon, lace, beads etc... Good luck!)

VEGETABLE SECTION

- 27 3 Courgettes
- 28 3 Onions White
- 29 3 Onions Red
- 30 4 Potatoes – White (named)
- 31 4 Potatoes – Coloured (named)
- 32 1 Cucumber
- 33 6 Tomatoes (large)
- 34 6 Tomatoes (cherry)
- 35 Carrots
- 36 1 Marrow
- 37 1 Cabbage
- 38 3 Beetroot
- 39 6 Pods of Peas
- 40 6 Pods Broad Beans
- 41 3 Leeks
- 42 3 Small Turnips
- 43 4 Stalks Rhubarb



ALLOTMENT CLASS

- 44 Box of Mixed Vegetables

FRUIT CLASS

- 45 Plate of 12 Strawberries
- 46 Plate of 12 Raspberries (any colour)
- 47 12 Red Currant Strings
- 48 15 Blackcurrants
- 49 12 Gooseberries
- 50 Any other seasonal fruit (figs/peach/apple)

EGG SECTION

- 51 3 Hens' Eggs, Any Variety (12yrs & under)
- 52 3 Hens' Eggs, Any Variety (13yrs & over)

FLORAL ART SECTION (Theme: TIME FOR TEA)

NAFAS Rules need not be adhered to – simply read the Schedule carefully and pay attention to size and materials. Space allowed: 76cms width by 60cms depth.

All Exhibits to be composed of natural plant material unless otherwise stated. All fresh plant material to be in water or water-retaining substances. All flowers and foliage to be in good condition.

- 53 SET THE TABLE Arrangement in a teacup using fresh flowers & foliage. Plate & saucer allowed.
- 54 POUR THE TEA Arrangement in a teapot using fresh flowers & foliage. Accessories allowed.
- 55 SLICE OF CAKE? Arrangement on a Cake Stand using fresh flowers & foliage. Accessories allowed.
- 56 PASS THE SUGAR All-round arrangement in a sugar bowl using flowers & foliage from your own garden. No accessories.
- 57 MILK? Arrangement in a milk jug using white flowers only. No accessories.
- 58 MIND THE TEA LEAVES Petite arrangement in a tea-strainer, not exceeding 25cms x 25cms x 37 height. No accessories.



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COUNTY FABRICS CELEBRATES 40 YEARS OF SCOTS HERITAGE

THIS MAY, COUNTY FABRICS, an independent textiles retailer in Crook of Devon, celebrates its 40th anniversary by hosting a warehouse clearance sale. The team are excited to invite customers to their one-of-a-kind discount event from 9-11 May. The event will be hosted at their store with added marquee space for workshops all weekend and our charity café in aid of CHAS.



County Fabrics opened its doors in 1984 with a simple vision - to bring the designer look to every home without the designer price tag – and this remains at the core of the retailer’s business model four decades later. The Owner, Katie Evans, took over the business from her mother in 2013 and has retained the brands heritage with collections that pay homage to the rich textile history of Scotland while also striving to adapt the traditional brand to the ever-changing modern marketplace. With their specialist made to measure service, County Fabrics enables their customers to find the perfect fabric for their curtains and blinds to complement their interior style.

Accompanying the anniversary sale, County Fabrics will also be running workshops including the basics of Sashiko, lampshade making, upholstery and upcycling classes. Guests at the event can also visit the donation only stall and Charity Café which will be raising money in support of CHAS (Children’s Hospices Across Scotland).

Katie Evans – Director and Owner said: ‘We are delighted to be celebrating 40 years of County Fabrics and look forward to inviting customers, both old and new to our clearance event in the beautiful Crook of Devon. We have loved collaborating with our customers to create bespoke and personal interior designs that showcase their personality and heritage in a way that only our team can and look forward to doing so for decades to come’.

The sale begins on Thursday 9 May



through to Saturday 11 May but, in the meantime, customers can visit the County Fabrics website to browse their collections, read helpful guides and keep up to date with all things fabrics.



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THE LAST FEW DAYS

IN EARLY JUNE 1944, General Montgomery stood on the bonnet of his jeep at Hambledon in Hampshire, and addressed the troops prior to Operation Overlord, commonly known as D-Day, 6 June 1944. This was the Allied invasion of Nazi occupied Europe, the largest amphibious invasion in history.

Many of the woods around Portsmouth, and along the South Coast were used for the build-up of troops for D-Day, known as assembly camps or marshalling areas.

From April 1944, the troops camped there in bell tents. Their days were spent waterproofing and painting vehicles, training, checking kit, and writing home to loved ones. Whilst the men knew they were mustering for the invasion, they had no idea where they were going, until they were on the ships and landing craft, heading for Normandy.

Nerves were stretched, some wondering how they would react, how they would feel under fire, and how desperate they all were not to let their mates down in battle – an ever present worry for any soldier or serviceman.

In the days and weeks before D-Day, the camps were sealed off, and very tight security imposed. Endless lines of tanks were parked along the roads through the woods. A vast amount of buildings were erected to cater for so many troops, including a large bake house, and two equally as large cook houses. The Americans brought in over 4000 cooks from the USA, especially to cater for their huge numbers now in UK. Cynics said, unkindly maybe, the Americans were Over SEXED, Over PAID and Over HERE!

By midnight on 6 June, 156,000 Allied forces had landed in France. By August, two million men had been sent across the English Channel.

General Eisenhower –Supreme Allied Commander issued his fa-

Photo: US National Archives



mous address to his thousands of men and women, about to embark on the biggest beach landing operation of all time.

Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen of the Allied Expeditionary Force!

You are about to embark upon the Great Crusade, toward which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you. In company with our brave Allies and brothers-in-arms on other Fronts, you will bring about the destruction of the German war machine, the elimination of Nazi tyranny over the oppressed peoples of Europe, and security for ourselves in a free world.

Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle hardened. He will fight savagely.

But this is the year 1944! Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats, in open battle, man-to-man. Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our Home Fronts have given us an overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men.

The tide has turned! The free men of the world are marching together to Victory!

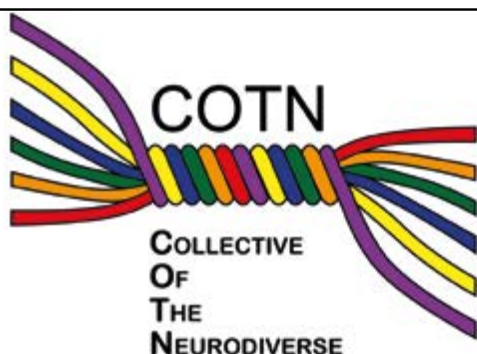
I have full confidence in your courage and devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory!

Good luck! And let us beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

*SIGNED: GENERAL Dwight D. Eisenhower
SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER*

Next time- how did it go on 6 June itself?

Andy Middlemiss BEM DL



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Thursday: Explorers (Primary school age) 6.00 - 7.00 pm **

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(Nahum Chapter 1 verse 7)

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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



Kinross-shire Committee and Active Travel

THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT have the aim of reducing the number of kilometres travelled by car by 20% before 2031. To help achieve this, they have earmarked money to fund improvements to infrastructure, thereby encouraging walking, wheeling, and cycling. To be eligible for this funding, projects must be identified in an Active Travel plan. In Perth and Kinross, it is the role of the Tayside & Central Scotland Transport Partnership (TACTRAN) Committee to draw up the plan for the area. Councillor Richard Watters sits on this committee, and he was disappointed when he saw the draft proposals, as there was a big empty space covering Kinross-shire with proposals all around us.

He approached me as the Chair of the Kinross-shire Committee (KC), which is a Council Committee acting as an interface between officers, Community Council representatives and local Elected Members.

Councillor Richard Watters asked that the Committee consider allocating funding towards identifying Active Travel routes in Kinross-shire.

This was discussed at the November KC meeting, and it was agreed that £30,000 would be allocated towards this project. Officers then investigated the best way to deliver this and discovered that there was external funding available which could be used, thus saving the KC funding for another purpose). At the February KC meeting, the Committee considered and agreed to a proposal from officers on how to deliver this. Over the last two months, ARUP who were appointed as consultants have been carrying out surveys and meetings to identify new proposals for Active Travel measures.

They plan to bring a plan back to the Kinross-shire Committee soon, which will hopefully be adopted.

All being well, this might lead to new paths across the County, with additional bus stops, cycle lockups and other infrastructure being introduced. Watch this space.

Better Place to Live Fair

I SPENT SEVERAL hours at this event. It is excellent to see such a vibrant community with lots going on. There were dozens of stalls and activities going on during the day. I would like to thank the Kinross-shire Partnership and specifically Pauline Watson for helping to make this happen. Events like this take a huge effort to put on and to make them work. Well done team!

Kinross-shire Buses

SINCE BEING ELECTED in 2022, I have been heavily involved with bus issues in Kinross-shire, this followed me taking on the role of Chair of the Kinross-shire Public Transport Forum.

The area has suffered badly in recent years from the withdrawal of commercial bus services. This meant the Council had to step in to provide expensive alternative bus services.

As I said last month, the Council's budget was under severe pressure, due to many different factors. One of the cuts proposed by officers was £775,000 worth of local bus services (including services in Kinross-shire). Working with my fellow Independent Councillors and other groups, we managed to get these cuts refused. We also agreed to an inflationary increase of £137,000 in 2024-25. By doing these two things, we ensured that bus services were fully funded throughout Perth and Kinross.

Council funded bus contracts were re-negotiated in 2023 and working with the Glenfarg Community Transport Group, we were able to persuade officers to allow them to operate the 55-bus service in partnership with the Council.

This service has gone from strength to strength, with 3,615 passengers carried last month, compared to 600 in March 2023!

Meanwhile, the 202-bus service which runs from Kinross to Tillycultry has been beset with problems. The service is simply not working, with buses breaking down and being late on a regular basis. Currently, I am working with the Glenfarg Community Transport Group to see if we can recreate their success in West Kinross-shire.

They are currently training two drivers from Fossoway, and we are talking to officers about them taking on the service.

No promises, but if you don't ask, you won't get!

School Meals

I SIT ON THE Tayside Contracts joint committee. This is a committee of Perth and Kinross Council but is unusual in that it includes members from Dundee City Council and Angus Council.

Sitting on this committee has been very time consuming for me as Tayside Contracts has been operating at a large deficit in recent years. The Perth and Kinross Council members have been challenging the way that Tayside Contracts has been working and we are actively involved in trying to improve its efficiency. We have been told that a school meal in Perth and Kinross costs £4.70 to deliver, whilst it costs £3.60 in Dundee and £3.90 in Angus.

These numbers do not sound a lot, but when you multiply the number of meals per day, which is 10,247 in Perth and Kinross by the cost of a meal, you get a total cost of £48,160.90 per day or £9,150,571 a year.

Should PKC manage to get its costs down to the same as Angus, then the total cost would be £7,593,027, which would be a saving of £1,577,544.

KLEO

I AM THE CHAIR of KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation).

We organise the Farmers Markets, Festive Street Market, Comedy Nights, the Winter Festival, and other events.

We have recently planned our Winter Festival events and will be delivering a programme through doors later this year. We are always interested in feedback, so please feel free to pass any comments you have on to me.

Please take advantage of these events, as they help to make Kinross-shire the Community that it is.

I would say that, wouldn't it!

Councillor Dave Cuthbert

Councillor Neil Freshwater



Grey Bins In The Wind

IT'S GOOD TO SEE that free straps have been made available for the grey bin lids. Like many of you, my grey bin came to grief in heavy wind last week, and rather than the contents going off to the recycling, I had to extract it from the grass verge across the road the morning after. It's unfortunate that the bins are not designed to withstand the winds, being seemingly lighter than the other bins and typically having a very buoyant 'cargo'. With hindsight, it would have been good if they had some in-built lock, but the straps are available from the Kinross library. Thanks to community councillor Neill Bingham for bringing a stock to the latest Milnathort CC meeting, as well as my neighbor for kindly picking up a supply for the houses on our wee lane. I have written to waste services to see what the prospects might be of proactively rolling out grey bin straps to all of Kinross-shire and further afield, as they do (so far) seem to work well.

Road Safety

SPEEDING CONTINUES TO be a key concern for residents, and I was grateful to local press for picking up on the recent speed monitoring campaign by Police Scotland along the B996, which has been a real problem area. The community speedwatch is continuing to grow, organised by Milnathort, and I would encourage more people to get signed up and support this great initiative. You can find them on Facebook. Finally, it was very sad to see another serious accident at the Milnathort roundabout. No doubt there will be an ongoing police investigation to establish the full facts, but I will raise the issue with the road safety team to confirm that there is not a problem with the current road setup.

Kinross NHS Dental Service

I AM CONTINUING to receive more complaints about the lack of



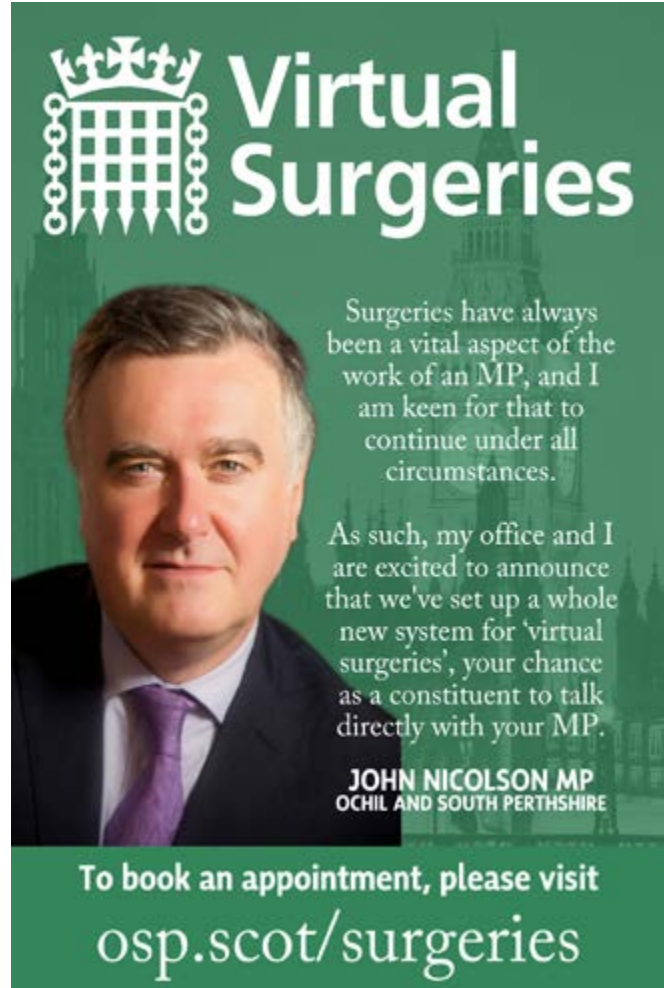
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an NHS dentist in Kinross, with the last one closing to NHS patients last year. This continues to be a real problem, particularly as many of the dentists in the neighbouring towns have closed their doors to new members. My Scottish Conservatives colleague and I are conducting a survey about this, which you can complete online via www.lukegraham.uk and follow the link under 'Campaigns'.

Councillor Neil Freshwater

Councillor Willie Robertson



Graffiti

I HAVE HAD several reports of graffiti appearing in various locations in Kinross. I can ask for the graffiti to be removed by people carrying out community payback orders but this is a long drawn out process.

The best thing to happen is that those responsible for defacing walls and buildings should stop doing it. If you know who is responsible for the latest spate please have a word in their ear. I have reported the matter to the police and they have promised to do what they can to put a stop to this anti-social behaviour.

Planning Enforcement

THE COUNCIL SEEMS to struggle to deal with illegal developments that have no planning consent and also enforce planning conditions that have been set as part of a planning consent. This apparent lack of enforcement action really upsets residents who are affected by it. I have written to the convener of the Council's Scrutiny Committee asking that this be looked at to see what more can be done to support our planning enforcement officers in carrying out their work.

Heritage Trail Upgrade

THE UPGRADE AND resurfacing works on the heritage trail from RSPB Vane Farm back to Kinross has been held up by all the recent bad weather. The zigzag paths leading down from the viewpoint on the south west corner of the trail is being resurfaced by a new material called Flexipave. Once laid this material must be given time to set and harden, hence the closure of the path. I was very disappointed to learn that shortly after it was laid people have tried to cycle over it, despite the numerous signs asking for this not to happen. The result is that the path will have to be relaid which is a very expensive process.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Liz Smith, MSP



THE 2024 PARIS Summer Olympic Games is fast approaching and I have been keeping a close eye on the Team GB qualifiers for various sports. It is good to see so many Scottish athletes already passing qualification, which is very much reflective of our national character – Scotland has consistently punched well above our weight when it comes to Olympic representation and success as part of Team GB.

All of our Olympians have one thing in common and that is that their talents and skills were identified, encouraged, developed and refined in their chosen field during their time at school. And while much is being done through welcome initiatives such as Active Schools to encourage sport and healthy lifestyles within the curriculum, readers will likely be as concerned as me at some recent developments involving rising sporting facility closures.

The trend is particularly concerning across Scottish pools which is why I have been working with Scottish Swimming and former Olympic athletes such as Hannah Miley to raise awareness of the importance of swimming pools. Likewise in Perth – the capital city within the international home of curling – we saw the catastrophic plans to omit an ice rink from the Dewars replacement 'PH20' sports complex which was later reversed following enormous public pressure led by local Olympian Eve Muirhead OBE.

Not only is it worrying for the future prospects of our international sporting attainment, but it is a threat to grass roots sports and general health and wellbeing overall. The child obesity crisis is out of control and the initiatives aimed at tackling it are failing – a third of under-15s in Scotland are at risk of overweight and approaching 1 in 5 are at risk of obesity. Although this is not a new problem and we have been witnessing a concerning rise in overweight children throughout the last quarter century, at least the bare minimum obvious requirement for dealing with the crisis was being met, which is, of course, easy access to local sport facilities.

We require an urgent and radical revamp to how sport is encouraged in our communities as too often we are seeing sport being the first victim of increasingly tight budgets. While it may provide an easy short-term saving, these decisions have devastating consequences on the communities they serve and are actually a false economy because sport is so intrinsically linked with health in later life.

Politicians must start by listening to our successful former Olympians who have correctly identified these community assets as the key to our sporting success in the future and health more generally. And that is why I will continue campaigning vigorously to keep each of these vital facilities open.

Liz Smith, MSP

Jim Fairlie, MSP



AT THE TAIL end of April, I attended the first had the great pleasure and honour of cutting the ribbon for the opening of the brand new Kinross-Shire repair café yesterday, and was yet again blown away by the absolutely brilliant community spirit and activism that I am now very aware the people of Kinross-shire have. There are just so many things going on for and by the community as was demonstrated at the recent Better Place to Live Fair at the campus that are fantastic community led initiatives, it really is heartening and inspiring in equal measure.

Speaking to Gosia and Trudy, our two European new Scots, it was clear that there is much we can learn from our international neighbours and much we can offer in return, not least the very warm welcome our new Scots receive when they choose to honour us by making Scotland their home.

I spent time chatting to more than a few folk and one of the things that was raised on a number of occasions was the meeting that was held recently to discuss the wind farm proposals for the area. I am disappointed that I wasn't invited to attend the meeting because it is certainly a discussion we all need to have. In my opening remarks for the Repair Café I talked about how disappointing it is that Scotland will undoubtedly miss our climate change targets for 2030, but that the commitment to 2045 is absolute. Wind and renewable energy are absolutely key to achieving that ambition as well as industry, domestic and commercial buildings, transport and agriculture emission reductions. These are all things the Government is acutely aware of and working incredibly hard to deliver. However, there must be a bit of factual context provided in this space or we are in danger of continuing the political polarisation that has beset so many of the big topics we are currently wrestling with, and for our children and future generations sake, I very much hope we can move this debate into a better space.

In 2009 when these targets were set, the Minister of Environment at the time was our previous MSP Roseanna Cunningham, so I asked her why we had landed here. She told me that Chris Stark from the UK and Scot Gov advisory board the Climate Change Committee (CCC) advised her that a 70% reduction from 1990 levels would be extremely ambitious but difficult to deliver by 2030. That was the ambitious proposal she set, but unfortunately all the other parties in the chamber of the Scottish Parliament pushed harder and forced the Governments hand to go to 75%. As a minority government, they had no choice but to agree. In every policy the government brought forward thereafter to achieve those targets, the opposition either opposed them, or wanted to go further than was practicably

Politicians

possible. There was therefore never any chance that the targets were going to be met, because without political consensus and far more importantly, buy in from the people we are legislating on behalf of, and that means everyone, we simply cannot get it done.

It was as much for those reasons that I would have welcomed an invite and the opportunity to attend the meeting on 15 April.

I am told that both Murdo Fraser and Luke Graham did attend and credit to them for doing so given they seem to have opposing views on the value of windmills. Murdo apparently prefers oil gas and nuclear while Luke favours the idea of wind and renewable, but just not here, and therein lies the biggest obstacle. Yes, everyone agrees we need to do something, but just not here, yes everyone agrees it means less cars on the road, just not their car, everyone agrees it is going to cost more, as long as it's not us that pays more, everyone agrees we need the highest farming standards in animal welfare and climate emission reductions from farmers, but we must guarantee cheap food. There will not be a single person who reads this that does not recognise something in themselves in some or all of those statements, including me.

This is not easy, if it was the 2030 targets would have been a scoosh and we would be on to the next one. But we are asking everyone to fundamentally change how they live, while we all manage a cost of living crisis, it doesn't get much harder than that. So, I hope we can have a much better discourse going forward because no one wins when we use these really big existential issues for political gain. If it takes a village to raise a child, then it takes a community to tackle the big problems we collectively face. Perhaps if we can learn nationally from the community spirit we see happening in Kinross-shire week in week out, we will actually meet the climate targets and leave a safer healthier world for the generations to come.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

John Nicolson, MP

THE CLOCKS HAVE just gone forward. Days are longer. And the hedgerows are filled with daffodils bursting out to find the watery Spring sunshine.

It's the Easter recess and MPs have headed north from the turmoil of Westminster to spend time in their constituencies. During term time Westminster sits Mondays to Fridays so recess is a welcome opportunity to criss-cross my huge and diverse area.

I'm a fan of Scotland's traditional crafts and skills. So I was thrilled to find a nook in a high wall down a wynd in Alva where the Wee County Crafters meet. I felt as if I was approaching a speakeasy in prohibition America. Silence from without. But a hive of bustling activity within. The beautiful old dance hall has fought off an inexplicable demolition



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application by the landlord, and now its beautifully laid floors creak not to the click of tap and swoosh of waltz but to the sound of craftsmanship as beginners and old hands alike turn their hands to the turning of wood. I came away with a recycled chopping board delicately engraved with a butterfly in mid flight.

There are no beginners at the Wee County Men's shed. A cavernous Tillicoultry spinning mill has been cleared and repurposed as a home to a band of skilled craftsmen in industrious semi-retirement. Why quit just because you're 80? In every corner incredible work is being done – ancient Dutch pedal bikes restored to pristine condition, a model railway getting gears custom made, and a skilled French polisher pondering new commissions. Men's Shedders use camaraderie to tackle social isolation amongst members and pass on skills to new generations.

It would be invidious to single out any one inspiring group or organisation. But, as I write, I've just finished a visit to Chas – the children's hospice in Kinross. I am awe struck, as always, by the staff there who deal with the most heart rending cases in a way that fills me with admiration. The centre bursts with colour and life. Children's paintings festoon the walls. The sound of play is everywhere as the children and their siblings scream with laughter. But the team told me a harrowing statistic: if you are a child with a life shortening condition you are 50% more likely to live in a deprived area in Scotland. Austerity and children's mortality inextricably linked. That's chilling.

The Centre has big plans. They want a pool for the children. And because medical advances mean kids with complex needs now live longer and grow taller they need bigger rooms for them and more privacy; ensuite showers are part of their restoration plans. They aim to raise £10 million and are looking for donors. Perhaps that's you?

You might think the hospice would be gloomy. That's what I feared on my first visit. But as I left, a word cloud made by the children stayed with me. What do these terminally ill children associate with their visits there? The biggest words were 'love' and 'safe'.

John Nicolson, MP

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MOUNTAIN RESCUE

POLICE SCOTLAND (TAYSIDE) Mountain Rescue Team has the primary responsibility for locating those who are lost or missing, treating those who are unwell or injured and recovering those who have died in the mountainous, hazardous and complex environments of the Tayside Region. They also help provide a response to any incident where the services of the Police are required, but the environment or location involved is too hazardous for conventional Officers to reach. The Team of 15 Officers operates across the whole of Tayside, including all the glens, hills, mountains, river and lochs in Perthshire, Angus and Dundee. The Team has bases in Forfar, Perth and Dundee.

The Police Team are supported in their role by their volunteer colleagues and friends from Tayside Mountain Rescue Team, who also operate across the region with bases in Blairgowrie, Aberfeldy and Dundee. The Team also works closely with Scottish Fire & Rescue during incidents involving the rescue or search for persons in rivers, lochs or gorges across Tayside."

Tayside Divisional Commander Jason Carrigan and Perth & Kinross Area Commander Greg Burns presented Tayside Mountain Rescue Team and Tayside Police Mountain Rescue Team with 'Outstanding Teamwork' and 'Policing Partnership' certificates last month, as a heart-felt thank you to all 3 elements of the Mountain Rescue Team in Tayside for their collaborative working and public service in 2023.

In 2023 the team had 116 deployments (from 85 incidents)

The busiest month was January 2023, where they were deployed on 16 occasions, with 9 incidents and 7 additional search days for missing person Ross Kinghorn.

The 4 months of July, August, September and October saw 11 incidents each, so our busiest continuous spell for many a year.

As a result of the 116 deployments, the Teams rescued 51 individuals from a mixture of mountain and countryside settings. Of the 51 people rescued, 21 of them required medical treatment from Team Members, for various injuries and illnesses. 14 of the incidents also involved deployment to rivers, lochs and gorges, as well as semi-urban settings.

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.**

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

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

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

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

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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 and 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.

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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 1	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 2	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 3	10am–12noon	VOICEABILITY for free advocacy regarding benefits access and supporting CANCELLED for May. Email for advice: helpline@voiceability.org 07918 500891
Wed 8	10am–12noon 1pm–3pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 Support Choices will be here to offer independent information and advice about getting social care and support 01350 729130
Thu 9	1pm–3.30pm	PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help for those who have CANCELLED for May. Email HCCEmploymentSupport@pkc.gov.uk spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities. 07788 389659
Wed 15	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 16	2pm–4pm	Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/ Signposting 07775 701836
Wed 22	10am–12noon 12.30pm–2.30pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 63884 Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107
Thu 23	10am–12.30pm 2pm–4pm	PKC Skills & Employment - support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268 PKC Housing Team for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 552231
Wed 29	1pm–3.30pm	CATH support with form filling – PIP, UC etc 07955 333163 / 07339 858987

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.

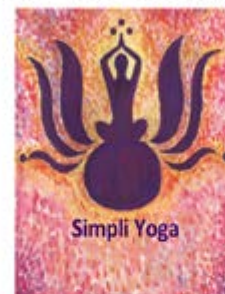
If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

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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FEELING THE FEAR – BUT DOING IT ANYWAY!

WINNING WAYS

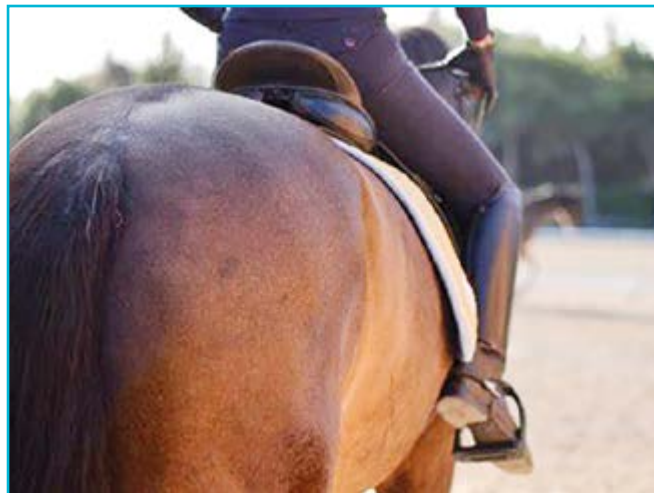
by Jo Middlemiss

FEEL THE FEAR *And Do It Anyway*, by Susan Jeffers, was one of the big popular reads when I was getting into coaching, about 30 years ago. *Feel the Fear And Do It Anyway* became the mantra of the self-help world, and it was a good thing. To tell the truth, I still subscribe to it, but perhaps not with quite the same vigour that I once did. Common sense has to be applied. Fear does get in the way of a lot of things we want to do, because so many of us are afraid of being judged and of failing. Some people are even afraid of success. Imposter syndrome is something that even Michelle Obama admits to. I was able to coach quite a few people into going beyond their fears, and they were mostly grateful. I am supposed to walk my talk, and I do try to, but I was recently reminded of a time when a friend gave me a treat of going for a horse riding lesson. I immediately felt my heart starting to beat too fast, and I couldn't think of enough excuses not to accept. Why? Because it triggered me straight back to a moment of absolute terror many years ago.

I was a young teacher in Berlin working with the children of the armed forces. It was a fabulous place to live and work, with many opportunities for extracurricular activities.

Apart from the usual sports of clubbing, dancing and partying, I decided to take up riding. I was not the little girl of comics, pony mad, always round at the local stables looking cute in jodhpurs, and velvet hard hat. Saturday mornings in our house were generally spent at the dentist, or at a piano lesson, until my Dad realised he was wasting his money. The nearest I had ever been to a horse was a donkey ride on the beach at Girvan. No, the challenge at the riding school in Berlin was real. We had a young Corporal instructing us. Not a great teacher for very indifferent students. He went too fast for us, and got very impatient with our inability to understand the first principles of riding, accompanied by much screeching, which annoyed him and frightened the horses. Then, on my third lesson the horse that I was riding, bolted and went round and round the indoor arena at a terrifying pace. I was all over the place. At once sitting on the horse's ears and then on his rear end. Slipping from side-to-side and clinging on for dear life.

'Who told you, you could get off the horse?' yelled the unsympathetic Corporal. The event came to an end with me giving up and falling off, without doing too much damage, except for a few bruises to my backside and my pride. However, I was pretty shaken, didn't take the advice I was given to get straight back on the horse, and gave up riding forever, or so I thought. I



got the chance to walk on hot coals a few years back, and that wasn't nearly as scary as deciding to try riding again.

Down to the Equestrian Centre we went. We were introduced to two tried and tested ponies. One called Beans and the other called Cammie. They are both pretty sweet natured and lazy. Two senior beginners didn't faze them at all. Our lovely, patient instructor Clare, put us at our ease, and within an hour had us trotting quite effectively round the little arena. It was such fun, and I lost my fear, although I had no intention of repeating the experience. And the same goes for deep sea scuba diving, walking through trees on high ropes, and parachute jumping!

As I reflect on this, it's probably much more sensible to follow your talents and use them, rather than trying to tackle things that scare you, but you don't need to do. Facing your fears and getting over them really does give you a great sense of achievement. So if there are things I really want to do or to get done, but am apprehensive or nervous, then I really will feel the fear and do it anyway! Often though, feeling the fear is nothing to do with doing a physical thing, it's more to do with challenging an internal belief about yourself. Feeling perhaps that one is not good enough, clever enough, tall enough, fast enough or brave enough. Self doubt can be your biggest mountain to climb. You just have to put one foot in front of the other, and *Feel The Fear And Do It Anyway*. Thank you, Susan Jeffers.

Jo Middlemiss MBE

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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 April Meeting

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

Present at the meeting on 2 April were Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, N Marchant, A Cheape, T Lamb; Assoc Cllr C Farquhar; Cllrs D Cuthbert and N Freshwater and 8 MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs A Carter, G Pye; Cllrs W Robertson, R Watters.

Declaration of Interest

Cllr Pye declared interest in planning 24/00456/FLL via email.

Police Report

There was one crime of note 25 March – Possession of a controlled drug – cannabis (Glendevon Reservoir). One individual has been charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

Matters Arising

Windfarms

The CC agreed to sign MOU from the CC sustainability group. We have been advised that it is not a legally binding document. The sustainability group plans to meet in April with the Developers and will discuss community benefit fund options.

Cllr Bruce-Jones has approached Planning Aid Scotland who has offered to advise us on any planning application.

There will be a public meeting to discuss windfarms on 16 April led by Michael Barnacle in the campus at 7-9pm.

Community Development Trust

The FCDDT now has a website and email address – <https://fossowaytrust.com/>, info@fossowaytrust.com. In addition, they are in the process of designing a logo. The FCDDT held a series of open meetings in the village halls which were poorly attended but gained valuable information regarding the use of village assets. There is a meeting on 3 April with DTAS to discuss Blairingone School CAT. Community Transport working group have two volunteer drivers.

Road Safety In FDCC Area Including A977 Mitigation Measures

Carnbo: Residents hope that the 40-mile buffer zones will be a high priority as well as footpath to west of village.

Drum Crossroads: Results from new Drum traffic lights speed survey have been requested.

Speed Watch: PC Ben Samson has emailed all previous volunteers who had expressed an interest in the community Speedwatch asking them to complete documentation and undergo vetting. First training is this Sunday at 3pm in Millnathort Town Hall, all volunteers are welcome to attend. Currently there are approximately 27 volunteers across the various CCs.

Road Improvement Projects in Ward & Kinross-shire: The updated road improvements priority list was signed off and will be submitted to PKC.

Fossoway Area Transport

202 Bus Service

The 202 bus service continues to be unreliable and discussions are ongoing with PKC. Cllr Cuthbert is pushing for Glenfarg Community Transport Group to take on the 202 to improve the service.

Cllr Lamb is leading the discussions on behalf of the FCDDT with Glenfarg Community Transport on the possibility of a

Community Bus that could be driven by Fossoway volunteer drivers for community trips. We currently have two volunteers. This is not a bus service.

A Public Meeting is being organised by the Glenfarg Community Transport Group (GCTG) in the Coronation Hall, Muckhart on 28 April 2024 – 6-8pm in conjunction with Muckhart CC.

Whinstone Quarry Devonshaw, Powmill Planning Application 23/00491/FLM

The planning application for holiday accommodation was approved at the PKC Planning and Placemaking Committee on 13 March 2024. Cllr Marchant made a representation at the meeting as did local resident Carolyn Pleass, other members of the community also attended.

There was an extensive discussion but the PKC Officers' view prevailed. They noted that as this is a brownfield site there was no requirement for a green travel plan. The developers stated that they would consider running a minibus and collaborate with the community on a community bus of some kind. After the meeting they approached Cllr Marchant to reinforce this offer and were keen to engage. Cllr Lamb has agreed to take this forward with them. He is leading community transport on behalf of the Trust and is our expert so will wear two hats. However any agreement will be owned by the Trust.

Crook Moss Travellers Site

Assoc Cllr Farquhar met with Tracey Ramsay to discuss how to improve engagement with the travellers. Tracey is already working with women from the traveller's site at Greenacres which is proving successful. Gypsy traveller Month is in June and discussions are ongoing to put on an event in partnership with them in a local venue. It is hoped that the travellers will participate in the Fossoway Community Action Plan. CC agreed to Assoc Cllr Farquhar continuing to progress the actions.

Drum residents are concerned that every week there are fires on the site which produce acrid smoke. The fire brigade is regularly called.

Fossoway Hydro Fund

The CC have been asked to nominate a Cllr to sit on a new Hydro Community Benefit Fund. Cllr Pye has agreed to take this on. The fund is expecting an input of £100k this year.

Matters Arising With No Update Since Last Meeting: Power Capacity In Fossoway District

SSEN have advised that there is a SSEN PSR Digital Toolkit for prioritised services for eligible households. <https://www.ssen.co.uk/power-cuts-emergencies/priority-services/community-toolkit/>

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New Business

Update CC website: It was agreed that funds are sought to upgrade the CC website.

Kinross-shire Repair Café

A representative from the CC has been invited to the opening of the Kinross-shire repair café on 20 April. A Repair Café is an informal event, where members of the public can drop in with items to be repaired by volunteers. Funds have been obtained to hold four events, two in Kinross and two in Milnathort. The first one, on 20 April, will be held in the Church Centre in Kinross High Street between 11am and 3pm. They will have textile repairers, woodworkers, IT repairers and small electricals; maybe jewellery. There will be a Swap Shop, a bike repair demonstration, and ample opportunities to ask questions. Opening will be performed at 11am by Jim Fairlie, MSP.

SEPA

SEPA have sent the CC the following statistics regarding recycling for communication to our District Scottish recycling rate reaches all time high as Scottish households, businesses and public services recycle 62.3% of all waste in the latest data (2022) from Scotland's environmental watchdog, SEPA.

The recycling rate increased 5.3% from the 57.0% rate in 2021 – reflecting economic recovery from the pandemic and an increase in the proportion of construction and demolition material recycled.

Scotland continues to reduce its reliance on landfill – with only 23.2% of all wastes ending up in landfill – an all-time low.

Supporting the shift from landfill is the small but important role played by energy from waste (incineration) facilities, which saw an 8.3% increase in Scottish waste being treated by incineration in 2022.

Fly Tipping and Litter Picking

SEPA has launched a digital toolkit which people can use to ensure that anyone who is picking up any waste from you is legitimate.

Over the Easter weekend Drum residents and children went on a litter picking session collecting 20 bags.

The Bloom group in Crook of Devon have 20 litter pickers that can be used by residents for litter picking session. Other residents have also carried out litter picking sessions.

Cllr Freshwater advised that PKC will come out and collect bags. Email wasteawareness@pkc.gov.uk

More information can be found at: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/21763/Community-litter-pickers>

Consultations

PKC

Active Travel Plan for Kinross-shire

PKC are creating a masterplan for active travel in Kinross-shire. A survey is open until 15 April where you can have your say on what improvements would be required to encourage you to use active forms of travel. Cllr Bruce-Jones and Marchant attended an online workshop which was very valuable.

Kinross-Shire Active Travel Masterplan 2024 - Community Engagement Survey (office.com)

SEPA

SEPA launch consultation on review of areas most at risk of flooding across Scotland.

The Fossoway district is not designated as a potentially vulnerable area and therefore we will not submit a response.

Consultation on Potentially Vulnerable Areas (PVAs) for Flood Risk Management in Scotland 2024 - Scottish Environment Protection Agency - Citizen Space (sepa.org.uk)

Survey closes 24 June 2024

Community Council Business

Meetings Attended

Cllr Bruce-Jones attended the Kinross Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March; the Kinross-shire Active Travel Masterplan workshop on 27 March.

Cllr Carter attended the Kinross Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March.

Cllr Cheape attended Kinross-shire Fund on 4 March.

Cllr Lamb attended the Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Stronger Communities meeting on 14 March and a meeting with Glenfarg Community Transport on 25 March.

Cllr Marchant attended the PKC Planning and Placemaking Committee on 13 March; the FCDT meetings on the 19, 20 and 26 March; the Kinross-shire Active Travel Masterplan workshop on 27 March.

Ass Cllr Farquhar met with Tracey Ramsay on 21 March to discuss engagement with the Crook Moss Travellers.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Cuthbert mentioned the open event at the Perth Museum which he attended and reported it was very good. This was supported by Cllr Freshwater.

Drummond Park has been adopted by PKC, Ass Cllr Farquhar reported that the residents are very pleased.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications

24/00210/FLL Formation of riding arena, hard standing, and associated works (in retrospect) West Broomhill, Station Road, Crook Of Devon, no CC comment.

24/00366/FLL Erection of replacement garage with studio/gym, office and storage space. Acer House, Drum, no CC comment.

24/00456/FLL Erection of a replacement dwellinghouse. Tethyknowe House Blairingone, Dollar. A previous application for the same replacement dwellinghouse *23/00925/FLL* was refused. The revised plan includes requested reports, no CC comment.

Planning Decisions

23/00491/FLM Formation of leisure development comprising erection of 124 holiday accommodation units, community hub with reception/leisure/retail areas with other associated uses, formation of vehicular access, motorhome stances, SUDS ponds, treatment plant, parking, landscaping and associated works, Whinstone Quarry Devonshaw, Powmill. Application approved, CC had objected.

23/02142/FLL Siting of 2 holiday accommodation units and associated works, Chapter House, Fossoway.

Application was refused, CC had objected as believe it contravenes NPF Policy 30 – Tourism.

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e-mail: ciacleaning@live.co.uk

Correspondence

Cllr Freshwater has agreed to ask who is responsible for cleaning the Crook of Devon war memorial. This has been raised by Crook of Devon Bloom Group.

AOCB

MoP asked should there be passing places on Craigend Rd. Cllr Freshwater agreed to look into this.

Seamab school has started some investigative porosity work which has caused problems for local residents – they broke through the water pipe which resulted in loos of water. MoP emailed the developer who has not replied. MoP have ongoing concerns about state of the road and impact of construction traffic.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council is on Tuesday 7 May at 7.30pm, Crook of Devon Village Hall.

**Milnathort and Orwell
Community Council
News from the April Meeting**

Present at the meeting on 11 April were N Bingham, A Wanless, K Heneghan, A Macrae, Cllrs R Watters, N Freshwater and W Robertson.

Apologies: Cllr D Cuthbert, L Watson (MPS), PC B Samson, M Thomson, P Britton, 3MoP

Police Matters

On 06/04/24, officers from Kinross Police station carried out speed checks at Gairneybank and Milnathort in response to complaints from the public. Five tickets were issued and three drivers were reported to the Procurator Fiscal for speeding offences.

Kinross-shire Community Speedwatch

On Sunday 7 April 2024, Kinross community officers PC Samson and Duncan were training the volunteers on how to use the speed detection devices.

PC Samson from the Kinross Community Policing Team said 'We have been working collaboratively with local community councils over a period of time and are pleased to reach a significant milestone. The volunteers hope to be fully operational soon.' If you wish to volunteer please email speedwatch.ks@gmail.com or taysidekinross-shirecpt@scotland.police.uk.

Actions From Previous Meeting

Replacement gate from Lathro park to South Street – 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.

No update about the gate at Lathro, PKC officers were asked for an update but have not yet responded, however it's likely that the path has still not been adopted.

Core Paths Update

Stone for infilling the depressions in the Core Paths has been delivered, we have six bags of Type 1 and three bags whin dust (7.2 metric tonnes in total). Now the lighter evenings are here and the weather is improving, we've more flexibility in organising the infilling jobs and the waymarking. We'll start flailing in May. We've taken delivery of wildflower seed and tree saplings, supplied by Community Greenspace. We'll sow and plant these in the coming weeks. So far we have no update regarding the gate at Lathro.

Planning Applications

24/00453/LBC Extension to dwellinghouse at The Granary, 2 Arlary Steadings, Milnathort.

Decisions

23/02041/FLL Part change of use of cafe to form a flat, 19A South Street, Milnathort. approved.

Upgrade to Mobile Base Station at Tillwhally

The community council have been asked to provide feedback on the upgrade to the existing mobile Base Station at Tillywhally, we have 14 days from 11 April to make comment. The mobile tower will have its antenna updated, the building will be refreshed internally and the tower will be increased in height by 3m.

The community council and those present in the audience agreed that there was no objection or impact by this upgrade and will reply to the developer accordingly.

Large Planning Applications

There are no updates on any of the large planning applications; Loch Leven Gateway(BCA), or any of the windfarms.

Aldi Supermarket

It would appear that the announcement on the Aldi planning application is imminent, and the status will be updated on the PKC planning portal when the decision has been made.

Speedwatch

We held our first training session on Sunday 7th April, it was well attended however we are not yet able to set up any sessions until more vetted volunteers are trained or trained volunteers vetted has been complete.

We are still looking for volunteers, please get in touch via speedwatch.ks@gmail.com

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson: Tracks proposed a footbridge at the A91 Ballingall Bridge at the junction with the Stronachie road,



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Community Council News

however a review with the roads department believe there are other options available to help slow down traffic and make it safer for cyclists and walkers without the need for an additional bridge. They will draw up plans for this alternative in the summer.

As a reminder there were at least three car accidents at this bridge last year with 2 of the cars ending up in the field just past the bridge.

There has been an increase in litter in our lovely countryside and PKC will be conducting a litter pick on the, A91 out to Dalqueich cross roads.

A number of senior staff have left PKC due to taking early retirement, this has helped save money in the budget and also saves on any job losses however it does result in a loss of experience in a number of departments in the council.

Cllr Freshwater: The grey bins are fantastic and everyone should be encouraged to use them. However, if like me after some windy weather you have had to retrieve your grey bin recycled litter and my neighbours, and you need one of the leashes advertised by PKC, they are available from the library.

Cllr Watters: Arup have been engaging with all the local community councils to get input into the Kinross-shire active travel plan. The engagement has gone well and MOCC attended a session along with nearly all the other Kinross-shire CC's a week or so ago.

An update/report by Arup will be presented at the next Kinross-shire community meeting in May.

The Mobility strategy will be going before the council in May, it includes all active travel and park and rides etc. The action plan covers 165 topics/suggestions on identified improvements so far.

Any Other Matters

Tree Planting at the Milnathort War Memorial

Thanks to the Kinross High School, and Milnathort Primary School pupils for helping plant the replacement trees, and all the members of public that attended to give their support as well as those from PKC that helped dig the holes.

Fly Tipping

Neill noted that PKC are advertising online about fly tipping, and how a house holder can be fined if they do not use an approved SEPA removal company who then fly-tip.

King's Garden Party

The CC nominated Susan Britton due to all her great work with helping and supporting the Orwell 70 Plus group as well as helping out in other areas across the community over the years. Malcolm Thomson was also nominated for all his work on the CC, having been the chair for a lengthy time and then most recently vice-chair.

We hope that they and their partners attending the King's Garden party in Holyrood in the summer have a fantastic time, well deserved to both.

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Feel free to get in touch with the CC to nominate any other well deserving local residents for future Garden Parties, unfortunately if they have already attended a previous garden party they cannot be nominated again.

Casino Night

Unfortunately as not enough tickets have been sold, we have had to cancel this event.

Accident on New Road

Unfortunately there was another road accident at New Road due to a vehicle travelling along South Street, losing control and ending up embedded into the Soho Green House building. Fortunately it was late and there was not much traffic or pedestrians, however there was an eye-witness to the accident at the meeting who was making their way home along South Street when the vehicle hurtled towards and then passed them last night.

The CC would like to thank all the emergency services who attended the accident last night and those residents that gave assistance.

A member of the audience asked that in light of this recent accident and the one last year on South Street which caused nearly as much destruction to parked cars, oncoming traffic and road furniture was there any threshold on incidents like this before PKC need to take action on improving the road?

A number of the PKC councillors did mention that there was a threshold or trigger for PKC to do something, but gave no further detail on what that was, but also highlighted that traditional road calming methods would probably have no impact on drivers of this nature. Cllr Robertson also remarked that if full length speed bumps were put in place the nearby residents would not be happy with the noise this causes by each passing vehicle.

Cllr Watters will speak with the council officers to get them to review the road layout on all roads approaching the roundabout at the town hall to see what improvements could be made.

The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council will be on 9 May 2024, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall

Kinross Community Council News from the March Meeting

Present at the meeting on 26 March were Cllr W Freeman, Cllr E Leslie, Cllr C Willsher, Cllr T Stewart and Cllr K Spain (assistance dog, Zola), Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater and W Robertson and 3 MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs L McKay, B West, S Wells, P Chan, M Wilson, Cllr R Watters, PC B Samson.

Police Scotland Report

There were 92 calls to Police from the Kinross area resulting in 7 crimes being recorded on Police systems.

Crimes To Note: between 02/03/24 and 03/03/24, vandalism in Sandport, Kinross with damage to windows by stones or similar and knock over of plant pots (subject to live investigation).

Between 05/03/24 and 06/03/24, theft from a building site on Gallowhill Road, Kinross with a battery stolen from roller (subject to live investigation).

PC Samson has been on visits to Kinross Primary School where he dropped off PC Kirsty (the pop-up cop) which can be used to control the speed of traffic in the area, he also spoke with the P4 classes about the role of a police officer, the pupils were able to see the uniform and have a tour of the police van. He was involved in the NHS drama tour at the High School where he discussed issues such as vaping and mental health. PC Samson would like to pass on his thanks for the staff for having him and the pupils for the participation in the visit.

Craighead Wind Farm Updated

Presentation provided by the Craighead team and updates given regarding the wind farm with the pre-application process ongoing. The scheme was initially 12 turbines, however, will now be 8. This will reduce the landscape effects of the turbines. A photo montage was provided to show the visual impressions of the turbine farm from Dunning Glen and the M90 motorway as it passed the site. The Craighead team have so far attended six different CC meetings and delivered five newsletters with updates. The Craighead team are aware of the community benefit group that has been set up and mentioned that up to 10% community ownership has been offered. Currently the national grid is prepared to accept power generated from the site from 2032 onwards.

Matters Arising

Cllr D Cuthbert gave an update regarding the parking restrictions on the high street south of the Raj restaurant, these will be changed to unrestricted parking, so residents have access to on street parking. Cllr D Cuthbert also stated that the Milbridge Hall parking is awaiting an assessment to see if further spaces can be created. CCllr W Freeman stated that the nomination period for the Holyrood Garden party has now passed, and no nomination was submitted.

KCC Website

CCllr W Freeman mentioned an action group is required to discuss this further.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications Received

24/00276/FLL P8 Erection of 2 dwellinghouses and garage, formation of vehicular access and associated works at Land 65 Metres Northwest of Green Hotel, 2 Muirs, Kinross.

24/00040/FLL P8-Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse, alteration to driveway and erection of a shed at Mossgrove, 18 Muirs, Kinross.

24/00044/LBC P8 Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse at Mossgrove, 18 Muirs, Kinross.

24/00154/FLL P8 Erection of storage building (in part retrospect) at Turfhill Depot, Turfhill, Kinross.

24/00261/FLL P8 Extension to dwellinghouse at Scaledin, 33 Alexander Drive, Kinross.

Planning Applications Determined

23/00916/FLL P8 Erection of a dwellinghouse and garage with ancillary accommodation unit Land 30 Metres Northwest of Hawthorn House, GairneyBank, Kinross, approved.

24/00026/FLL P8 Extension to industrial building 19B Clashburn Road, Bridgend Industrial Estate, Kinross, approved.

Other Planning Matters

Planning application 24/00276/FLL P8, was discussed in detail with a member from the Kinross-shire Civic trust. Eileen Thomas stated the area is in a conservation zone and would

require removal of parts of the stone wall to gain access into the site and provide a driveway. Eileen stated that this would affect the character of the area and the conservation area should be preserved. Eileen also noted that the trees in the development have been removed and no notification was granted for this. Replacement planting has not yet been completed. CCllr D Cuthbert noted that the Tree Officer for PKC has been notified and will assess the situation, however most likely this would wait till after the planning decision on the site.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust was looking for CC support. W Freeman was in favour, C Willsher, E Leslie, K Spain and T Stewart were against. It was agreed that the CC would not submit an objection.

D Cuthbert and W Robertson gave an update regarding the BCA site, the funding for the flood defence scheme has been granted and is now awaiting an application to commence the work.

C Willsher mentioned that the fence that surrounds the pumping station on the market park is causing concern to the residents that live across from the green. Cllr D Cuthbert will investigate different options; however, the pumping station is owned by Scottish Water and would need to be consulted on this.

Councillors' Reports

N Freshwater advised that the Police are continuing to monitor the speeding on the road at Gairneybank and are looking for volunteers to sign up for speedwatch. He has also requested an update on installing a VAS monitor on the Muirs.

W Robertson gave an update on the heritage trail, which is currently getting the path surface upgraded, costing around £200,000. Due to poor weather, the works have been delayed but as the weather improves, it is hoped the work will be completed soon and the next phase of work will be between Channel Farm and Vane Farm.

D Cuthbert advised there is funding of £28,000 available for the Active Travel Plan Kinross-shire, a TEAMS meeting has been arranged to discuss ways to use the money offered. It is hoped access routes around Kinross and the rural communities can be improved an update can be given at the next KCC meeting. D Cuthbert also gave an update on the Loch Leven Community Campus; he is looking into improving access to the campus and the rental space on offer. It has been noted that groups have rented a certain space and have had their bookings changed last minute and the space offered was not suitable for their needs.

D Cuthbert noted that a report had been made regarding the gated access to the hockey pitch from the Muirs side. They had been closed, however are now fastened open. Further information was required regarding access. L McKay has been in contact regarding the astro/KGV/hockey area and invites sent for representatives to attend the next meeting.

Reports From CC Representatives

W Freeman mentioned that the Better Place To Live Fair held at the campus was well-attended.

He also passed on that CCllr McKay wanted to mention in absence that she is investigating if CCTV could be installed on the High Street to reduced anti-social behaviour in the area. CCllr McKay has also applied for print of the King's portrait. She is aware there had been a lot of interest in Speedwatch and Core Path at the Better Place To Live Fair and there have been more volunteers for speedwatch following this. CCllr McKay is aware of complaints regarding speeding along Springfield Road, a cyclist was hit off his bike at the Springfield Road/Muirs junction, further investigation is urgently required, especially when events are on, and parking is an issue. CCllr

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McKay has been made aware of reports that a lamppost was hit by a Diona van in Montgomery Way and the driver drove off and did not report the damage. It is understood that this area is not getting fibre installed and therefore the van had no reason to be in this area. It was suggested further enquiries should be made to determine why this area is not receiving fibre as it is meant to be all of Kinross.

CCLlr McKay had a question for the councillors, the BCA site have had no communication from PKC, and they are struggling to push forward with absolutely no direction or timescale with the flood prevention. Could the councillors investigate this further as the owners are still keen on coming to Kinross.

AOCB

CCLlr D Cuthbert mentioned that there are changes ongoing to the Stagecoach bus routes in the local area. Kinross will not be widely affected, however people using the service should check the website and social media to confirm their route is available.

A member of the public wanted to inform that the two phases of the Persimmon homes site in Kinross have now been connected, however the path has not been completed yet and following rain the path cannot be used due to the level of mud.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on 28 May 2024 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Portmoak Community Council News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Tuesday 13 February were: Cllrs N Freshwater, W Robertson; CCllrs A Miller, D Morris, A Davidson, S McGregor, K Donaldson, D Paterson and 3 MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs D Cuthbert and R Watters.

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee Update: Cllr W Robertson spoke about the Tactran (Tayside and Central Scotland Transport Partnership) study of routes in PKC for cycling and walking which had not included Kinross-shire paths at all. Cllr R Watters and W Robertson had attended a meeting with Tactran to address this omission and the meeting outcomes were subsequently discussed at the KC meeting. There had been agreement to use Kinross-shire fund money to complete the survey. However, now Tactran have agreed to do the study with their funds. There is a focus on safe cycling routes to connect other paths. Cllr D Morris suggested Tactran may have approx. £26K available at end of year funds for use on projects.

Road Safety Action Update: Bowhouse speed reduction limits extending to Auchmuir bridge have been implemented. It is hoped this will assist in reducing speeds along this stretch of road.

Community Speedwatch: social media page will go live this week. People will be able to communicate their details privately. A first round of applications will be launched to get names, numbers and emails. This info. will not be publicly circulated. Secretary to circulate the social media details to subscribers. Speedwatch will be operated separately from PCC, with coordinators in each village.

Vane Farm Road: Cllrs confirmed that the Vane Farm road is on a schedule for resurfacing in next financial year starting 2024.

Complaint About Road Mawcarse to Wester Balgedie: large amounts of water is washing off fields and hill and coming down on the road in several areas. It was felt that ditches needed cleared. Asked SEPA to speak to PKC Roads to get ditches cleared out. D Morris suggested this was a problem all along the A911. There are many discussions about the drains blocking with sand and gravelly soil, but even cleared

drains block almost immediately due to the nature of the soil in the area and this is a challenge for PKC to keep the drains clear as much as they need to be. There was a discussion about farming practises and the potential benefits of direct drilling for planting, with no ploughing, and planting instead into stubble with direct drilling which can help to sequester carbon and slow down water. Also running furrows along the line of the hill. Landowner has offered to clear ditches. Has cut out winter crops to stop soil erosion. D Morris suggested tree/hedge shelter belts along the Mawcarse-Balgedie stretch to try and slow down water.

A local resident had raised an issue with pushing a pram up the narrowing path from Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church and asked if it was possible for PKC to dig back the edge of the path to clear enough width for a pram. Secretary to forward correspondence between local resident and PKC officer to N Freshwater.

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: There is an area of woodland owned by Portmoak Church, opposite the church, which the Church are willing to transfer to the Woodland Trust. The proposed Path is described as being a proactive solution for people to move through the land from the Community Entrance to cemetery along to the existing path, and this section now has a green light from the relevant parties. It would be useful if this upper section could be assessed in principle. This development could be used as leverage on landowner that the path is a necessity for the local community and hopefully see some progress on the lower section then from the cemetery down to Scotlandwell.

Play Facilities At Scotlandwell Green: The Chair believed work to upgrade the facilities was imminent. Funding is in place, green light to go. Portmoak Gala will have to move venue, but not date, for 2024 as the grass will not be adequately established by the time of the gala. A possible location was thought to be secured.

Portmoak Church – The Future For The Church And Car Park: Future of Portmoak Church: there was a short discussion about the church and car park, but this project was being handled via another group within the Community.

Police Reports

Police report had been circulated with advice about securing your property. A break in had occurred at Loch Leven's Larder.

Planning

New Applications:

24/00135/FLL Installation of replacement windows and door, Bonaly Cottage, Main Street, Kinnesswood.

HELP WANTED

Kinnesswood Male or female – Mon-Fri

Gentleman needs assistance
with dressing, breakfast
and evening meal.

Experience of care helpful.

Times and payment to be agreed.

Please contact Jenny on 07866 053990.

Existing Applications

22/01191/FLL Erection of 16 dwellinghouses (3 with detached garages, one with detached garage/ancillary accommodation), formation of 6 plots for affordable dwellinghouses, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works, land 100 Metres South East Of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens, Scotlandwell, agreement to remove this item for the next meeting.

Planning Decisions

Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee

K Donaldson was to attend meeting in March 24. Other works appear to be progressing. Test mode by mid-2024. Expected to be active in 2025. Funding could be available for community purpose. Chair asked K Donaldson for contact: Ross MacDonald (Chair has details)

Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: Cllr D Morris once we know who is doing Tactrans work through ARUP, Dave will feed the study into TAKTRans. A lot of paths being created through Woodland Trust, Chair suggested that details of these could also be fed through to the study.

Paths Group Update: Regarding the path connection between top of Cobbles to Michael Bruce Way. PKC are going to organise quotes from contractors for minor work, and way marking and replacement signs.

Coffin Road from Arlary to Orwell: W Robertson had mentioned to Dave Stubbs that this Core Path was not being maintained. D Morris had met the farmer (Harry Black) and informed him that he had ploughed up the Core Path, reminded him of responsibility to restore core paths. Strong pressure is required to be put on land owner.

Treasurer CC Accounts:

PCC account: £849.29

MBW account: £1683.71 (interest from RBS account has been added) RBS old account can now be closed.

Secretary to submit Zoom invoices. Treasurer had applied for grant for MBW account. Should be paid direct into MBW account and should show up in March 24.

Councillors' Reports:

W Robertson advised that PKC are in budget process with big savings required. Grass cutting will be reduced as an easy first measure. W Robertson had asked for information and maps of work areas in order to manage expectations. As soon as the Cllrs hear more information he will inform CCs.

N Freshwater: Roads team within PKC have had issues with not having a full complement of employees in their department which is delaying the works schedule. Cllrs have challenge of securing funding for next year from 1 April

2024. On community speedwatch: Milnathort CC have all the equipment so this could be coordinated to bring in volunteers to do a speedwatch in Portmoak for a couple of hours.

Matters Notified To The Secretary

Changes to Proxy and Postal Voting

Issues Of Brown Bins In Kinnesswood Cobbles. Raise to Cllrs.

AOB

Chair: Milnathort planning inconsistencies in conservation areas pertaining to solar panels. Chair suggests asking the Planning Committee for comment on this for more clarity. Cllrs asked for the overview on this to take to Planning Officer.

D Morris: advance warning that he would be leaving the area and would have to resign from PCC within 2024. He is the only person from Kinnesswood in PCC. Also Paths Group needs a new coordinator but this aspect may be solved. The Chair offered thanks for the immense work that D Morris has contributed to PCC work over many years.

MoP: Robert Erskine Newlands farm. Issues with gates being left open by walkers. PKC had offered to give them a new self-closing gate, but they could use more.

Footpath From Hall Car Park To At Golf Course: gorse bushes are grown into the path. Also from golf course to Kinnesswood thorny bushes are growing over the path.

New Gullet Bridge: a vehicle had hit the New Gullet Bridge and dislodged masonry. W Robertson suggested the issue of new signage was raised at KC.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held on 14 May, 7.30pm.

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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. ”

Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org

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

Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com



Raingardens Challenge

Ten volunteers kindly braved the cool, drizzly weather for over two hours on 10 April to plant wildflower plugs and seeds around the perimeter of the Kinross Park & Ride and at the flood plain ponds on Junction Road.

The west and north borders of the Park & Ride car park contain a few trees and a very small number of shrubs. This left lots of room for weeds to develop, which the Council would then deal with by conventional means. By planting wildflowers in these borders, there will be less room for weeds to take hold and a great source of food for pollinators such as bees and butterflies will be provided. As an added bonus, the car park will look prettier for humans to enjoy!

Some of the wildflower species planted in plug form were Ajuga reptans (Bugle), Silene flos-cuculi (Ragged Robin) and Geum urbanum (Wood avens).

Amongst the group of trees on the east side of the car park, volunteers managed to scrape the heavily compacted soil sufficiently to plant a woodland meadow seed mix.



Volunteers planting wildflower seeds at the Park & Ride

Fittingly, as the drizzle turned to rain, the volunteers planted pond edge plants around the new and newly enlarged ponds at the wetlands on Junction Road. Again, this will help biodiversity, with particular hopes for attracting frogs and toads. (For more information on this, see the articles in the March and April issues of the *Newsletter*.)

Work was carried out with the agreement of Perth & Kinross Council.

Many thanks to our volunteer planters: Nora, Hugo, Andrew, Robin, Ken, Robert, Daniele, Gareth, Eileen and Brian. Special thanks to Daniele of Celtica Wildflowers for her guidance and Andrew for the coffee and cake!

Keeping up with Planning

If you would like to be kept aware of planning applications in Kinross-shire, then please follow the Trust's Facebook page. Every week we sift through the Council's planning list and put the Kinross-shire applications on Facebook.

We are aware that a number of people were dismayed when fences were erected at the King George V Playing Field to stop the public walking down the west side. This was part of planning permission gained by Kinross Astro. If there had been a few more objections

from the public, this might have had an influence at the Council planning committee, where there was a tight vote. (In an unusual turn of events, Kinross Astro are having to remove the fences because they did not get the consent of the King George V Playing Fields Management Committee, who are the lease-holders of the playing field. Sometimes it is possible to have planning permission but not the legal right to execute it.)

Membership

If you care about the good appearance of the town and villages of Kinross-shire and would like to see the character of our county maintained, please consider joining the Trust. We aim to encourage high standards of architecture, amenity and planning and wish to see buildings and monuments of historic interest conserved. We are increasingly concerned with the state of Loch Leven and matters such as flooding and biodiversity, hence our pro-active Raingardens project.

Membership is £15 per household per year. A form can be downloaded from our website or requested by email.

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire



Some of you may know that it is now over a year since Traidcraft, which had been selling Fairtrade goods for over 40 years, went into administration in January 2023. The good news is that our local Fairtrade group have been able to continue to order Fairtrade goods, some of which are from small farm producers in Kenya and Eswatini in Africa and are not available in supermarkets. These small producers, Meru Herbs in Kenya and Eswatini Kitchen, support small holder farmers by offering them a route to market for their produce. By buying their delicious sauces, chutneys and jams we are enabling them to continue to use sustainable farming practices and provide for their families. Please visit the website www.trueorigin.org.uk and contact us at the Farmers' Market or email kjarvie@btinternet.com and we can provide any of the products, with no postage costs. With every purchase you know that you are making a positive difference to the world we live in.



Kinross-shire u3a

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home

Find us on Facebook



Our Annual General Meeting and quiz will take place at Kinross Parish Church on Tuesday 7 May. Doors open at 2pm for a 2.30pm start.

Our monthly presentations will restart in September.

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.

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*Portici di Bologna by Bill Paton
Carnival Charmers by Doug Carrie
Spring Flowers by Dianne Whalley*



Here at the centre things are as busy as always. The hearing aid clinic takes place on the first Monday of the month and the P&K vision group on the first and third Tuesday of the month.

There are also a few extra things starting up again as spring has arrived. We have been back to Ratho, where we have enjoyed our first trip of the year along the canal. The weather was a bit wet but it was still very relaxing chugging along the canal watching a swan sitting on her eggs and keeping an eye on us at the same time to make sure we didn't get too close.

The craft group have been busy making beautiful paper flowers which we have displayed on some of our tables. In the weeks ahead they will try some book folding so keep your eye out for some eye catching creations.

As always, the curling is very busy with two groups of quietly competitive people trying very hard to win. We have a few regular domino players and one lady is standing out as being a very good player.

Linton Osborne has been in to entertain us, and we had a fantastic afternoon where everyone joined in singing and dancing to his great upbeat classic tunes. I have no doubt there were many of us having forty winks before our tea that night.

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.

Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook

We will be heading south of the border to Haltwhistle in Northumberland for our annual weekend trip away this month. Beautiful Northumbrian castles, Roman forts along the route of Hadrian's Wall and the fabulous unspoilt scenery will be our focus for the weekend. There will be lots of photographic opportunities in this fantastic part of the world whatever the weather.

Our programme of summer evening outings begins this month and we look forward to visiting a great variety of venues close to home in small groups. A few of the evenings will be dedicated to practicing specific camera techniques such as long exposure and intentional camera movement shots. There will be lots to enjoy as well as opportunities to learn more about the capabilities of our cameras when out in the field. Expert help will be available from our more experienced photographers.

Our featured photographs this month are the winning collages from our recently held Four-On-A-Board Competition.



Kinross Centre

It was a surprise recently as we woke up to a covering of snow followed by temperatures of 12 degrees the following day! It seems that we just have to make sure we are prepared for the unexpected when it comes to the weather; sunhats and snow boots! It has been great seeing the spring flowers. Kinross is looking lovely coming in from the motorway with all the beautiful daffodils in full bloom all the way down to the primary school.

Kinross Garden Group

Our speaker for April was Dr Stan da Prato who gave us a talk called 'Through the Year' about the 'showiest' alpine we would find at the rock garden shows in Scotland and the North of England. There are so many beautiful displays and Stan had so much knowledge about how we could choose and grow them. Unfortunately, a wet climate did not seem to be an ideal condition, except for rhododendrons in a dry summer!

We will now shift into summer mode from May to September. We have a series of garden visits planned, starting on 9 May with a trip to Newliston House and Garden near South Queensferry. Members who are going please remember to pay for the trip by 25 April. Payments to Anne Walker (details listed on the information sheet) and turn up promptly at the pick-up point on the day.

For more details contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589





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Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

Fresh air, exercise, good company and wonderful views. We offer all this and visits to some of the spectacular scenery and lesser known places that surround us. We are a friendly 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 7 May, Limekilns and Charlestown Circular

This is a scenic and varied walk visiting harbours, historic Limekilns and railways. Then along the shady wooded valley of the Lyne Burn and Broomhall House estate, the family seat of the Earls of Elgin. The walk is mainly on level paths or tracks with one brief stretch on a minor road. The total distance is 4.04 miles.

Tuesday 21 May, Burleigh Sands to Loch Leven's Larder

From Burleigh Sands we will follow the pathway to lunch at Loch Leven's Larder, then return to Burleigh. This is a pleasant flat walk with good paths. The total distance is just under 4 miles.

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.

17-19 May, Weekend Away in Peebles

Saturday 8 June, Birks of Aberfeldy, 7.5 miles

Starting with a steepish climb up the gorge to Rob Roy Way as far as Urlar. Then crossing towards Bolfracks Hill and on to Dunskaig with views to the Tay Valley. Return is through a plantation back to the Birks.

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

As we build up to celebrate our 50 years of twinning we start by hosting a fun quiz night on Saturday 18 May at Kinross Masonic Hall. Get a team together and book a table by using the details listed on the poster in the Notices section of this Newsletter.



The next major event will be a Bastille Day celebration on Sunday 14 July and we are planning a couple of novel events with a French theme. Perth Provost Zander McDade has designated the Kinross Twinning group as the first to host this Bastille Day celebration and hopes to roll out a Bastille Day event at other local towns and villages which have a French twinning group.

All our members, including a number of new faces, are looking forward to welcoming our Gacé friends when they come to Kinross on 3-10 August. Anyone wishing to participate by hosting this summer's visit should contact secretary David Munro using the contact details above.

Milnathort Bridge Club

Just a gentle reminder to our members of our move from Orwell Bowling Club to Orwell Church Hall on Monday 6 May. The start time will be as usual, arriving at 6.30pm for a 6.45pm start of play. It will still be important to inform our secretary, Gloria, in advance of your intention to play in order to facilitate the set up of the hall and computer.



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

Results

North/South

25 March

Willie Young/Jane Smith

1 April

Helen Todd/Bob Robertson

8 April

Willie Young/Jane Smith

15 April

Catriona Marshall/Betty Wilson

East/West

Colin and Gloria Wilson

Sandy Scholes/Jean Bennett

Liz Pottie/Jessie Mitchell

Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley

Kinross Bridge Club

Our winter/spring season has just come to an end with a fun afternoon involving aggregate scoring. We had five tables so played 20 boards, followed by the prizegiving. The results are listed below.

North/South

1st

Beryl Harley & Susie Ballantyne

2nd

Catriona Marshall & Jane Muirhead

East/West

Jim Marshall & Robin Satow

Jane Smith & Jessie Mitchell

The best couple over the year was Liz Pottie and Jessie Mitchell. The Peter Stirling trophy for the best individual over the year was won by Jim Marshall. We will restart on Thursday 3 October. New members are very welcome. For further information please contact Catriona Marshall on 07747 496763.

Clubs & Community Groups

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

Members enjoyed a busy day at the Better Place to Live Fair with a very visible exhibition space on the campus stage. There was a high level of interest in the club and the follow up has been at least one new member joining us with others interested. Our thanks to Pauline Watson for the huge success of the event overall.



We now have just over 50 members and one of our members, Donald Fletcher, who joined us recently tells his story:

'My family moved to Kinross in 1990, following a work transfer. We quickly settled into life in our new hometown. Earlier in life I worked as a ship's engineer, latterly retraining to eventually become an IT support manager.

'I have always had an interest in art and, following retirement, took classes with Perthshire artist Alan Perera-Liyanage and Fife artist Liz Yule, both great artists, who encouraged me and helped me to develop my own style of painting.

'Only fairly recently, I discovered the benefits of joining KADAC. The club offers a genuine spirit of friendship, where fellow artists can meet and share tips and encouragement with each other. Additionally, our professional art advisor, Tom Sutton-Smith, arranges demos in various media for us all to view and appreciate. I enjoy painting landscapes in watercolour, mainly taken from photos from holidays.

'KADAC plays a vital role in Kinross, primarily as a social hub, promoting the arts through exhibitions and also encouraging the benefits of creativity by way of school visits and local events supporting the arts.

'In summary, people often say to me, "I can't draw!". I tell them, if they can write their name, they can learn to draw and paint, come along to KADAC and join the fun!'

If you would like to develop your creative skills, you are welcome to visit a KADAC session, meet the other members and decide if you'd like to join us. For details check out our website.

Kinross Probus Club

On 20 March the club received a talk from Marje Atkinson and Liz Fischbacher who are both volunteers for the Samaritans.



The Samaritans were founded in 1953. Marje and Liz are based in Dunfermline and are part of the nationwide network of over 200 branches throughout the UK. The volunteers offer their time to help to deliver a 24 hour emotional support service to callers in many ways, from answering telephones and emails, to fundraising, generating publicity, administration and finance. You don't need to have been through a particular life experience or be from a certain walk of life; anyone who wants to help others, is tolerant and open-minded is welcome to apply.

The Samaritans core values of 'Listening, Confidentiality, Non-judgemental, Human contact and Allowing people to make their own decisions' are the key to its success. This is why the volunteers

are often referred to as the 'listeners'. They recognise that it is a big step for someone to call them and usually they just need somebody to listen to their problems. Outreach is very important for the Samaritans and currently they have projects working within our Prison Service and an awareness campaign run jointly with the Rail Industry.

Receiving a call every 10 seconds, the Samaritans are clearly a vital service that we must support. They can be contacted 24/7 by calling 116 123 or by email at jo@samaritans.org

The vote of thanks was given by Peter Reeve.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe



We held a very successful Easter Saturday coffee morning including an Easter egg raffle featuring small and large chocolate eggs. Most of the home baking also included a chocolate theme.

Our chosen Charity for April was the Ripple Effect which was set up in 1988 and is still going strong. They help those who live in Burundi, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda. It was started by a group of farmers sending cattle they no longer used for milking, to continue life in communities in Africa. Now the charity works to help families to grow their own food, sharing the surplus with friends and neighbours. For every family they work with, three others benefit. Families who are successful are encouraged to pass on seeds, livestock, tools and knowledge to other community members who need support. Hence the name of the charity, the Ripple Effect. The charity also helps people of gender and social inclusion; 67% are women farmers, 54% live with disability, 8% are living with AIDS and 20% are young people.

Our chosen charity for May is for Linda's Fund, a Scottish charity helping education in Malawi. All funding goes to Malawi with no cost in the UK, except bank charges, since 2006.

We continue to welcome old and new friends to our coffee mornings in Milnathort Guide Hall every Tuesday and Saturday.

Kinross-shire Reminiscence Group

Our group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 1.30pm in the Garden Room at the Kinross Centre. We enjoy chatting and reminiscing about Kinross Town and the history of 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 which were displayed in the High Street, followed by an exhibition in Milnathort Town Hall. Following on from this we looked into the local hotels and pubs.

We also look at old photos of the town and people and relate stories of our own connections with the town.

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 8 May at 1.30pm in the Kinross Centre. Please consider joining us.

Boys Brigade and Girls Association



Easter has been a busy time at BB with the Easter story dominating activities and, of course, Easter eggs. Members continued the tradition of decorating boiled eggs.

In the recent Battalion chess competition Junior Section member Samuel Main finished as runner up in the event held at Scone.

Parents and friends are invited to attend our annual presentation of awards at Kinross Church Centre on Friday 31 May. Badges and trophies will be presented to members based on the national BB programme scheme.

It is also the start of our marquee season with our 40 foot by 20



Left: BBs Junior Section with their decorated boiled Easter eggs. Below: Battalion Chess runner-up Samuel Main



foot white marquee again in demand over the summer period. Members have been busy replacing guy ropes ready for the new season of bookings.

Crook and Drum Growing Together



Crook of Devon and Drum have been glowing with daffodils during March and early April, including 2000 new native ones in Waulkmill park, donated by PKC and planted by the Unpaid Work Team in the autumn. The flowers were surprised by some late snow, but soon bounced back. Still to come in early May is the pink cherry blossom on the village green.

Our recent project has been planting golden orchard fruit trees donated by the Tree Council; one of only 50 projects in the UK. We have planted these at the corner of West Crook Way amongst the wildflowers, and in a new bed on the green with other nature friendly plants from the Council.

We are planning a community event on the afternoon of Saturday 18 May to officially open these new areas and our existing orchard behind the graveyard, where we have a new interpretive board, funded by the Fossoway Community Benefit Fund.

We will gather on the green area on the Main Road for the opening at 2pm by Catherine Lloyd from the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership, followed by a stroll to the orchard behind the church, and teas in the church hall. There will also be a seed swap, some plant sales, and information about biodiversity and helping the environment. Everyone is welcome.

We will then be planning ahead, growing on small plants for the planters during the summer, and would welcome any volunteers to look after one of these over the summer.

We are grateful for the support and feedback which we receive from local residents, as well as the PKC Greenspace team.

For more information contact Amanda James on 0793 476803 or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Welcome to Fossoway Community Orchard

Supporting Biodiversity

Our aim for this area is twofold: providing fruit trees for people and creating a diverse wildlife habitat. The trees' blossom, spring bulbs, and wildflowers will attract pollinating insects like bees, hoverflies, butterflies, and moths. The long grass offers shelter to birds, small mammals, amphibians, and various invertebrates, all contributing to the interconnected "web of life." Trees and shrubs, such as wild raspberries and blackthorn, will also supply berries and winter food for birds.

Enjoy observing the orchard area and the wildlife it supports. Our future plans include expanding native planting throughout the village to enhance biodiversity.

Who's allowed to pick the fruit?

Ripe fruit from this community orchard is freely available to anyone who would like it.

When picking fruit, please consider others and be respectful of plants and wildlife in the orchard.

Pollination & Wildlife

To support pollinating insects, wildflowers and native bulbs have been added to the orchard.

These plants, alongside long grass also offer wildlife a place to shelter.

Picking Your Fruit

Apple trees

To pick ripe apples, look for fruits that are fully coloured. Gently twist and lift them off the tree. Be careful not to squeeze or drop them to prevent bruising.

Pear trees

Determine if pears are ready by gently pressing near the stem. If they yield slightly, they are ripe. Twist and lift the pear from the tree, being gentle to avoid damaging the fruit.

Plum trees

Look for plums with vibrant colour and a slight softness when touched. Twist and lift them from the tree. Handle them delicately to prevent any squishing or bruising.

Learn More

Scan this QR code for updates on the orchard.

Acknowledgements

This orchard was planted in 2023 by the Crook and Drum Growing Together group, in partnership with Perth and Kinross Council Nature Restoration Fund and the Fossoway Community Benefit Fund.

Apple
(Malus domestica)

Pear
(Pyrus communis)

Plum
(Prunus domestica)



Left: Gyrocopter Preflight Checks Right: Glider at Sunset



Holland on Friday 29 November from 8pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. They will be supported by Irish singer songwriter Anthony Toner. Tickets are £25.

The Daniel Martinez Flamenco Company will perform a fabulous show on Friday 8 November at 8pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. Tickets are £20.

Tickets for both events are available at Morgans Estate Agency in Kinross, Light Up My Heart in Milnathort or on the KLEO website.

Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)



www.krmfc.com

As the weather has started to improve, so the attendance at the flying field has also started to grow and a wide variety of planes have been seen flying at the field.

Perhaps the most unusual of those have been the Gyrocopter models (also known as Autogyros – as used by James Bond in ‘You only live Twice’). These are planes which use an unpowered rotor that gets its rotation from the forward motion of the plane. Not easy to fly and requiring a good understanding of the model’s aerodynamic characteristics, the club is having relatively good success with them and now has a number of members interested in building and flying them.

Another widely followed area of interest in the club is with gliders and one of our members in particular has been spending many hours at the flying field getting his v-tailed electric glider into its best competition state. We look forward to seeing some trophies on his mantelpiece very soon!

Some members of the club have also been buying some new radio equipment and have taken a risk in choosing to buy from a different radio supplier than the club members normally use. We will see if this is a good or bad decision in due course!

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 Local Events Organisation



www.kleo.org.uk

Big Spring Market

The next market is the bigger spring market on Saturday 25 May from 10am-3pm at Market Park. This is a great community event to celebrate spring with a great variety of food, drink and craft stalls. There will also be some fabulous entertainment from local musicians!

If you would like to book a stall space at this market 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.

The next market after this is on 22 June on the High Street.

Barbara Dickson Concert and Flamenco Show

The headline act for this year’s Kinross-shire’s Winter Festival is Barbara Dickson who will be doing a concert with Nick



The Rotary Club of Kinross and District

www.ribi.org



"Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbours, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves."

March has been a typical Rotary month in Kinross; supporting the international community, out and about, supporting and organising community events and enjoying a lively programme of speakers and social events.

Club members have agreed to send funding to Shelterbox to provide another box for emergency disaster relief. The present focus is emergency shelter and necessities for those affected in Gaza. If you are interested in this scheme or wish to make a personal donation, see <https://shelterbox.org/>

Club President, Jo Middlemiss, has recently returned from her annual trip to Buccama in Ethiopia. She and her cousin, Maureen Burnett, have worked tirelessly since creating the Ethiopia Medical Project 14 years ago. She updated us on recent developments at a meeting on 11 March. This year's project has been to create a maternity unit for the ever-expanding clinic and services. Our club is proud of Jo's work and proud to support this charity. Jo personifies the Rotary maxim of 'Making a Difference'.

At a breakfast meeting on 19 March, Rotarian Andy Middlemiss reminded us that it is the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings on 6 June this year. With his customary insight and precision, Andy outlined the astonishing logistics and inspirational leadership involved in this turning point in World War 2, putting the Allies on the path to eventual victory. Look out for other commemorative events this summer.

On 26 March we enjoyed dinner and an evening of excellent entertainment from Irene MacFarlane. Irene told us about her life as teacher, singer, speaker and author and how her life, from being raised on the family farm in Kinross-shire, where she was immersed in Scots language, took her to writing her first book during lockdown. *The Nicht Afore Christmas* is a translation into Scots of the well-known Christmas tale, but set in Glasgow and with new illustrations. Irene accompanied her talk with some highly entertaining verse and song, making for a thoroughly enjoyable evening.

Supporting the community also, a very successful Primary Schools Quiz was held at Kinross Parish Church on 21 March. All six Kinross-shire primary schools took part, competing for the trophy which was eventually won by Portmoak. Congratulations to all the children who took part and their teachers for preparing and supporting them. Portmoak progressed to the next heat, the area final, on 17 April. We wish them the very best of luck.

A team of Rotarians were also quizzing in March at the 'Light Up Kinross' fundraiser, but with rather less success than the children! However, we had a good evening of fun and fellowship.

We were at the Better Place To Live Fair and enjoyed meeting lots of people; familiar and new faces. It was a chance to showcase our work and answer interested enquiries.

On 8 April we held our AGM when President Jo Middlemiss outlined our activities over the Rotary year.

Jo reminded us that Rotary is about 'Service Above Self' and observed that this has been 'a good and productive year and one that we can all be proud of'.

We have raised funds through our annual Santa's Sleigh runs (over £3,000 raised for local causes), a successful Race Night (£3,000 raised for mental health charities) and a 'Winter Warmer' sale (£500 raised and warm clothes rehomed to local people, CHAS and Ukraine). We have supported humanitarian need with frequent donations to ShelterBox. We have had extensive involvement

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

March Draw

1st	20	Elaine Curruthers	Scotlandwell
2nd	74	Z Goudie	Kinnesswood
3rd	33	Doreen Thomson	Kinnesswood

with the youth of the community, including RYLA, mock interviews with senior high school pupils, Young Chef, Young Writer, Young Musician and the Primary Schools Quiz. Meanwhile we have had regular meetings; informal coffee and chat over the summer, breakfast meetings once monthly and evening meetings with dinner or cinema style. We have also heard from a wide variety of interesting speakers.

If you are interested in finding out more about Rotary and our meetings, please contact us by email at secretary.kdrc@gmail.com. You will be made most welcome anytime.

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www.culturepk.org.uk

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Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.



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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.

Primary schools quiz winners Eva, Alexa, Alfie, Zoe and Rosie (reserve).





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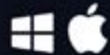
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Events

Celebrate BookBug week with our Bookbug Pyjama Party on Thursday 16 May at 4.30pm-5.30pm. Staff will be reading some special stories along with a Bookbug singing session and make-and-take Bookbug crafts. Children can also bring their favourite cuddly toy to the party. Entry is free but booking is essential. Please book directly at Loch Leven Community Library. Suitable for 3-7 years old who must be accompanied by an adult.

Are you interested in writing?

The next Creative Writing Group sessions will be on Wednesday 1 May at 7pm-9pm. Please contact the library if you would like more information.

D-Day 80th Anniversary: The Battle For Normandy

6 June 2024 marks the 80th anniversary of D-Day when Allied forces mounted the largest amphibious invasion the world has ever witnessed. In 1944 Operation Overlord saw over 5,000 ships and landing craft set down more than 130,000 troops on five Normandy beaches in an action that would bring about the liberation of north-west Europe from Nazi occupation.

Now the whole of the Western world will be awash with features, programmes and TV shots of what happened 80 years ago. Following his talk on the logistics and preparations leading up to D-Day, retired soldier Andy Middlemiss will deliver his second talk discussing the actual landings and the tough battle for Normandy that followed. This event will take place on Thursday 6 June at 7-8pm. Tickets are £10 and can be booked in person at Loch Leven Community Library.

Activities in your Library

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.

Kinross-shire Climate Café

At our last meeting on 2 April in Loch Leven Library we welcomed a local environmental writer, Sandy Winterbottom, who recently published a novel called *The Two-headed Whale*.



Sandy introduced us to Paperboats movement; 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.

This is gentle activism which involves writing messages on paperboats and/or writing to politicians who have the legislative power to change the future of our society. The act of writing brings hope as it is a positive action in overwhelming climate crisis.

Paperboats.org support many ongoing campaigns; the current one urges the First Minister of Scotland to sign the Fossil Fuel Non-proliferation Treaty. This legislation that would end any new fossil fuel exploration is led by seven of the Pacific Island nations.

There is an exhibition in Loch Leven Library about the Paperboats movement. For more information about the organisation, visit their website at <https://paperboats.org/> or find them on Facebook page @ *paperboatwriters*. If you have a passion for writing you might be interested to know that paperboats.

org publish monthly compilations of short essays and poetry. This is open to anyone, especially under-represented writers.

On Tuesday 7 May at 7pm in Loch Leven Library we will welcome Andrew Flinn from Kinross-shire Civic Trust who will present a talk about Raingardens in Kinross. Andrew wrote an interesting article which featured in the March issue of the *Newsletter*.

'Kinross Raingardens Trail (KRT) is a concept of managing rainwater to the betterment of the area. This started with the Park and Ride which was an area that had swathes of rainwater lying on the surface with the middle section simply being an eyesore. This was tastefully restored with rainwater now draining into the central garden area and not down the drains! These central raingarden areas have been transformed from monoculture (grass) to an abundance of colours. Moving on from this, the last two years on the KRT have concentrated on the South Queich Flood Plain where two ground-water-fed ponds have been created as new habitats for amphibians. Habitat loss is a major cause of the marked reduction in amphibians and reptiles in Scotland. The talk looks at the last three years but moreover looking to the future.'

As always, a big thank-you to all the Loch Leven Library staff who support our group by hosting the events. For more information, contact Gosia Stanton by email at climatecafe@kleo.org.uk.

Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District



www.innerwheel.co.uk

President Liz Pottie and her committee organised a bridge day on 5 April at Orwell bowling club in Milnathort. In the morning there was a fair covering of snow on both the ground and cars. However, all the helpers made it to the hall and, with the leadership in the kitchen of member Christine Maclure, we prepared a feast which was a lunch and afternoon tea enjoyed by the 60 bridge players. Raffle prizes on the day were provided by our members and the monies raised from the raffle will be given to the local library to further their various projects. The monies raised from the bridge players will be disbursed to charities in June.

If anyone would like further information regarding any aspect of Inner Wheel please contact Tricia Lucas by email at triciaciw@btinternet.com.

Some members of the club who helped with the catering and raffle on bridge day, Pauline, Susan, Elaine and Fiona.



Clubs & Community Groups

Broke not Broken

Happy spring to all our neighbours in Kinross-shire. With thanks to local businesses and individuals, we managed to make sure every child we were supporting received an Easter egg. Special thanks have to go to The Kinross Colt's FC Juniors for collecting over 60 Easter eggs; a truly phenomenal donation.



Now we all know that 'April showers bring May flowers' but that makes arranging our Easter Tuesday trips a challenge. Regardless, 200 local people attended either Stirling Castle or Five Sisters Zoo in April. These were fantastic days out that bring so much to the families who attend them. Peer support and social interaction has improved mental health and developed individual social skills. The trips have allowed parents to learn coping skills from other parents and have provided joy for parents in seeing happy children playing with each other and engaging in educational resources. One child told us his "Tuesdays would be a lot less fun" if he couldn't come on the trips. Let's hope for some warmer weather for the summer trips.

Our Women's group 'For Women Who...' have been very busy. They visited the Ceramic Café for an adult ceramics painting evening. Then we had the joy of attending 'Casablanca- The Gin Joint Club' at Perth Theatre, which was a truly joyous affair. Laughter really is good for the soul. Thank you to Perth Theatre and Concert Hall for the great deal on the tickets. We are looking forward to some wellness sessions and more crafts coming soon.

Our Parents and Toddlers Sessions have been busy as well with lots of lovely new faces and we had a fun trip to Active Kids Adventure Park where the children loved the baby animals, and the parents and volunteers may have got involved in a rather competitive game of mini golf. Our Easter party was lots of fun with some rather special visitors. We have a busy term ahead which we are looking forward to.

Benarty View area by Kinnesswood in Bloom



Broke Not Broken attended various national events including the Cash First Communities conference in Glasgow, Good Food Nation workshops in Edinburgh and a Minimum Income Guarantee event in Stirling. In the coming weeks we will be attending an event in Scottish Parliament celebrating the amazing contribution volunteers make to the community work across Scotland. Closer to home we enjoyed meeting so many supporters at the Better Place to Live Fair and raised money for our projects with our popular tombola.

So what is next? Well in short, lots! We will be in the Advice Hub at Loch Leven Health Centre on Thursday 2 May and Wednesday 22 May and would encourage anyone in the Kinross-shire community who has any questions about benefits, budgeting, foodbank, isolation or any of our other projects to pop along for a chat. There are usually biscuits!

With thanks to the PKC Green Living Fund we are going to trial issuing vouchers electronically. This is a more dignified approach that reduces any embarrassment felt at the tills by many of the people in receipt of food support. We are also implementing a new energy top up policy so that we can expand on what is offered so that it goes beyond a payment and makes a meaningful impact through energy and financial advice.

We are starting to think about this year's School Uniform Bank, and we will be calling on the community to help make this happen. Approximately 75% of the families we support are not eligible for the school clothing grants so this project is needed now more than ever.

If you are interested in volunteering with us, please get in touch by email at volunteer@brokenotbroken.org.

Kinnesswood in Bloom



We recently said goodbye to Mrs Gordon, Head Teacher at Portmoak Primary for the last 10 years. At the end of term assembly John and Norma presented her with a selection of art work for her new office which reflected this year's children's art exhibition, along with some bulbs to plant in her new school. We look forward to working with Mrs Cole who we already know from school gardening.

The P3/4 class had an early gardening session before the holidays, getting in some tatties, planting peas and other seeds. They learned about some of the words used in gardening and did a bit of watering.

Nearly all of the art work is finished and some has been framed for the festival. Some birds are local, some from far away and others complete fantasy so look forward to a great exhibition.

We have received £500 from the Portmoak Festival. This is much appreciated and will help us to continue our work in the village and with our various projects.

We have managed to take part in most of our Saturday work parties so far. The areas we maintain on a regular basis are Benarty View, Raymond's garden and Wildflower verge, Michael Bruce Cottage garden, the Picture garden and Backdykes area, the Rose Garden and Bee garden and the school grounds. All are welcome to our work parties in the village. You will see us around on Saturday mornings and sometimes other times.

The next meeting will be on Thursday 2 May in the Well Country Inn.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group



www.portmoakcw.org.uk

It is amazing what you can use an orchard for, even when there are no apples and not even a sign of blossom. For instance, you can use it as an egg race track as we did on Easter Saturday. A total of 12 children arrived with their eggs and support teams (parents/grandparents) for the event.

The fastest egg down the hill was easy to judge, but the best decorated egg 'was a tense and difficult affair due to the egg decorating talent on show' according to our judge, but winners were found. Some older folk present were a little put out when they realised there was no upper limit for the over six category. So maybe we will hold an adult egg race next year.

Portmoak Festival will be using Chris's place (orchard) in June, weather permitting, hosting lots of music including a jazz gig. The Primary School will be doing their John Muir Award in May and looking to see if their bird boxes have any new tenants moving in.

As our contribution to the festival we will be running two bird walks in the Moss on Sunday 2 June and Wednesday 5 June, both at 8am. They will be led by Scott Paterson who runs Kinross Ecology and who was until last year the Perth & Kinross Bird Recorder. Scott has led these walks before for us and they were very popular, so keep your eyes on the festival programme and our website. We hope that the Sunday morning walk will be good for young families with children. If you walk in the Moss a lot and ask yourself what's that bird, song or what you should be looking out for and when, then this is your big chance. If Scott can't tell you then no one can.

Storm Kathleen stopped our last work day on the Moss but no fear, we will be back in the late summer after the ground nesting birds have brought up their young. We still need help so follow us on our website and Facebook, and we are always in the Well on the third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm talking trees, bogs and many other things besides.

Kinross-shire Partnership

Networking Breakfast

On Wednesday 6 April at 7.30am various business and self-employed people came to the monthly Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast meeting at Loch Leven's Larder. Everyone had the opportunity to 'tell the room' about their business and then we listened to a frank and inspirational talk from local businessman, Chris Tiso, CEO of Tiso Group and MD of JD Specialist Outdoor (pictured below with Richard Scott of the Kinross Partnership). Comments received after the meeting were:

'Good meeting this morning. Chris is very inspirational and a nice mix of people to chat to, much enjoyed.' 'Thanks again for the invite along to the KP Breakfast Networking. I thoroughly enjoyed it and will return!'

If you would like to join us at our next Networking Breakfast meeting on Wednesday 8 May please email kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com or text Richard Scott on 07 999 510 500. Our guest speaker is local businesswoman and author Justine Scott-Gray. Justine is a best-selling author, mum of four and mumpreneur, operating her



Easter celebrations at Portmoak

international coaching business from Crook of Devon. She has just returned from a coaching trip to Athens, Taipei, Tokyo, and Seoul. Numbers are limited so please do let us know if you would like to attend. The cost, including breakfast, is £15 per person.

Kinross in Bloom

We were very happy to participate in the recent Better Place to Live Fair. This was an opportunity to connect with many members of the public as well as the chance to sell on surplus spring bulbs and plants.

After the Easter break things begin to get busy. The plug plants have been delivered and potted up in the polytunnel to bring them on for planting out in May.

We will continue to build on our connection with a group of pupils in Kinross High School by donating hanging baskets and some plants. A link has been made with Causeway Court sheltered housing complex and next month it is hoped that enhancement of the garden area will get underway.

The annual letter to sponsors has been prepared and, by the time of publication, should have been delivered. Kinross in Bloom continue to be grateful for the support received year on year.

Despite the wet weather the pansies and spring bulbs have thrived, providing a welcome splash of colour around the town. Planning has already begun for the autumn with thoughts turning to sustainable plants and purchase and planting of a wider range of bulbs to build colour blocks in key areas.

As always, anyone interested in the work of the group is welcome to come along to our planning meetings which are held at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church Centre on the High Street. Green fingers are not needed!





Jacob and Lachlan



Loki

Kinross Beavers

In the middle of March, the beavers discussed some of the amazing hobbies they are involved in as part of their Hobbies badge. We heard about some great hobbies including curling, judo, chess and collecting Pokémon cards. Well done to everyone for sharing their hobbies. There was also time for the beavers to play some games.

The following week was the last night of term. The beavers worked on their Cook badge by making fruit kebabs and sandwiches. They also completed a log chew discussing what they want to do next term. A great night was had by all.

At the end of the meeting we were delighted to invest Loki into the colony. We also appointed some new Assistant Lodge Leaders for both the White and Red Lodges. Congratulations to Jacob and Lachlan!

Are you interested in volunteering with scouting? Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Kinross Cubs

We had an enjoyable evening on 13 March as we heard all about the different collections the cubs have been doing for their Collector badge. The collections presented included Pokémon cards, rocks, pottery and football programmes. Well done to all the cubs for their presentations. We also had time to hold a pack forum to get ideas for next term and played lots of games.

The final two weeks of the term saw the cubs split into two groups as we did a couple of different activities. On the penultimate week of the term the Red, White and Purple Sixes visited RNLI South Queensferry. The cubs had a fantastic time as they learned about water safety and got to sit in the lifeboat.



Whilst at the Hall the Yellow, Green and Blue Sixes started working on the Naturalist activity badge, making apple bird feeders and they learned about the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. We also heard from Harris who spoke about his fossil collection for his Collectors Badge.

The final week of the term saw the Sixes swap activities as the Red, White and Purple Sixes were at the hall working on their Naturalist badge; learning about the Scottish Outdoor Access Code and making apple bird feeders. Whilst the Yellow, Green and Blue Sixes headed down to South Queensferry to the RNLI station and had a great time learning about what they do along with how to be safe near water.

If you would like to get involved with 1st Kinross Cubs, then please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.

Kinross Squirrels

The squirrels started working on their Air Activities stage 1 badge in mid-March. They were making paper aeroplanes and then testing them out to see how far they would fly. They also played a game called 'Which Wings?', matching aircraft facts to different types of aircraft.

In addition to this the squirrels started working on the Digital Citizen stage 1 badge as they spoke about



Ruaridh and Evie

different types of electronic devices. They also listened to a Lego story about cyberbullying before making something from Lego to remind people to be kind to one another.

We had a brilliant final meeting of the term the following week involving Easter craft activities. The squirrels created nests in



baskets (see photo opposite) and were drawing some Easter themed pictures. Everyone had a great time! At the end of the meeting we were delighted to invest Evie and Ruaridh into the drey. Bravo!

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, please

email us at kinrossquirrels@outlook.com for more information.

SWI

Powmill SWI

At the March meeting (see photo below) Tricia welcomed members and guests to a talk by her son Calum on a recent SAYFC Agri & Rural Affairs study tour to Canada. Calum talked us through lots of photos ranging from the Calgary stampede, dairy cows, goats and huge feed lots full of cattle. He gave us a good slice of farming life in Canada and possibly also gave some of us a notion to go there on holiday! Tricia gave the vote of thanks saying that she had learned a lot more about the trip.

Competitions

Maple Leaf (any craft)

1st Mary Wilson; 2nd Donna McBain.

Soup

Mary Wilson.

Bowl of Bulbs

Mary Wilson.

Carnbo SWI

Heather Dennis welcomed all and introduced our speaker dog trainer, Kairyn Beatson and her dog Josie. Kairyn gave an interesting



Kinross in Bloom 200 Club

April Draw

Jean Miller

George Mitchell

Dave Dickson

Marion Todd

and amusing talk with a demonstration from Josie. Joyce Hallgren gave a vote of thanks. After tea and business Heather closed the meeting. Our next meeting is on Monday 20 May at 7.15pm for our AGM. Competitions will be Flower of the Month and A Repurposed Cardboard Box.

Competitions

Flower of the Month

1st Sheila Reid, 2nd Elizabeth Campbell.

Slice of Fruit Loaf (Ann Bernard Trophy)

1st Josephine Paterson, 2nd June Brunton.

Cleish SWI

President Helen Buchanan welcomed 28 members to Cleish Village Hall for our April meeting which was a very inspirational talk by Mary Sneddon and Cathie Dewar from Kelty and District Loving Hands. Mary and Cathie gave us an insight into their group who love to knit, crochet and sew a variety of articles for the NHS and many other charities making a massive difference to peoples lives. The group make the most fabulous heart pillows for patients who have had a lumpectomy or mastectomy, cotton shoulder bags for drivers, drainage bottles and heart monitors, twiddle muffs, bags and aprons for patients with confusion or dementia, premature baby clothes and blankets for Special Care Baby Units and much more. They have made over 1925 heart pillows and 1600 driver bags – just incredible. Kelty and District Loving Hands are an amazing group of kind, generous and talented people who are always looking for donations of wool, material, accessories and volunteers. Find them on Facebook: Kelty and District Loving Hands.

Competitions:

Knitted or Crocheted Hat

1st Dorothy Morris; 2nd Lynn Clark; 3rd Anne Douglas

Favourite Brooch

1st Janette Craig; 2nd Judith MacLaren; 3rd Marion Laird

Flower of the Month

1st Faye Gibb; 2nd Janette Craig; 3rd Anne Doig

A vote of thanks was given by Vice-President Anne Douglas.

Our next meeting is the AGM on Monday 13 May in Cleish Village Hall at 7.30pm.



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Sports News

Kinross-shire Cricket Club

www.kinrosscc.co.uk
Find us on Facebook

The new cricket season starts in May, assuming it stops raining by then! We can look back at winter and wonder, what happened there? The Perth flooding back in October closed the Bells Sport Centre and cancelled the entire winter indoor league season. For the first time in almost 20 years there was no indoor cricket across Perth & Kinross! The club members did manage to arrange ad-hoc nets practices over the period and it will be interesting to see any impact this may have on the new season.

The club had a stand at the Better Place to Live fair in May and ran some softball cricket sessions in the small games hall. Many thanks to all who came along and supported the event and the club.

There is a full seniors fixtures list, with a mix of full-day, T10, T20, T30 formats. The May diary is detailed below.

Wednesday 1 May	Outdoor Training 6.30pm Home
Sunday 5 May	Linlithgow CC 30 overs 1pm Home
Wednesday 8 May	Outdoor Training 6.30pm Home
Sunday 12 May	Dundee Uni XI 30 Overs 1pm Home
Wednesday 15 May	Outdoor Training 6.30pm Home
Sunday 19 May	Doune & Dunkeld CC 30 Overs 1pm Doune
Wednesday 22 May	Invitational T10 (KCC + Others) 6.30pm Home (8-a-side)
Sunday 26 May	Free so far
Wednesday 29 May	Invitational T10 (KCC + Others) 6.30pm Home (8-a-side)

In addition to the hard ball cricket, we will be running softball cricket on Tuesday evenings during June and July. This is a fun,

quick paced format using a rubber ball, plastic bats and no need for pads or helmets. It is a great way to get into cricket without the need for previous experience. Matches are five overs per side with everyone getting involved. Hopefully we will get enough interest to run a small tournament by the end of July. This is open to anyone over the age of 12.

The club took the decision not to run junior cricket this year due to the increased work commitment of the volunteer coaches. The over 12s are very welcome to attend the softball sessions.

This season should mark significant moments for two of the senior players. Ivan Groenewald is only six games away from his 50th cap for the club and club chair, John Ross, has a double milestone as he is also six matches away from his 250th cap and four wickets away from 300 wickets for the club. Hopefully both players will reach these milestones by the start of July.

The club website is being updated this season along with increased posts via the club Facebook page. More updates will follow as the season progresses.

New players are always welcome. Contact the club via the website, Facebook or by email at secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk.

Kinross Tennis Club

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub>
Email: kinrosstennis@gmail.com/kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook @[kinrosstennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/kinrosstennisclub) and @[siobhanmacleodtennis](https://www.facebook.com/siobhanmacleodtennis)

Spring has brought the opportunity for more tennis in Kinross, and the annual clean-up day in early April enabled the club to freshen up the clubhouse and courts after the winter. The club would like to thank all the members who joined us to clear up the courts and prepare for the new season.

The inclement weather during March and April made tennis events tricky in early spring, but the ladies and men team players have been able to get on court through March and April to practice ahead of the new season. There have also been fun social events organised for members to meet each other.

The courts are now bustling with activity as members enjoy the better weather, with social tennis, coaching and matches all proving popular with anyone from beginners to those keen to play





organised matches in local leagues. Teams from Kinross tennis club play matches in leagues across Perth & Kinross and Tayside, and this year we will have teams visiting us from Anstruther, Scone, St Andrews, Montrose and others through the season.

Junior Team

Our junior teams have also started the season. We have two 16u teams playing in the Tennis Tayside league, a 12u team in the Perth & District league and 10u, 9u and 8u teams playing in regular friendly group competition.

Team tennis is a great way for juniors to start competing and have fun on court with their friends! If your player would be interested in playing matches, get in touch with coach Siobhan.

Interested In Playing Tennis?

The club would welcome anyone interested in playing tennis to contact us via the email addresses above, or check out our website for more information on the club, including coaching and social tennis sessions (Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons). All standards of tennis players are catered for, so don't worry if you're new to the game or thinking of returning to tennis with a rusty racquet! The membership year runs from April to March, so it's a great time to become involved in tennis in Kinross.

Coaching

Our summer term of junior and adult coaching started at the end of April. We have classes for all ages and levels on offer, from those picking up a racket for the first time through to experienced team players.

The current timetable is:

TUESDAYS

- 3.45-4.30pm, Red Ball (5-7 years)
- 4.30-5.30pm, Orange/Green Ball (7-10 years)
- 5.30-6.30pm, Yellow Ball Team 1 Matchplay (10-16 years)
- 6.30-7.30pm, Yellow Ball Team 2 Matchplay (10-16 years)

SATURDAYS

- 9.15-10am, Tots and Parents (3-5 years)
- 10-10.45am, Red Ball (5-7 years)
- 10.45-11.30am, Orange Ball (7-9 years)
- 11.30-12.30pm, Green/Yellow Ball (9-14 years)

SUNDAYS

- 6-7pm, Adult Beginners
- 7-8pm, Adult Improvers

To book a place, please visit the coaching website at <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/SiobhanMacLeodTennis>. If you have any questions, please just get in touch. Contact Siobhan MacLeod, LTA Level 3 Coach, by messaging 07443223408 or email kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com.

Kinross Hockey

Kinrosshockey.org



Unsung Heroes

When dropping off our children at sports coaching sessions, do we stop to think about who is running them? Lots of clubs have these unsung heroes who give up their time and energy during their evenings and sometimes weekends. Many clubs suffered when the Government introduced legislation concerning 'protection of vulnerable groups' as many volunteers decided not to go through the process of getting approval. In the past, youngsters didn't know many of the volunteers very well whereas today everyone requires consent, clearance and has to be vetted. This is for the best but it has made the whole process of getting volunteers harder.

Therefore we are truly grateful for those who do step forward and get involved; not for themselves but for the benefit of others. Some of our volunteers (such as Monty and Dave) are even more impressive as they no longer play the game themselves. Yet they turn out in the cold and rain (mainly rain!)

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Hockey Volunteers Monty and Dave

to ensure that the youngsters have a good time. Not all of them will continue to play hockey as adults but we hope that they will come to appreciate outdoor activities like us. After all, Scotland has so much to offer in terms of the outdoors. Well done guys, we truly appreciate your efforts. Thank you!

Kinross Otters

Kinross Otters had a busy month in March which included the Midlands Mid-March Long Course Meet on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 March at Olympia in Dundee.

We had a successful day on the Saturday in terms of medal winning swims, and some agonisingly close to SNAGS (Scottish National Age Group) qualifying times. We also had 3 swimmers – Douglas, Lewis and Ewan – taking part in their first ever long course session.

Saturday Medal winners were as follows

400Fr: Charlotte GOLD, Anna GOLD, Aila SILVER

- 200Bk** Stuart GOLD, Hannah GOLD, Jess SILVER, Aila SILVER, Mia BRONZE
100Brs Hayden BRONZE
200IM Matthew BRONZE, Hayden BRONZE
200Fly Lily BRONZE
100Fr Hayden GOLD, Matthew GOLD, Anna GOLD, Charlotte SILVER, Jess BRONZE, Aila BRONZE, Ewan BRONZE
1500Fr Hannah GOLD

Sunday brought more personal bests, medals and SNAGS qualifying times, but the most noticeable skill was The Otters team spirit. Our young people supported each other through the nerves and the first-time swims, cheering each other on, walking miles up and down poolside encouraging their peers to swim just a wee bit stronger! Better than medals, are the smiles on the faces when they achieve something new, and there were plenty of both this weekend.

Sunday Medal Winners were as follows:

- 200Fr** Charlotte GOLD, Anna SILVER, Aila BRONZE, Hayden BRONZE
100Bk Stuart GOLD, Hannah SILVER, Anna BRONZE
200IM Anna GOLD, Lucy BRONZE, Jessica BRONZE
200Brs Lucy BRONZE
800Fr Charlotte GOLD, Hannah BRONZE, Aila BRONZE

Special mentions go to Charlotte and Anna for smashing every swim and gaining SNAGS times along the way.

April brought the Scottish National Age Group Championships, which was held over five days at Aberdeen Sports Village.

Day 1 Saw solid swimming from Matthew in 50m Fly, Anna and Aila racing 100m Fr in the first two sessions. All swimmers edged up a few places in the standings, and while Matthew and Aila were super close to their entry times Anna swam a 0.95 sec PB in 100Free.

Day 2 Matthew swam a season's best in 200Fly in the morning session. While, Anna swam a LC PB in this afternoon's heats,



Sports News

enough to qualify in 8th place for the evening session 11-13 yr old 20 Brs final. Anna then improved her 2nd, 3rd and 4th 50's of the race and finished in SIXTH place with a huge new Personal Best of 3:03.14.

Our Girls Relay Team (Aila, Mia, Lily and Anna) swam hard in their 4 x 100Fr relay, improving their entry by over 5 seconds to take eighth place overall. All four swam their socks off and performed at the top of their game – special mentions to Lily and Mia for each taking 2+ seconds off their entry time.

The Girls also broke The Club Record by a whopping 3 seconds. A record that has stood since SNAGS 2013 (and all those team members are now 23-25 years old!)

Day 4 Was a quieter day for Kinross Otters with only one swim in each session.

Matthew had a good swim in his 100Fly in the morning and Anna was in action in the first event of the afternoon –200IM., her improved fly technique saw Anna finish just 0.3 off her entry, and in 17th place.

Day 5 Charlotte swam a strong 200Fr got a huge three second PB – and jumped up the standings eight places. Anna J had 3 races in the afternoon session with the first being another stonker of a 200Fr. Swimming the exact same splits that Coach Fiona had suggested, Anna took her time down to 2:26.19. In the 100BrS – a very strong event for the 11-13 girls this year, Anna qualified for a reserve place for the final.

Finally, it was time for the relay girls to step up to the blocks again. This time, for the 4x100 Medley. Mia led off with a strong backstroke leg, followed by yet more breaststroke for Anna! Lily then swam a corker of a 100Fly – taking just shy of three seconds off her entry time – before Aila took over for a strong finish in the free. The girls took 7th place on the touch, but a DQ for City of Glasgow meant they jumped up to 6th. What an achievement for a group of girls at their first ever National level competition. A huge thank you to all of our coaches who made this possible.

Kinross Golf Club

www.kinrossgolfclub.co.uk 2 Beeches Park, KY13 8EU
Tel: 01577 862237



Ladies Night

On Friday 10 May we have the fabulous Rita Riot with her fantastic drag show and brilliant bingo from 7-9pm followed by the fantastic Marilyn Childs Duncan with her Hanky Panky show, lots of fun and games and a fantastic vocalist from 9pm-12am. Tickets are now available.

Ladies Section

Our ladies opened 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, including presentation of the Ann McCrorie Winter 9 hole Round Robin Trophy.

A full fixture list for this season includes 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. Check out further details and costs listed on the noticeboard in the ladies locker room.

Club Opening Day of Season

This took place on Saturday 30 March and featured our 'Captain v Vice Captain' match. The opening event of the 2024 season was won by the captain's team and all competitors had a great day.

A minute's silence was held before the start of play to mark the passing of a past captain and member, Ronnie McHale. He will be sadly missed by all at Kinross Golf Club.

After the golf event concluded, the lovely Carrie hosted a karaoke event.

Junior Section

The junior golf programme is now underway for 2024 and there are still places available for juniors to join the club. We meet at the golf club every Tuesday after school. You don't have to be a golfer to join as total beginners are very welcome. We will teach you how to play and develop your game in this enjoyable and worthwhile pastime. If this interests you, send your enquiry to Susan by email at office@kinrossgolfclub.co.uk. She will guide you through the application process. Juniors meet at 4pm every Tuesday.

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>



This past month has been a busy time for Kinross Road Runners and so it will continue throughout the summer.

20 Along the Forth is a favourite for anyone in training for a spring marathon or ultra and KRR had four representatives. Jillian Gordon took the 1st FV40 prize finishing in 2:27.02. Karen Ritchie is ticking off the miles in preparation for the West Highland Way in June so a 20 miler (with a half marathon the next day) was the ideal preparation. She was rewarded with a time of 3:09 closely followed by Allison Callaghan in 3:11 proving her training for the London marathon is well on target. Laura Reilly was our next lady home in 3:18. Well done to you all.

The start of the club championship was the Alloa half marathon which took place in mid-March. There were 15 KRR in action. Matt Newton and Caroline Jones lead the club back in 1:22.18 and 1:34.12 respectively and were followed by David Mudie 1:28.56; Stephen Freeland 1:30.48; Sandy Freck 1:31.58; Richard Aldred 1:37.38; Richard Poole 1:47.44; Duncan Gray 1:52.54; Kirsty Gray 1:55.44; Karen Ritchie 1:56.30 (having run 20 the day before); Val Findlay 1:57.59; Wendy Turnbull 2:11.46; Hannah Lopez 2:19.26; Michelle Murray 2:19.27; Simone Young 2:42.49.

Opting for a scenic 10k were Linda MacEachen and Sarah Eaton who ran the Callander 10k together finishing in 1:12.13. Andy Bruce was back in action again at the third event in the Monikie Winter Duathlon Series relay, completing the two 4.4km run legs in 19.07 and 19.39 to secure another first place relay along with his cycling buddy.

Rounding off a busy weekend of events, Michael Atkinson took part

Captain vs Vice-Captain line up



in the St Ninian's duathlon short course; run 18.10/bike 20.37/run 10.25.

The sun put in a guest appearance over the Easter weekend which was a joy for the runners who had entered races. The off-road championship kicked off at the Norman's Law hill race where Matt Newton (37.24) and Stephanie Johnson (39.26) were our first male and female runners back. Ably supported by Fiona Horsfield, Frazer Munro, Tony Wallen, Karen Ritchie, Gill Lopez, Catherine McAdams, Hannah Lopez and Linda MacEachen, it was a successful day all round as KRR picked up three prizes: Fiona Horsfield (1st FV40) Gill Lopez (2nd FV50) and Matt Newton (3rd MV40).

South of the border, Duncan Gray took part in the North Tyneside 10k finishing in 50.01.

Willie Bell is also in training for the West Highland Way which is a real test of mental and physical strength for anyone. He certainly put his mental strength to the test by running 105 laps of the athletics track in East Kilbride which equates to a marathon. He finished 5th overall in 3:19.29 and that was after an 18 mile training run the previous day. Awesome!

Escaping the wind and rain, John and Lynn Beveridge and Ally Sinclair headed to Prague for their latest instalment of the Superhalf series. John posted 1:25.10 whilst Ally and Lynn ran together, crossing the line in 2:32.26.28.

In tough conditions, Michael Atkinson completed another round of the duathlon series at St. Ninian's but this time over a longer distance. His finishing times for each section were run 39.46/bike, 40.17/run, 14.07.

Finally, to round off this epic month of events, this really is worthy of a mention; Bruce's Crown race. Advertised as teams of four running together over 46ish miles, this is an ascent of roughly 4600m (15,000 ft) over the Galloway hills. It sounds pretty tough, but that does not do it justice at all. Add in to the mix that it is run almost entirely over pathless, rough, tussocky terrain, includes three corbetts, and multiple 2000 footers. Considering that it starts at 5pm so you are mainly running in the dark with no GPS route tracking or use of mobile phone permitted and is organised by the legendary Nicky Spinks (British long distance runner, specialising in fell running) and then you start to get a clearer picture. Oh, and the weather decided to play ball as well with sustained torrential rain through the night eventually giving way to extremely high winds in the morning! It is little wonder that there were only eight teams entered and half of those did not finish (DNF).

Not our intrepid mountain goats Matt Newton and Fiona though! They battled through near hypothermia and exhaustion to complete the course as the first and only mixed team in 20 hours, 4 minutes and 16 seconds.

Amazing, awe-inspiring and any other superlative you can think of sums them up!

Although the Loch Leven half marathon is now full there is always room for enthusiastic supporters. The race starts at 9am from

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Facebook: [Kinross Rugby - Minis / Midis Parents Group](https://www.facebook.com/KinrossRugby-Minis-Midis-Parents-Group)

Address: Kinross Rugby, King George V, Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8BS





Clashburn Road on Sunday 12 May, goes in an anti-clockwise direction and finishes at the Community Campus. Come out and give all the runners a cheer.

If you are interested in joining Kinross Road Runners, visit our website or speak to one of us at the Loch Leven park run on Saturday mornings.

Orwell Bowling Club

Orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

Find us on Facebook

Twenty-eight members and guests turned up for the opening of the bowling green on Saturday 13 April on a very windy and unsettled day. Fourteen members went out to play 10 ends of bowls with a short break after 5 ends to shelter from the rain. The raffle and donations raised £190, this money will be added to the monies raised at the closing game on 28 September and divided between the Blind Bowlers and the RLNI, the two charities the club has supported for many years. We are all looking forward to a full and busy season of bowling this year. We also welcomed one new member who paid half the annual fee for the first year.

If anyone would like to come along and try bowls, they would be very welcome, our address is Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort, KY13 9YN, or call 01577 863739/07790026589.

Carnbo Bowling Club

Have you ever fancied trying outdoor bowling? Our club meets at Carnbo Bowling Green on Monday and Thursday evenings at 7pm from Monday 29 April (weather permitting) through to mid-September. Set beneath the backdrop of the Ochils, our green is the ideal place to enjoy a relaxing, informal evening with friends. We welcome new members whether you have played before or are an absolute beginner. All you will need to get started is a pair of flat soled shoes or trainers. We would love to see you there. If you would like to know more contact us on 07808 225022.

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Shotokan Karate Club

<https://shojikikarate.co.uk/>

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

Our club runs on Wednesdays at the Church Centre in Kinross. We have a class for 3-6 year olds at 4-4.40pm, then we have our main class for kids up to adults from 5-6pm.

We practice traditional and sport karate, focusing on developing people's overall wellbeing and developing new skills in a safe and respectful manner and in a family friendly environment.

We have a number of children and adults training in our classes, and in the small time we have been running there has been a great deal of improvement by the students. We are training hard for our next grading which will take place on 20 April at the Headquarters Dojo in Dunfermline.

The instructor is Ben Woods, a 3rd Dan Black Belt under the JKS. Please contact him on 07713 336115 or by email him at ben_woods15@hotmail.com. You can also find us on social media if you would like to find out what we get up to.

Kinross Volleyball

Although summer is supposed to be here, our early free outdoor sessions have been scuppered by the weather. Our early Sunday evening 'pop up and play' sessions will continue throughout the summer, starting at 6-7.30pm and moving to a later time as the evening light extends.

We will be preparing for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament taking place on Perth's North Inch on 25-26 May with teams coming from all over once again.

Wednesday lunchtime and after school sessions have resumed at Kinross High School. Primary 7 pupils from all local primary schools are invited to attend the after school sessions at 3.40-5pm.

There will be High School boys and girls teams taking part in an outdoor 6 v 6 festival on the North Inch on Friday 24 May, using the volleyball courts set up for the open tournament that weekend.

In mid-August the club's adult men's team is looking forward to playing in the 50th De Haan volleyball tournament in Belgium.

Milnathort Golf Club

37 South Street Milnathort, KY13 9XA

01577 864069

www.milnathortgolfclub.co.uk

The opening day for the season was held on 30 March when the club flag was raised by Jason Kirk in recognition of his 30 years of service as greenkeeper. There was a terrific turn out of members on the day and the weather stayed dry.

Jason Kirk left school and worked for two local companies before applying to be a greenkeeper at Milnathort. He started working with the head greenkeeper Donald Stirling whom Jason considers a legend and still keeps in contact with. When Jason first started there was very little machinery and there was a lot of hand cutting and they used trailing gang mowers for the fairways and the rough. He spent six years working under Donald before he became the head greenkeeper with Donald shadowing Jason for a year. There have been a lot of changes since Jason started; 40% of

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the trees on the course have been planted over the years, the greens and tees have been reshaped and some bunkers have been added. Jason has great passion for the course he looks after. He appreciates the people that gave him the opportunity to do so and is grateful for Donald Stirling, Jim Strathie, Bob Wall and Hugh Cumming. Jason has an aim for

the course which is to be considered one of the best nine hole golf course around. He works with the management committee and his green keeping team with his moto of 'together everyone achieves more'.

The recent weather has not been great for golfers. Many courses have been waterlogged due to heavy rain, making the ground unsafe under foot. This has affected the work of the greenkeepers who have adapted to the changes of the weather pattern.

The club would like to welcome Stuart McHardy on his appointment as Golf Operations Manager. Stuart has been a member of the club for many years and the roles he will be dealing with will cover visitor bookings, admin and queries. The club would like to thank Kinross Men's Shed for their excellent work in making the new tee signs for the golf course.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

5 May	Ladies Tri-Am
17 May	Mixed Senior Greensomes
25 May	Gents Open
6 June	Gents Senior 4BBB

To book, visit our website.

Get Into Golf

We have paired up with Craig Donnelly Golf to offer a two year 'get into golf' programme. This includes membership of the club at a reduced cost along with eight group coaching sessions with our golf professional per year. You may also play in fun competitions as part of the club, but you cannot play medals or play for handicap until year two of your membership.

Year 1 membership is aimed at adults who have never played golf before. Year 2 membership follows on from year 1 or you can join directly into year 2 if you have played before, albeit a while ago. The coaching starts in April or June 2024.

If you are interested in joining, please contact us by email at office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk. For more information please visit the club website.



Presentation of the cup to team captain Kirsty Higgins pictured with team players Julia Horsburgh, Susan Duthie and Debbie Mann.

Kinross Squash

The club is alive, kicking and looking for new members. Beginners are welcome. Although we mostly play during the winter months, we also have summer squash and, fortunately, rain never stops play!

We use the two courts at Live Active in Kinross. We have members of all abilities and, in addition to friendly games, we have a monthly league competition. We also have a club night on the last Thursday evening of each month.

The ladies team had a very successful year winning both their league and cup competitions. Kinross ladies won the Dundee and district ladies knockout cup. The cup final was played against the buddies team at Forthill club in Broughty Ferry. Due to unavailability on the day, the Kinross team only had four players so started the final one nil down. After three games the final was tied at two all. However, in the final game the ice cool team captain Kirsty Higgins held her nerve to win and lift the cup.

This year, Kinross ladies also won the Dundee and district league for the first time. Other team members Max Thomson, Libby Simpson and Elaine Skilling played for the team.

If you are interested in joining the club, please contact Dave Campbell by email at Dwcampbell.dc@googlemail.com

Coaching is also available for beginners, returners, juniors, and anyone wanting to improve their game. Contact Mark Beaumont by email at beaumontaspen@hotmail.co.uk.



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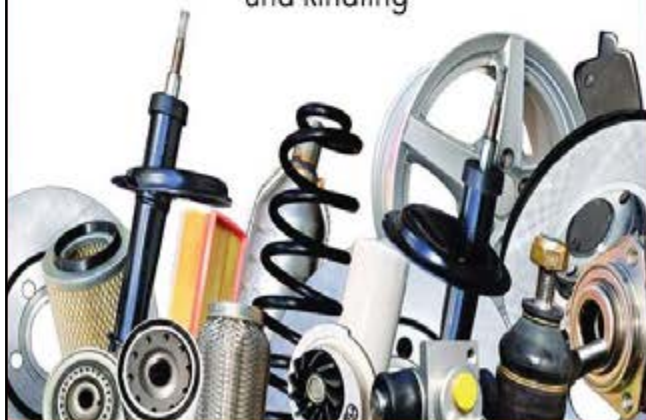


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Squirrel Pox Concerns



DURING MAY WE REALLY start to see spring in its full. In April we had our first broods of ducklings, and now the loch is bustling in new life. Our migrant birds have arrived and are making their presence well known, with grasshopper warblers, sedge warblers, whitethroat and blackcap singing beautifully around the reserve along with our resident birds, making it a great time to go out for an early morning walk and listen to the dawn chorus. Hirundines such as swallows, sand martin and house martin have been putting on incredible displays, with over 1500 sand martins over the loch early April.

More and more wildflowers are popping up around the reserve, adding some much needed colour after a bleak start to spring. Crosswort provides a gentle lime green-yellow backdrop to the neon pink of the red campion, deep purples of the bluebells, ground ivy and germander speedwell and the brilliant white of the stitchwort, bogbean and scented umbellifers. The yellows of our flag iris and bird's foot trefoil are just emerging and our heath bedstraw (and even some orchids) are nearly there too.

In May we highlight Invasive Non-native Species (INNS), which we tackle here at Loch Leven. There are plant species, Himalayan balsam, Japanese knotweed and giant hogweed as well as two mammal species, grey squirrel and mink. These species pose a great threat to a lot of our native wildlife, usually by out-competing native species. We have both grey and red squirrels around the loch, and with the recent discovery of squirrel pox in a red nearby in Dunfermline, a disease that can kill reds and is carried by greys, it is more important than ever to continue to try and control the grey population locally.

We have two new seasonal staff at Loch Leven! Alex and Stuart will be here for the next five months, aiding in practical management of the reserve, and making themselves visible to the public, so if you see them feel free to say hello. They'll be about on weekends as well, ensuring that the public are visiting the loch in a responsible manner, and they will also be running events as we go into the summer months.

We will be hosting our annual Discovery day on 16 June so get it in your diaries! We'll be inviting a host of our neighbours to join us at Kirkgate park, where there will be plenty to learn and lots of activities to join in with.

As the weather starts to warm up and more people are getting out and about, please remember to adhere to our signage around the reserve regarding wildlife disturbance and water access, which is limited to launching only from Burleigh Sands and Kirkgate Park, and making sure to keep a 200m distance from other areas of the loch shoreline and islands. This is to prevent disturbance to nesting birds and young broods on the loch.

To keep updated with what's 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

Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

March 2024

Total Rainfall	105.8mm/4.15in	
Heaviest Fall	26.0mm/1.04in	(14 Mar)
Total Sunshine	104.7hrs	
Sunniest Day	9.6hrs	(1 Mar)
Max Temp Average	8.63°C	
Highest Temp	13.20°C	(18 Mar)
Min Temp Average	1.95°C	
Lowest Temp	-7.10°C	(15 Mar)

RSPB Loch Leven



DESPITE THE RECENT unspring-like weather the reserve is a hive of activity as wildlife gears up for the breeding season. On the wetland lapwing have started to move onto their breeding territories and have been acrobatically displaying and seeing off potential rivals. The cold, wet weather means no nests have been seen yet, but it should just be a matter of days until they settle down on clutches of eggs. The wildfowl species have also been paring up, with ducks such as gadwall, shoveler, shelduck and mallard preparing to nest, along with mute swans and greylag geese. The woodlands are alive with the sound of the dawn chorus. Most birds are singing regularly as they try to attract mates, including migrants such as chiffchaff and willow warbler. We are waiting patiently for the arrival of blackcaps, garden warblers and the first swallows at the reserve.

Some insects have been out and about when the weather has allowed with many queen bumblebees searching for locations to nest. Some mining bees (which are solitary) have been seen basking on the open sandy areas along the Sleeping Giant Path.

One of the more unusual sightings in April has been an adult male bufflehead which turned up in the bay on Good Friday. This impressive looking duck is usually found in North America but has been on a tour of Scotland recently, being spotted at a number of locations before settling at Loch Leven for over a week. At the time of writing it is still here, near to Findatie, and has attracted visitors from afar all wishing to see it before it hopefully finds its way back west.

The new cottage garden, being created next to the visitor centre by our fantastic team of volunteers, is nearing completion. Herbs, flowers and a seating area will make it a lovely location to relax and take in the smells and sounds of spring and summer. The volunteers have also been planting trees on the hill, maintaining our footpaths, and preparing the islands and rafts on the wetland ready for the nesting birds which use them (in particular black headed gulls).

At the visitor centre we are thrilled that our new sensory backpacks have received such a positive response since we launched them over Easter weekend. Each bag contains ear defenders, sit mat, sunglasses, paper towels, colouring pencils and paper, timer, sensory cards, two fidget toys and cuddly toy. We currently have two backpacks for children and one for adults, all available to pick up from our welcome area. Please feel free to grab a bag when you are next at the reserve, and we would love to hear your feedback.

On Saturday 4 and Sunday 5 May we are holding Dawn Chorus Walks (booking essential) and will also be running a Big Wild Bird Song Trail during the first two weeks of May, to keep the family entertained. For more information on these and other events and activities, please visit our website rspb.org.uk/lochleven



Lapwing photo: Darran Dixon

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Farming

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WHEN IT COMES TO the intricacies of breed standards, I'm not expert enough to be asked to judge at a show or sale but two years ago I was asked to be a judge of a different kind and as it appealed to my interest in young people and the farming community I accepted.

The position of 'Jubilee Judge' meant along with three others I was to visit the Young Farmer's clubs within Fife and Kinross Federation and assess both individual and club performance. The four clubs within the district are Kinross, East Fife, West Fife and Bell Baxter, each have between 24 and 60 members and they meet regularly throughout the summer and winter.

The syllabus is a mix of fun activities such as bowling, water sports, go karting mixed in with some educational tours, farming related meetings and sports practices. As you may expect there is a great deal of socialising, meetings are normally followed by food or drinks and a chance to chat and dances are still organised on the evening of the local agricultural shows and at Christmas.

One of the tasks that fall to the 'Jubilee Judges' is to select the member of the year and the club of the year. At the interviews we were impressed by all of the candidates but it wasn't easy having to choose. We met a 23-year-old who had organised a charity auction raising over £8000, a young person who had travelled abroad to learn of new farming practices and a young chap who admitted he had never spoken in public before joining Young Farmers but had just performed the role of Willy Wonka to over 1000 people at Perth concert Hall in the SAYFC national cabaret competition. The member who emerged as the winner had so many achievements but impressed us hugely by her dedication to ensuring all the young members were picked up for meetings and given a warm welcome.

In terms of club achievements, all four of the clubs devoted a lot of attention to encouraging members to get involved in meetings and competitions and move up to a role on the committee. As judges we noted that all clubs were getting involved in their community such as the Kinross young farmers helping out at the KLEO farmers markets. The clubs also raise funds to be self-sufficient and often select a charity of the year. Kinross's annual dung sale raised nearly £1000 this year for MS, other clubs were selling veg boxes at Christmas, organising a car wash or delivery of afternoon tea.

But back to the theme of judging stock and it was brilliant to see



that 'stock judging' remains a massive part of Young Farmers with competitions still really popular. Last summer I attended a joint meeting run by Kinross and West Fife at Balvairst Farm outside Glenfarg. The meeting started sharp at 7.30pm and as the first class of commercial cows walked into the ring, I counted over 90 people, each one assessing the merits of the four sucklers. Identified with an A, B, X and Y, the judge explained what he was looking for and how to assess the class before everyone marked them from first to fourth. This class was followed by another set of cows, one of heifers, one of store cattle and then a further four classes of sheep. Whilst the office bearers of each club sat behind laptops propped up on bales of straw to complete the scoring process everyone else took shelter inside and were treated to burgers and refreshments. The evening finished with announcing the results and recording a well-deserved vote of thanks to the MacGregor family and their team for the tremendous turnout of stock and hearty feed.

Before writing this, I asked a few non farmers to describe young farmers in one word, the responses ranged from 'bale art, checked shirts, parties to I've no idea, is it a club for young farmers?' I'm hoping I've dispelled a few myths here and I enjoyed my time as a 'Jubilee Judge.' It gave me a chance to meet so many young people from all walks of life so it's definitely not just for farmers.

Check out their Facebook page for more info - [facebook.com/kinrossjac](https://www.facebook.com/kinrossjac)

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OPENING TIMES

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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 sat)	-----	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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Gardening

FIRSTLY, MANY APOLOGIES FOR being absent last month, there really is no excuse, I don't know where the time has gone!

Secondly, has everyone had enough rain yet? It has been truly abysmal, I'm tired of looking at the forecast and just seeing rain every day, with the occasional snow shower thrown in just to keep us on our toes.

As a result of the rubbish weather, there hasn't been a lot of outside work done yet this year – though I did manage to weed one flower bed and plant the Sweet Williams grown last year, that was back at Easter.

Inside work has been moving apace though in the hope of sunnier times to come. The Begonias were woken from winter storage and chucked into some compost to 'do their thing' and as usual, they haven't disappointed. It always amazes me that these hard,



brown lumps will sprout after being wrapped in newspaper for months and go on to produce fantastic, long-lasting blooms.

Seeds have also been liberally sown... when will I ever learn that I don't really need that 'extra pinch'? This year I have an eclectic mix at various stages of germination and growth. There's Peony Poppies that have been very enthusiastic about germinating, to Larkspur that really can't be bothered doing anything.

In between, we have Statice, Sunflowers, Rudbeckia, Cosmos, Nigella and Pot Marigolds... all great for cut flowers to bring a little of outdoors, indoors.

For those difficult to grow things, the universe invented plug plants which were ordered back in January to try and bag some bargains. I really need to learn to file order emails in one place as there's hardly a week goes by at the moment where I don't receive a mystery parcel or two... it's like Christmas!

As it's May, there's a fair bit that should be getting done in the garden this month, weather permitting.

Seedlings – These need to be pricked out and grown on in 15-cell tray inserts ready to be hardened off later in the month. I have a couple of small 'blow away' cold frames that stay open most of



the time to get the plants used to the outside world.

Weeding – As you know, my favourite pastime! Everything needs weeded... beds, pots, between paving slabs, there's even a couple in the greenhouse. A couple of dry days should see me make a big dent in this; fingers crossed.

Basket planting – Once my plants are big enough (or the rest of my plug plants arrive) I'll plant up my baskets and grow them on in the greenhouse prior to putting them out at the beginning of June. This year I have a couple of new half circle wall baskets that I 'ahem' had to buy more Begonias for... well, I needed them all the same colour... didn't I?

Patio cleaning – I don't know about you lot, but my patio is usually OK until about February when it starts to develop this attractive green slime coating that's also really slippery. Well, this will need scrubbed at some point this month... not something I'm particularly looking forward to.

Reading back over what I've written, it seems the moral of this month's article is: 'however far behind in the garden you think you are, there's always someone further behind!'

Have a great month folks, don't let the weather get you down and fingers crossed for a smashing late spring!

Teresa Stirling

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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ

Spreading the Word / Serving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am-12noon, 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.

6.00pm: Sunday Evening Prayer, on Zoom

6.00pm: Crossfire, church centre. Age P7 upwards.

Mondays

10-12.00pm: Church Office open to visitors.

2-4.00pm: Bridge and Board Games Afternoon

7.30pm: Dungeons and Dragons (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

11-12.00pm: Table Talk – chat on Zoom.

Fridays

10-12.00pm: Church Office open to visitors.

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association,
(Church Centre during term time)

6pm-7.15pm Anchor Section (P1-P3)

7pm-9.00pm Junior Section (P4-P6)

7pm-9.30pm Company Section (P7-S3)

7pm-9.30pm Senior Section (S4-S6)

OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS: MAY

Fri 3 Youth Dungeons and Dragons

Sun 5 Morning Worship (informal Communion at 11.45am)
7pm: Sunday@7

Mon 6 8am: Guided Silent Meditation

Tue 7 7pm: Guild at Church Centre

Fri 10 7pm: Overseas Mission Evening. Meet visiting missionaries Ida & Keith Waddell who serve with the United Church of Zambia



Sun 12 – Sat 18: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK See website for events

Sun 12 10.30am: Morning Worship: Christian Aid Sunday

2.30pm: Let's Sing – All welcome, but particularly those living with dementia.

Mon 13 7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons

Thurs 16 9pm: Evening service of Compline

Fri 17 7.30pm: Youth Dungeons and Dragons

Sat 18 11am: All Friends Together for adults with learning disabilities

Sun 19 2.15pm: Church Family Walk. Meet at church lane
7pm: Sunday@7

Mon 27 7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons

Fri 31 7.30pm: Youth Dungeons and Dragons

FAMILY WEEK

Registration is open 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.

MAY

5 May 11.15am Morning Worship. Fairtrade Stall.

11 May (Sat) 1pm-3pm CLEISH FETE AND CLASSIC CAR SHOW

12 May 11.15am Morning Worship



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Churches

19 May	11.15am	Morning Worship
26 May	11.15am	Morning Worship with Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Refreshments are served in the Young Room every Sunday after worship

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>



MAY

5 May: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

12 May: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

19 May: PENTECOST 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

26 May: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship and Celebration of Holy Communion

Refreshments will be available afterwards

REFRESH THURSDAY

Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Church Hall. Join us for friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All welcome.

FILM NIGHT

Fri 3 May 7.30pm in the Church Hall: **A Good Liar (15)**

Career con man Roy (Ian McKellen) sets his sights on his latest mark, recently widowed Betty (Helen Mirren), who's worth millions. And he means to take it all! But as the two grow closer, what should have been another simple swindle becomes a high-stakes game of cat and mouse in this suspenseful drama about the secrets people keep and the lies they 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 18 May at 8.30am** in the church hall, with a talk from Brian Robertson about

'Fingerprints'. 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

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: MAY

2 May Ashley House Service at 2pm.

5 May Joint family service in Orwell Church at 10:30am

No morning service at Portmoak Church

17 May Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 2-3:30pm

31 May Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New

Room between 10:15am-12pm. Art with Lynn.

The Church Office and Shop is open 10-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk



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St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

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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.

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.

Services are also broadcast via Zoom (please email us for weekly links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal e-booklets, the weekly pewsheets and the occasional extra supplementary.

MAY

Sun 5 (Easter 6)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 8

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sat 11 / Sun 12: Art@St Pauls exhibition weekend

Sun 12 ASCENSION SUNDAY

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 15

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 19 THE DAY OF PENTECOST

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 22

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sat 25 / Sun 26: Art@St Pauls exhibition weekend

Sun 26 TRINITY SUNDAY

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 29

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

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.



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 May:

5 May: Mark 2:1-12 The Loving Warning: How Jesus Diagnoses Us With A Heart Problem (Bruce Lockhart, Missions Development Manager, SU Scotland)

12 May: Mark 15:16-39 The Rescue Mission: How Jesus Saves Us From Our Sin (Richard Gibb, LLC)



19 May: Mark 16:1-8 The Fresh Start: How Jesus Brings Us New Life In Him (Steve Osmond, Evangelist, SOLAS & Ruth McCaig, Wycliffe Bible Translators)

26 May: Communion Sunday (Andy Hunter, FIEC)

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

Weekly Programme For May

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (6 May ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Barge Trip (13 May ONLY)	10am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (7 & 21 May ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Singing Group (14 May ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Reminiscence Group Garden Room (1 May ONLY)	1.30pm
	Craft Group (1, 15 & 29 May ONLY)	1.30pm
	Football Memories ALL WELCOME (??? May ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (23 May 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	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.

TRISHAWS HAVE ALSO STARTED UP AGAIN, WEATHER PERMITTING

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14.00 CANTERVILLE GHOST/
19.00 A HAUNTING IN VENICE

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THE KINROSS FARMERS' MARKET

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The Farmers' Market takes place 10am-2pm, Kinross High Street on the fourth Saturday of each month (apart from July). The High Street is closed from the entrance of Burns Begg Street to the entrance of Montgomery Street on market days. The bigger markets take place at the Market Park (opposite the Green Hotel).

2024 Market dates

- 27 April
- 25 May
Market Park, 10am-3pm
- 22 June
** No Market in July **
- 24 August
Market Park, 10am-3pm
- 28 September
- 26 October
- 23 November
Festive Market at the Market Park, 10am-3pm

Spring & Summer Markets at the Market Park

25 May & 24 August from 10am to 3pm

Special bigger markets with a great variety of food, drink and craft stalls and additional entertainment.

www.kleo.org.uk • Find us on Facebook

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation SC044056 • Images: HKF Photography



Town Twinning
Family
QUIZ NIGHT
Sat. 18 May



Kinross Masonic Hall
7:30 pm.
£10 per team of 4

Email d_g_munro@hotmail.com or text/phone 07935 458 667 to book your team entry

Bar open for refreshments during the evening.



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



Light Up Kinross AGM

Wednesday
22 May 2024

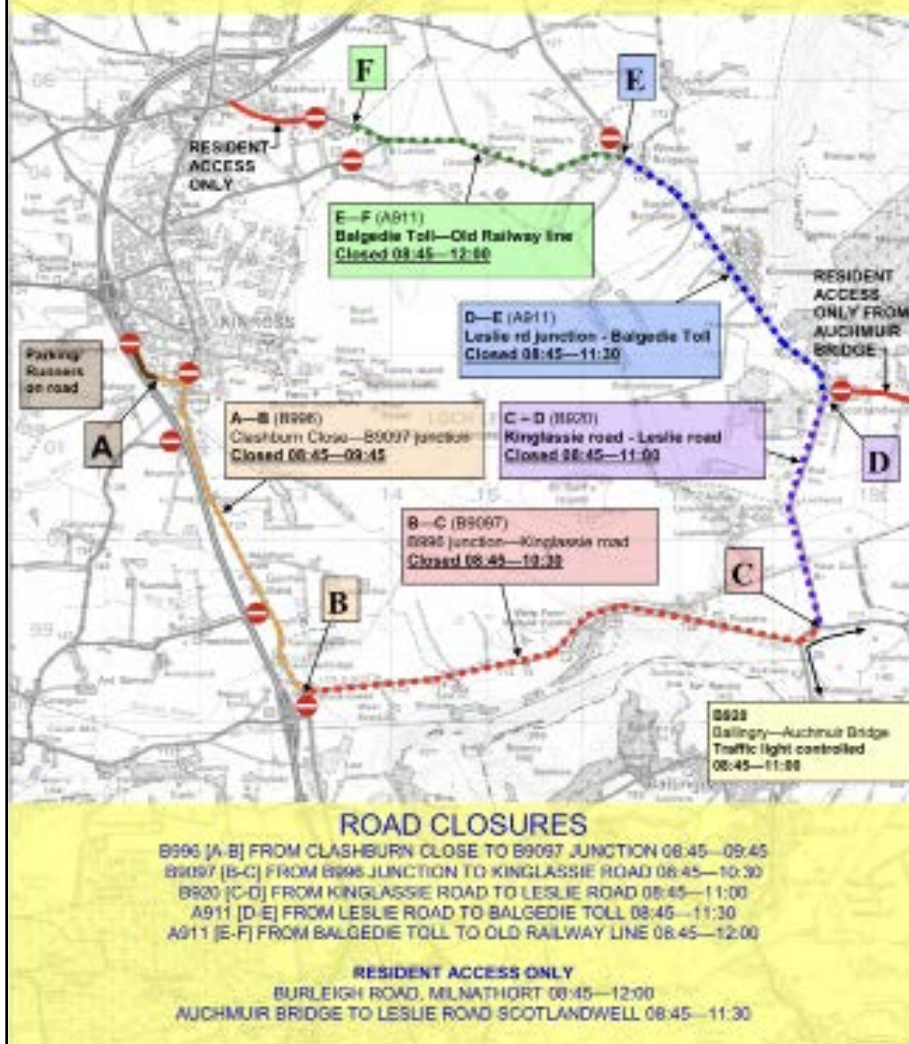
St Paul's Meeting Room
7.30 pm

ALL WELCOME

Please note that the Christmas Lights Switch On this year will now take place on Saturday 30 November.

We are also cancelling the Beetle Drive planned for May.

KINROSS ROAD RUNNERS LOCH LEVEN HALF MARATHON SUNDAY 12 MAY 2024



Summer Serenade At Six

Charity Concert
Saturday 22 June 6pm
Leven Voices Choir

Capital Concert Band from Edinburgh
and Surprise Solo Star.
Loch Leven Community Campus.
In Aid Of The Ethiopia Medical Project

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
June	Friday 17 May	Saturday 1 June
July	Friday 14 June	Saturday 29 June

P & K SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024

MAY DAY HOLIDAY: Mon 6 May

Health services over spring holidays



Most GP surgeries in Tayside are closed on **Monday 6 and Monday 27 May**

Please order and collect your regular medication if required before the public holidays.

There is no need to order additional medication.

Providing repeat medication out of hours may delay treatment of patients with an urgent problem.

www.rightcaretayside.scot.nhs.uk

MOBILE LIBRARY 8, 22 May

(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

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or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

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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.

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

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: wrobertson@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

- Sat 27 **Farmers' market, 10-2 High Street**
Sat&Sun 27&28 **Art @ St Pauls Exhibition**
Sat 27 **Casino Night, Milnathort Town Hall**

May

- Sat 4 **Plant and Bake Sale, Well Country Inn, Scotlandwell 10.30-12.30**
Sat 4 **Charity Race Night in aid of Stephen Lyon Foundation, Kinross Ice Rink**
Sat&Sun 4&5 **Dawn Chorus Walks, RSPB**
Mon 6 **Glenfarg Community Council meets**
Tues 7 **Fossoway and District Community Council meets**
Tues 7 **U3A AGM and Quiz, see club entry for details**
Tues 7 **Kinross Climate Cafe meets, see club entry for details**
Thurs 9 **Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets**
Thurs 9 Garden Group visit Newliston House and Garden
Thurs-Sat 9-11 **County Fabrics 40th anniversary sale**
Sat&Sun 11&12 **Art @ St Pauls Exhibition**
Sun 12 **Loch Leven Half Marathon**
Thurs 16 **Bookbug Pyjama Party, Library**
Tues 16 **Portmoak Community Council meets**
Fri 17 **Newsletter Deadline for June Issue**
Sat 18 **Crook and Drum community orchard afternoon**
Sat 18 **Town Twinning family quiz night, Masonic Hall, see club entry for details**
Sat 18 **Milnathort Community Cinema show Wonka / The Holdovers**
Sun 19 **Loch Leven Walkathon**
Wed 22 **Light Up Kinross AGM, St Pauls Meeting Room**
Sat 25 **Farmers' market, 10-3 Market Park**
Tues 28 **Kinross Community Council meets**

June

- Sat 1 **Portmoak Gala**
Sun 2 **Portmoak Festival begins**
Sat 15 **Kinross Primary School Fayre**
Sun 16 **Discovery Day (NatureScot), Kirkgate Park**
Sat 29 **Open Gardens Day in aid of Marie Curie**

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