



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the April Issue

5pm,

Friday 12 March, 2024

for publication on

Saturday 30 March, 2024

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:

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Post or by hand to:

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Commercial Advertising in the Newsletter

For terms and conditions, see www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter

Display Adverts

Rates shown include VAT

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

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

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

- **Your name, address, telephone number and, optionally, email address.**
- **The wording of your advert.**
- **A note of the number of insertions required.**
- **Your remittance.**

Send all this to the Advertising Manager by the normal monthly *Newsletter* deadline. The *Newsletter* reserves the right to vary the physical size of these adverts from issue to issue according to the space available.

If you wish to place a typed advert on a permanent or semi-permanent basis, contact the Advertising Manager to see if you can go on to our billing list.

For information on advertising in the *Newsletter* please go to www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter and click on 'Advertising'.

The *Newsletter* reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisement or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy. No part of this publication may be reproduced or used in any form without the express written permission of the publishers.

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Cover Photo: James Alexander on a Flylight Peabee from Balado (Powered hang glider) Design: Lee Scammacca

Letter From The Editor

ELLIS PETERS CALLED SPRING 'a perpetual astonishment'. Just when you need it, after a dreich Scottish winter, suddenly it just arrives. All of a sudden you wake up, and there it is!

There is no official date (although some will tell you it is 1 March). The onset of Spring is a feeling: you just know when it arrives.

Something barely perceptible changes in the air. It's not just about the weather. There is a feeling that winter has finally cleared off for a while and there seems to be a promise of good (and possibly warmer) days to come.

The birds sing louder (or at least it seems so) and carry on till later. The nights get lighter. (Clocks go back Sunday 31 March!) There are lambs in the fields and snowdrops, daffodils

and crocuses everywhere you look. It's like a little miracle every year to see that some of my mostly ignored plants have survived and are ready to burst into life again, despite my negligence, for another year.

Kinross is waking up from the slumbers of winter with the Better Place to Live Fair on Saturday 23 March, which brings together the whole community at the Campus to celebrate all the things that make it such a great place to live. It will be a great (free) day with something for everyone.

If you are new to the area it is a must-see event, and for those of us who have been here a while, a great day to catch up with friends and make new connections. I am constantly surprised by the amount of clubs and societies in the area that would be delighted to welcome you through their doors.

Please come along and chat to the *Newsletter* team – we will be on the 'Street' and we are always delighted to listen to your feedback and hear your comments about the *Newsletter*. We will have a competition and there may even be a prize!

This is a jam-packed issue with lots to report on in the coming few weeks, with new exhibitions coming from the wonderful folk at Arts@StPaul's, comedy and quiz nights, community cinema, live music and, as always, lots of interesting talks to attend. See the diary at the back of this *Newsletter* to make sure you don't miss anything!

Hannah Phillips, Editor

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

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

PART TIME CARETAKER

Orwell and Portmoak Church are seeking a part-time caretaker to look after bookings for premises at Orwell Church and Hall, Ba'hill, Milnathort. The role includes:

- Receiving enquiries by email and/or telephone
- Responding to enquiries as required
- Adding confirmed bookings to shared calendar
- Ensuring premises are in good order for users
- Ordering necessary supplies e.g. handwash, hand towels, loo rolls etc
- Advising maintenance issues as noted to Property Committee
- Seating will on occasion need re-set as agreed with users
- Availability to facilitate the use of the building for church and wider community purposes e.g. opening and closing for 'one off' bookings, duty support for funerals and providing access to tradesmen as required

If you are interested in this role or wish further details of hours and hourly rate please email Linda Stewart: treasurer@orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk in the first instance with a personal statement detailing your skills, experience and personal qualities that you consider make you a suitable candidate by 20th March 2024.

We reserve the right to close the advert to applications at any time should the right candidate be found.

Letters

Climate Crisis and Wind Farms

THE WIND FARM APPLICATIONS in our area have certainly stirred up emotions; the letters to our *Newsletter* are a testament to this. I'd like to add my thoughts. For the record: I am not a scientist, but for over 40 years I have been worried about the way we are degrading, polluting and changing our planet and this worry is only increasing. I don't think there is much doubt that humans have a negative impact on Earth; but how exactly this pans out is anyone's guess. It is not just global warming; it is also the amount of waste (plastic) we generate and the amount of harmful substances we release. There is a lot of uncertainty and some use that to argue that it will be ok in the end. I disagree profoundly.

For decades the western world has broken its promises to reduce carbon emissions. Our greed for ever-bigger cars, holidays by air, more fast-fashion, cheap stuff from China and cheap food from all over the world shows no sign of abating.

It is not our generation that will suffer. At the moment people living in fragile ecosystems such as in sub-Saharan Africa are suffering from drought and famine; a situation that is at least partly caused by the West. This crisis will not stay abroad: next up to feel the impact will be our children and grandchildren.

I don't like wind farms either: I don't like it that the profit goes abroad, that we have no manufacturing capabilities any more to produce the turbines here and I don't like the sight or the sound of them. But we need swift action to ensure the generations coming after us have a future. We simply cannot carry on using fossil fuel. Tell me, all of you who are against wind energy: what is a credible alternative? Nuclear energy? Or just building wind farms in someone else's backyard?

Trudy Duffy, Crook of Devon

Don't Look Up

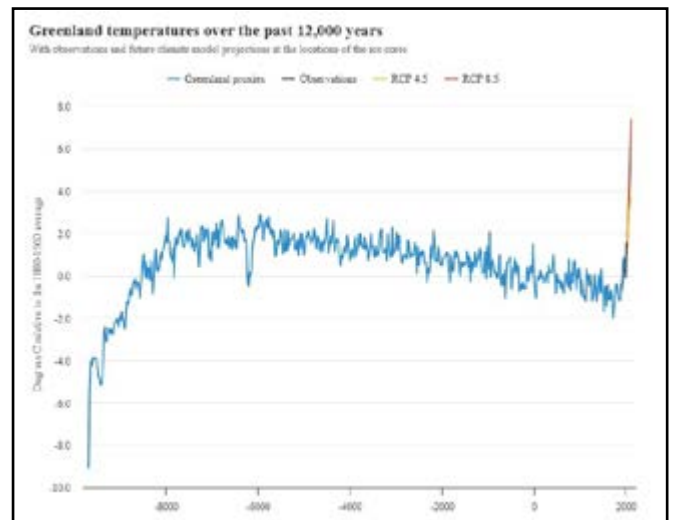
IT IS ALWAYS EASIER to believe that there are no problems, and we are safe to enjoy our way of life without undesired consequences. And as our news is filled with world catastrophes and political conflicts, there is a great need for positive news. Positive news however is not pretending there's no crisis (as brilliantly exposed in Adam McKay's 2021 film "Don't look up"), positive news is about right solutions to actual issues.

In response to the letter "Climate crisis?" in the February issue, I'd like to point out a few flaws in the author's arguments as a climate change denier.

For anyone new to this topic – the article used ice core data of paleoclimatic temperature variation in the Pleistocene era, with the warmest peaks (3°C) higher than the present temperature (1.5°C) to support the claim that the current climate change is not anthropogenic and is going to end. The author refers the reader to a website, which hosts all the usual climate change denier material aimed at mal-informing (purposefully misinforming the public to create confusion and apathy).

Before we get to the data interpretation in the context of observed climate variability it is important to mention that all temperature ice core data is estimated based on isotopic oxygen content in different ice layers, a so-called proxy, and it is subject to considerable uncertainty. In addition, the ice core data for the last 20 years is not reliable because 'the snow that falls on the ice sheet needs time to form into solid ice' (www.carbonbrief.org/factcheck-what-greenland-ice-cores-say-about-past-and-present-climate-change/). For that period, we need to refer to the measured temperature data.

The data on the graph from the letter mentioned above is no longer available on the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA) website. I present below data from Greenland ice cores based on the Carbon Brief website (all glaciologists observe similar patterns of data from the Northern hemisphere). Looking at the last 11000 years we observe that temperature varied, and the current level is indeed not the highest, but the past warming occurred over two thousand years (from 10000-8000bc). Slow warming during interglacial periods was caused by the gradual changes of the earth's orbit relative to the sun. This contrasts with the current warming rapidly progressing since the industrial revolution, linked closely with an increase of carbon dioxide concentration in the atmosphere. This is a result of human effect on environment, predominantly due to burning of fossil fuels (so called greenhouse gas effect). The global average temperature is projected to continue and in 2050 overtake all the interglacial levels, only 26 years from now (modelled data presented on the graph below).



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This is known to many of us, but the confusion caused by climate change denial still persists hence it is important to recognise reasoning behind misinterpretation which is linked to the vested interests of fossil fuel corporations. The period that we live in now is known as Anthropocene with predominant human influence over the climate and environment. There will be no 'natural' decline in temperature (as in the past) but there is still hope if we acknowledge the situation and do something about it. As Sir Attenborough said, 'the future of humanity and indeed, all life on earth now, depends on us'.

Dr Malgorzata Stanton, Milnathort

Wind Farm Survey Report 30/1/24

(Presented at Fossoyay CC meeting 6/2/24)

I WOULD LIKE TO caution the CC against reading too much into or basing a planning stance on a survey that has elicited 110 responses from 939 households (11.7%), although that is not a bad %, as surveys go. I note that approx 63% of those respondents were hitherto not aware of the Kinross-shire proposals, so are probably not folk normally engaged with the CC and/or planning issues, so from that perspective it has probably served a useful purpose.

I am rarely critical of our CC and the work you do usually carries my full support, as a former Chair, Secretary and Treasurer many years ago and also of course, during my 23-year stint as PKC elected member for Kinross-shire.

As you should know from previous emails on this matter, I had requested a sight of the questions before they were circulated but this was not forthcoming. The survey put out failed to outline the background to previous windfarm consents in the Ochil Hills, the fact we already have three large windfarms and that another three are proposed. There was no mention of the existing Local Landscape Area designation for the Ochil Hills in LDP2 and current PKC supplementary guidance specifically seeks to avoid proposals for turbines having an adverse impact on the special qualities of this sensitive environment, particularly cumulative impacts.

The survey also failed to mention the aspiration, unanimously endorsed by the CCs at the first historic meeting of the Kinross-shire Local Committee on 20/1/22, for the Ochils to be a Regional Park and for PKC to be pressed on that matter. I argue that further windfarm developments will seriously weaken that aspiration.

As you know, I have stressed that so-called 'community benefit' from industrialising our hill landscapes is a separate issue to planning consent. Since the Craighead proposal is on the site of the previously refused Mellock Hill proposal (after a public inquiry and CC objection), I fail to understand why the CC would not indicate an intention to object in due course, given the increased height of the turbines proposed.

I reiterate my call for our CC's to press PKC's elected members to ensure that these latest proposals are the subject of a conjoined public inquiry, as previously occurred, in order that the cumulative effect can be fully debated in public forum.

Just to conclude, as Chair of FCDTrust, I have circulated my 'open' letter to yourselves and Cleish CC of October 2023 to members of the Trust and also the Minutes of the Trust meeting of 15/11/23 when this windfarm issue was discussed; in order to get members' views on my intention to frame an objection in due course, to the Craighead proposal on planning grounds and to press for such an inquiry, on behalf of the Trust.

49 members were circulated and 14 responded, 9 in support of my stance, 3 opposed and 2 abstentions (a 28.5% response [updated since CC meeting]).

Thank you,

Mike Barnacle, Crook of Devon

In Response

ANDREW MONTFORD'S LETTER (February Newsletter) travelled down the well-worn path of this polarised debate.

Firstly, Mr Montford employs the repeated and somewhat tired emotive claim that Kinross-shire is 'an area of great natural beauty.' My family has had over a century of being 'stewards' of an area of Kinross-shire. There is nothing 'natural' about the landscape. Yes, the topography is attractive and pleasing to the eye but totally dominated by the hand of man. The needs of agriculture, forestry production and even the present area covered by Loch Leven, are all the results of centuries of human involvement and development. This sad and disappointing tactic is misplaced and repeatedly the first objection employed by members of the anti wind farm lobby when onshore developments are proposed, seemingly in the misplaced belief that the more often it is parroted, the more likely it is to be believed.

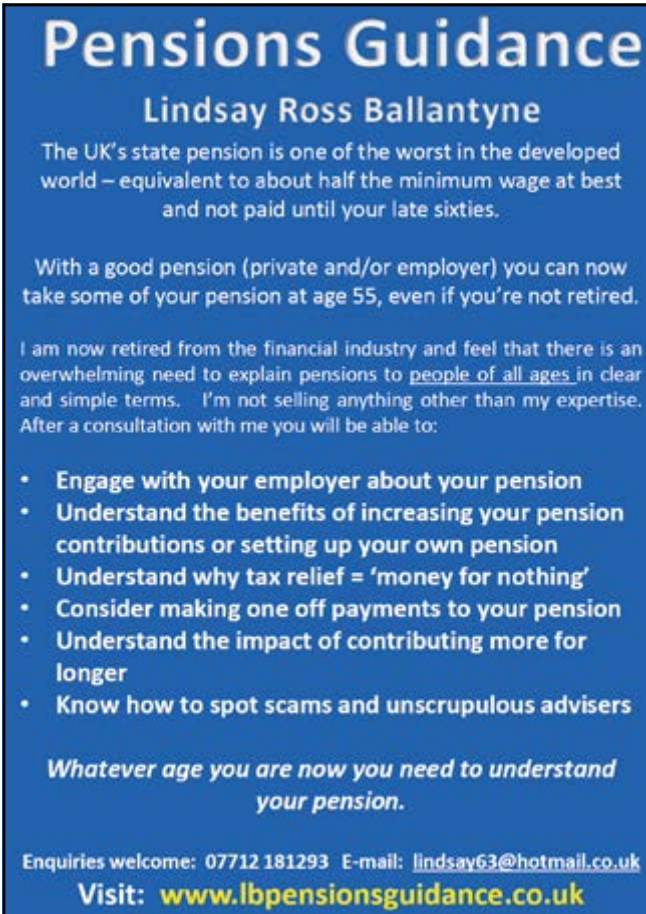
Secondly and perhaps less forgivable is the patronising use of the statement by Mr Montford that: 'So much of what you think you know about renewables, and in particular wind farms, is wrong.' Wow!

Rewind to the successful movie 'A Few Good Men', where Jack Nicholson loses the plot and attempts to berate and belittle Tom Cruise by shouting at him in the courtroom scene that: 'You can't handle the truth!'

The residents of Kinross-shire are more than capable of analysing and assessing situations which affect the area in which they have chosen to live, be that for more than a century or in setting up a new home.

The polarised wind farm debate is not improved by the contents of Mr Montford's contribution. Any points which he may have wished to genuinely express must be set against his use of unfortunate and patronising language which should be avoided if he wishes to advance his own personal views and gather support.

Name and address withheld



Pensions Guidance
Lindsay Ross Ballantyne

The UK's state pension is one of the worst in the developed world – equivalent to about half the minimum wage at best and not paid until your late sixties.

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

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

- Engage with your employer about your pension
- Understand the benefits of increasing your pension contributions or setting up your own pension
- Understand why tax relief = 'money for nothing'
- Consider making one off payments to your pension
- Understand the impact of contributing more for longer
- Know how to spot scams and unscrupulous advisers

Whatever age you are now you need to understand your pension.

Enquiries welcome: 07712 181293 E-mail: lindsay63@hotmail.co.uk
Visit: www.lbpensionsguidance.co.uk

Thanks



Milnathort
filmhouse



Carnbo & District Community Hall

THANK YOU TO everyone who came along to our Soup Saturday event and all the helpers! We made over £200 and the money will go towards the repointing of the hall's East gable which is badly damaged, causing water penetration into the kitchen.

Thank you to everyone who came along to the Carnbo Clean Up! Thank you for the loan of the litter pickers from The Kinross

Litter Pickers who are the PKC litter picking hosts for our area and to Fossoway Gathering for the loan of the hi-vis vests. We had 16 volunteers who managed to collect rubbish, tidy pavements and verges the whole length from the bridge at the west end right up to the hall! Your help was most appreciated.

Members and non-members are all welcome at our upcoming 'Warm Welcome' events:

Coffee & Chat: Wednesday 13 March 10am-12 noon.

Carnbo Hall Talks: Monday 4 March 7.30pm, *Kinross-shire, Then & Now, A Photo Journey* by Kevin Heneghan.

Carnbo Hall is available for hire. Contact carnbohall@gmail.com



ON A COLD, dreich February afternoon there was no warmer place in Kinross-shire than Milnathort Town Hall where a happy crowd of cine-magoers gathered to watch a screening of 'The Great Escaper'. Close to 40 members of our local community enjoyed a delicious pot of stovies before watching Sir Michael Caine sneak out of his care home and cross the Channel to join fellow veterans commemorating the D-Day landings. The Milnathort Filmhouse would like to thank Perth and Kinross Council's Warm Spaces Fund, Giacomazzi's Milnathort and our wonderful volunteers for helping to make this a very enjoyable and special occasion.

Dr Osborne Says Thank You

AS MANY PATIENTS will now know, I left Orwell Medical Practice in mid-January to take up a new position in Fife. I've very much enjoyed working over the past 20 years in such a lovely area, meeting all sorts of characters and learning their stories, with some laughs along the way. I've been fortunate to have been able to spend such a long time in one practice, really getting to know my patients and am grateful to have worked with an excellent team of hardworking, diligent and caring colleagues too. I must thank all staff at the health centre and patients for their recent kind words, thanks and lovely gifts – very much unexpected and appreciated.

I know the practice will be moving forward with a fresh new team and hopefully enthusiasm for another 20 years at least!

I'm sure I may see some faces I recognise when out and about walking locally, so if you spot me be sure to say Hi!

Wishing you all the very best of health and good wishes for the future.

Dr Caroline Osborne

GLENFARG COMMUNITY TRANSPORT GROUP

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Our drivers are a very special breed! We say that our service is not about buses, it is about people. Every passenger we carry has a story to tell about why they use the bus, and our drivers are very sensitive to the needs of our travelling public – they go the extra mile (often literally) to make sure that our wee bus service delivers much more than public transport.

Contact us: transport@glenfarg.org

	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55	55
Kinross P&R	Not sat								
Kirkland's Hotel	0745	0845	Every Hour	1445	1545	1645	1800		
Campus, HC	0748	0848		1448	1548	1648	1803		
Milnathort, Church St	0753	0853		1453	1553	1653	1808		
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0755	0855		1455	1555	1655	1810		
Bridge of Earn, Side Street	0805	0905		1505	1605	1705	1820		
Perth, Canal St	-----	0918		1518	1618	-----	-----		
Perth, Bus Station (dep)	-----	0928		1528	1628	-----	-----		
Perth, Mill Street	(not	0940		1540	1640	-----	-----		
Bridge of Earn, Side Street	Sat)	0945		1545	1645	-----	-----		
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0710	0910	1010	1610	1705	1710	1710		
Milnathort, Church St	0720	0820	0920	1620	1705	1720	1720		
Campus, HC	0722	0822	0922	1622	1705	1722	1722		
Kinross P&R	0730	0830	0930	1630	1705	1730	1730		

GORDON'S THE SMART CHOICE TO OPEN THE FAIR!

THE BETTER PLACE TO LIVE Fair comes to the Community Campus on Saturday 23 March 2024. The opening is at 10am by our very own radio and TV presenter Gordon Smart. Gordon was brought up in Kinross, attending Kinross Primary & Kinross High School before going to Heriot Watt University to study journalism. He now appears regularly on national TV and hosts regular programmes on BBC Radio 5.



Organisers are delighted at the response from the community and from service providers across the area, who are providing a huge range of stalls and activities for all the family. Activities being discussed for the day range from virtual reality headsets and a 3D printer, activities in the library. The Army

will be doing a Hang Tough competition while Tayside Contracts will hold a barbecue. There will be free tasters of the new primary and secondary school menus as well as Food To Go being open. A range of craft activities will be available for children in the activity meeting space and plant/seed planting will take place in the 'street'.

Pupils will give tours of the high school. There will be a bouncy castle for the under 5s, a planetarium, and science-based games for children as well as exhibitions by Kinross Camera Club and KADAC.



Arts@StPauls will give demonstrations and artists will answer questions. KYTHE are hosting a drop-in, games and music in the lecture hall and KLEO are planning entertainment in the drama studio.

This great local opportunity is not to be missed, please join us on the day. Entry is free.

Unfortunately the closing date for stall holders to secure a place has passed. However, if you have been unable to book and would still like a stall, it may still be worth emailing pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk. If there are any spaces available she may be able to accept a late booking.



ANDYSMANCLUB comes to Kinross

ANDYSMANCLUB ARE A MEN'S suicide prevention charity, offering free, peer-to-peer support groups across the UK and online. They want to end the stigma surrounding men's mental health and help men through the power of conversation.

They have over 120 support groups nationwide, running every Monday from 7pm. In these groups, men can open up about the storms affecting their lives in a safe, judgement-free and non-clinical environment. Clubs are designed to be free of pressure, men can simply speak or listen as they wish.

With over 2800 men using the sessions every week, and an army of 900+ volunteers, the movement continues to grow each week. They firmly believe in the power of talking.

Established in 2016 by Elaine, Andy's mum, and Luke, Andy's brother-in-law, the aim of the club is to provide men with a safe space where they feel comfortable to talk and open up about their experiences in a room free of judgment.

The Kinross branch opens on Monday 18 March at 7pm at the campus, welcoming all men over the age of 18.



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Showroom at Caudlers Garden Centre, Kinross
Open Tue - Fri 10 - 4 Sat 10- 5
Closed Sunday & Monday

Tel 07877 478167
www.islamae.co.uk email ben@ismae.co.uk

GLENFARG BUS – FROM DEARTH TO PERTH!

IN JANUARY, GLENFARG COMMUNITY Transport Group launched its extended service 55, created as a response to the withdrawal of services by regular transport companies and now running hourly from Kinross to Perth via Glenfarg.

The first few weeks were run as a soft launch to see if the timetables worked and allow the drivers to familiarise themselves with the route in and out of Perth. The new service has already proven popular with around 700 passengers per week making use of the service.

It had been hoped that the bus could get to Perth Royal Infirmary, the Pool and Retail Park on demand, but that has proven difficult due to long-term road works in a number of locations. It has been decided to scale back on these ambitions until spring, when the introduction of the MooveFlexi App will allow passengers to see where the buses are.

In the meantime, the 55 will deliver passengers to Canal Street and the Bus Station. Those heading to the hospital can connect at Mill Street with Stagecoach Services 1 (to PRI) and Service 2 (from PRI) which run every 15 minutes.

In Perth, the 55 bus picks up at the Bus Station Stance 1 at 20 minutes to the hour and Mill Street (stop G for Glenfarg) then Scott Street outside St John's Shopping Centre and opposite The Twa Tams at 15 minutes to the hour. Departure from Kinross P&R for Perth is also quarter to. The full timetable is at GlenfargCT.co.uk or use QR code on the advert on p6. This timetable will always be the most up to date and may change as the new service evolves.



CAN YOU HELP UKRAINE?



FRUITS STORAGE IS NOW a collection point for essential items for Ukraine thanks to Tayside and Strathearn support for Ukraine (TASH for Ukraine). The container is open 7 days per week (until 28 March) and is at the entrance to the storage yard. It has a flag on it so is very easy to find. (KY13 0LA)

TASH for Ukraine is looking for good quality, clean essentials and food. Please bag or box items for ease of transportation. Required are: sleeping bags, blankets, duvets, hot water bottles, thermos flasks, medical and first aid supplies, torches and batteries, crutches, wheelchairs and zimmers, tea light candles, water purification tablets, fuel canisters/jerry cans, spades/forks/trowels, jump leads/mobile power packs. Food: tins of meat, soup, veg, pasta, rice, preserves, flour, porridge, sweets, biscuits, tea and coffee, pet food. Also required: outdoor clothes and footwear, baby boxes, baby essentials, incontinence and sanitary pads.

GREEN LIVING FUND – HAVE YOUR SAY!

RESIDENTS ACROSS Perth & Kinross are being given the chance to say which projects tackling the Cost of Living crisis and climate emergency should receive financial support. The Green Living Fund sought applications from groups seeking to win a share of £225,000 funding for their projects.

Projects had to be based across the following themes:

- **Energy** Reducing consumption, promoting energy efficiency and use of renewables
- **Transport** Encouraging active travel, use of public transport and decarbonising transport
- **Waste and circular economy** Reducing waste, reuse and recycle, including foodshare projects
- **Resilience** Improving greenspace,

biodiversity, local food growing and adapting to climate change, flood mitigation and other community resilience projects set up to respond to climate events

- **Engagement** Increasing public awareness and engaging communities

Voting in the Green Living Participatory Budgeting Fund **closes on 1 March.**

Vote online at <https://pkc.communitychoices.scot/localities> by choosing Kinross-shire as your locality. You will see a list of worthwhile projects in the area that you can vote for (you can vote for more than one!)

These include the Kinross Men's Shed, Broke not Broken, Greener Glenfarg group, Glenfarg Community Centre, Milnathort Core Paths, Glenfarg Freewheelers, CATCH Loch Leven, Glenfarg Connectivity and the new Kinross-shire Repair Cafe (*see opposite*).

EURO ELECTIONS

SINCE THE UK LEFT the European Union, UK citizens will not be able to vote in the European Elections in June 2024.

However, European citizens living in the UK, are in some cases eligible to register to vote in these elections. Many have made their home in Scotland and indeed in Kinross-shire.

If you can, register and vote. Whether or not the UK is part of the EU, our nearest neighbour has a lot of influence on our society and economy; and on your home country, wherever that is.

The exact rules vary from country to country. You can check out this website: <https://elections.europa.eu/en/>. The European Union also has a fast and friendly chat service, should you need more information.

NEW REPAIR CAFE FOR KINROSS

THE REPAIR CAFE IS a new venture from Kinross-shire Climate Cafe. Repair cafes are free meeting places and they're all about repairing things (together). At a Repair Cafe, you'll find tools and materials to help you make any repairs you need.

There will be repair volunteers in the following fields:

- Textile and wool
- Jewellery
- Laptops (software)
- Other electronics (radios etc)
- Chairs (wicker, upholstery)
- Small wood objects
- Bikes.

Not all repairers will be able to attend all events so they will advertise in advance of each event. At The Better Place to Live Fair there'll be details of the first event at the Climate Cafe stall.

In addition there will be demonstrations of things like basic bike maintenance, tool care, visible mending.

A repair cafe is for basic simple repairs and the idea is that participants help to repair under supervision of experienced repairers. Not all items are repairable, however. More complex repairs will be referred to local professionals.

It's an ongoing learning process. If you have nothing to repair,



just enjoy a cup of tea or coffee. Or lend a hand with someone else's repair job, if you wish.

There are over 2,500 repair cafes worldwide. If you would like to see one in Kinross, make sure to include them in your vote for the Green Living Fund – but be quick! **Voting deadline is 1 March.** Vote at: <https://pkc.communitychoices.scot/budgets/2/investments/9>

ROBBIE GOES PRO!



ROBBIE ANDERSON, a pupil at Milnathort Primary School, has just signed a professional footballing contract with Dunderline Athletic.

Obviously both parents are extremely chuffed – as is Robbie!

Hopefully it's another Kinross-shire sporting superstar in the making.

STRAP YOUR BIN SHUT!

PKC WASTE SERVICES have announced a new measure to prevent grey bin spills. They said, 'Due to the lighter contents of the grey bin, there have been reports of bins blowing over due to high winds, spilling their contents and creating litter.'

In an attempt to prevent the new grey bins strewing their contents across pavements and roads, they are making free bin straps available to all P&K residents, courtesy of the Scottish Government's Recycling Improvement Fund (RIF), administered by Zero Waste Scotland. The straps do not require installation – they simply attach to the back handle of the grey bin and hook over the front. The straps can then be briefly unhooked by bin crews to allow them to empty the bin.



You can collect a bin strap for your grey bin only at all Perth and Kinross Libraries and all recycling centres. There is limited stock, meaning only one bin strap per grey bin. Approximately 2000 straps are available, with more on order and expected to arrive shortly.



It's Daffodil Time Again!

THE MARIE CURIE DAFFODIL APPEAL 2024 is now in full swing! You're likely to spot the boxes of bright yellow daffodils and the NEW LOGO in shops throughout the area.. Please donate and wear a daffodil proudly to let others know you are supporting the Marie Curie nurses that provide nursing care in our homes and hospices free of charge to the patient and family for patients with any terminal illness.

A member of the fundraising group will also be at the Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March. Please stop by to learn more about the additional support services Marie Curie can now offer to patients and families in the last few months of life.

The charity is keen to meet any gardeners that would be willing to participate in the Open Gardens Day in Kinross and Milnathort in June, either by opening their garden to the public for an afternoon or volunteering to help with this popular fundraising event. For more information please call Marg Meade on 07907 192097.

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THE RETURN OF ARTS@ST PAUL'S

ARTS@ST PAUL'S is now established with the key aims of contributing to the long-term role of St Paul's Church in the community by fostering creativity, giving artists and makers an opportunity to exhibit their work and becoming a go to place for the community to see and experience it. They also aim to develop professional practice and encourage collaboration amongst creatives.



ARTS @ St Paul's

The committee extend a massive thank you to the Vestry at St Paul's who enabled their pilot project of exhibitions last year and to everyone in Kinross and district who came to encourage and support them. The feedback from all the exhibitors has also been really positive and has encouraged them to continue.

The committee has been hard at work planning a new programme of events for the coming year. Regular fortnightly exhibitions will start again after Easter and they will publish details of those next month. Before that they will be holding a couple of very special events.

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ARTS@STPAUL'S Committee 2024

Back row L-R: Julie Close (Treasurer), Jo Middlemiss (St Paul's Liaison/ Finance), Gill Skene (Finance), Kathryn Kirkwood (Marketing).

Front Row L- R: Glenys Andrews (Artist Liaison), Anne Taylor (Chair), Pauline McGee (Minute Secretary)

Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 March 10am-3pm in collaboration with SSAFA and the Scottish Prison Service they will be hosting INSIDE OUT an exhibition and sale of artwork by Perthshire Veteran Prisoners from HMP Perth and HMP Castle Huntly. See more about this on p14.

On Saturday 23 March they will pop up at the Better Place to Live Fair and again at 6.30pm in St Paul's Church for Sound & Vision, a concert by the Tullis Russell Community Band and Composite Photographer Julie Close (see p20). They look forward to seeing you soon!

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M90 IMPROVEMENTS THROUGH MARCH

AMEY IS UNDERTAKING a £1.3 million project improving road safety on 1.6 miles of the M90 near Glenfarg.

This news will be welcomed by those members of the public who have expressed anxiety at the increasing number of road accidents along that same stretch.

The project will see improvements made to the vehicle barrier restraint systems on the central reserve of the M90, between the footbridge at Glenfarg and the B996 overbridge. The work, which

began mid-February will take place overnight between 8pm to 6am from Sunday to Thursday each week until Friday 29 March.

There will be overnight closures of lane two, both northbound and southbound. There will also be overnight lane one closures with the hard shoulder in operation for traffic. Traffic management will be lifted at 6am before being reinstated at 8pm.

All schemes are weather-dependent and may be cancelled or re-scheduled if weather conditions are unfavourable.



Back row L-R: Craig Mowbray (parent of Alexa), Ben Raw, Leaghann Watson, David Glover and Kirsty Gourlay (parent of Dylan). Front row L-R: Alexa Coventry and Dylan with their new bikes.

YOUNG PEOPLE SUPPORTED BY Rachel House have been gifted brand new bikes.

CHAS Trust Fundraiser Leaghann Watson applied to the Access to Bikes for Young People Fund (run by Cycling Scotland and

ON YER BIKES, CHAS!

supported by Transport Scotland). The fund helps increase affordable access to bikes for children and young people, supporting independent travel, reducing inequalities and improving health.

Greener Kirkcaldy runs a social enterprise project called Lang Toun Cycles, which is funded by the Access to Bikes for Young People Fund. Project Manager David Glover was able to answer Leaghann's call and dropped off some brand new bikes to children supported by Rachel House.

Leaghann said: 'We are delighted! The children who received the bikes will now be able to discover the joy of cycling and create lasting memories full of fun and adventure.'

David Glover said: 'It is a pleasure to deliver these bikes. The funding means we can work closely with organisations like

CHAS to help more kids to enjoy the thrill of cycling. So far, we have distributed over 200 new and refurbished bikes to families across Fife and beyond.'

Ben Raw, Partnership Manager at Cycling Scotland added, 'We are delighted to have worked with all the partners involved to provide more opportunities for young people to get out in the fresh air, build their confidence, support their mental health and play their part in tackling the climate emergency.' Alexa Coventry (9), from Kirkcaldy said: 'I'd like to say thank you for my amazing new bike. I love it and can't wait to cycle all over my town on it.'

Dylan Park (11), from Glenrothes, who also received a bike said: 'I'm so happy and really grateful to get my bike. I love the colour and everything about it and can't wait to go out on it cycling with my big brother!'

Sauchie To 'Em, Austin!

REV AUSTIN WICKS, who has been attached to Kinross Parish Church, is moving on to a new church.

In January, the congregation of Clackmannan with Sauchie and Coalsnaughton unanimously elected Austin to be their minister and that decision has since been agreed by the Presbytery of Perth. He will be welcomed to his new church at a special Presbytery service at Sauchie kirk at 7pm on Thursday 7 March and a number of folk from Kinross-shire will be travelling through in support.

Austin and his wife Alicia arrived in Kinross from the USA in August 2022 to allow Austin to familiarise himself with the Church of Scotland, having previously been a pastor in Indiana in the Presbyterian Church of America. They have both been greatly involved in the life of local churches and KYTHE, especially in relation to young people. Kin-



Austin and Alicia

ross Parish Church said: 'We express our deep gratitude to Austin and Alicia for the part they played in our church life and send prayerful good wishes as they embark on the next phase of their faith journey.'

Rev Austin said of their time in Kinross:

'Alicia and I have been ever grateful for the warm welcome we received in these past 18 months. The love that we have been given by church members, and community members alike will surely bolster us as we step forth into the unknown once more. I will miss being your minister, but know that I am going where God is calling me.'

Love and Peace,
Austin and Alicia'

SALON 62 KINROSS

CHAIRS FOR RENT

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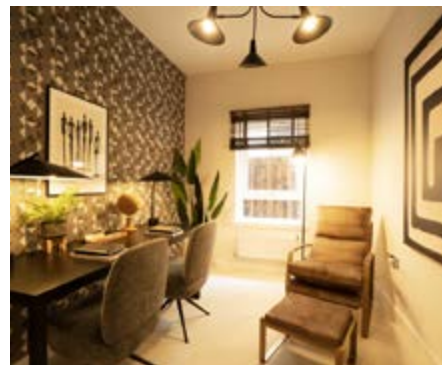
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Friday 0900-1230

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SLOWHAND COMES TO KINROSS

**The Green Hotel, Kinross
Friday 15 March 2024**

MIKE HALL AND ADAM HOWELLS from Classic Clapton, the world's No1 Eric Clapton tribute band, will perform an acoustic concert at The Green Hotel on 15 March.

This will be their 10th appearance in Kinross. The performance area to the rear of the hotel has separate access, and gigs are very intimate. The audience really feels like part of the experience as the acts don't 'disappear' after their performance. Instead they can often be found hanging around for a drink and a chat with fans! The capacity is limited and so fans are advised to book early.

Classic Clapton was formed in 1985 in Newcastle upon Tyne long before the term 'tribute band' was invented. In guitar/vocalist Mike Hall, the band possesses a front man who not only looks like Eric, he sings and plays guitar like him too! In 1999, Mike won a national look-alike competition held at Madam Tussauds, London. In 2001 the band were honoured to

perform at Eric Clapton's Fan Club Convention in London.

Tyne Tees Television made a programme about them, called 'Cover Their Tracks'. It was shown in 2000 and received rave reviews, leading to national recognition.

Since then, they performed throughout the UK including concerts at The Royal Festival Hall, London and a triumphant appearance on the Acoustic Stage at Glastonbury Festival in 2002.

Mike performed his last concert with the full Classic Clapton band in December 2023. He intends to continue with only acoustic shows in future. So this appearance in Kinross will be a rare opportunity to hear these songs performed.

For this unplugged concert, Mike & Adam will both sing and play acoustic guitar. Their show is based around Slowhand's multi-million selling album 'Eric Clapton/Unplugged'; Eric's best-selling album ever, winning numerous Grammys



and being responsible for his resurgence as a world superstar in the 1990s.

Classic Clapton unplugged will include many of the best tracks from Eric's unplugged album, as well as new acoustic versions of other Clapton Classics.

Mike and Adam will be on stage at approximately 9pm and will perform 2 x 60 minute sets. Tickets priced £24 are available from the venue. Tel: 01577 863467 and at www.mundellmusic.com and www.ticketweb.co.uk. For more information visit www.green-hotel.com.

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PRISON ART AT ST PAUL'S

AN EXHIBITION OF ARTWORK by Perthshire prisoners is being brought to Kinross by SSAFA Perth And Kinross – The Armed Forces Charity – with support from Arts@StPaul's.

They are excited to announce a new venture, working with veterans inside HM Prison, Perth, and the Open Prison at Castle Huntly. The exhibition shows a range of artwork they have created whilst in detention and this will be the first time it is seen outside in the community, hence the title **INSIDE OUT**.

SSAFA helps the families of all armed forces personnel and veterans. The support offered is non-judgemental and holistic. Last year SSAFA P&K trained volunteers carried out 88 cases, covering a wide range of issues. Their small team of volunteers do this work, and whereas their core business is face-to-face case-working in clients' homes, 'Prison In-Reach' is also very much part of their remit.

Last year in a conversation with Mr Hodge, Governor in Charge at Perth, it was felt that art as a therapy for prisoners would be very beneficial and help pass time in a productive and creative way.

A volume of work was produced and, when they realised the potential to display it outside of the prison, Branch Chairman Andy Middlemiss consulted Anne Taylor at Arts@StPaul's. This was her reaction:

'Andy presented us with a large pile of work on paper of different sizes, mostly painted in acrylics. I could see immediately that this was not the result of art lessons. Rather it was all about individuals creating something of their own. Some of the work is figurative, some naive in style, and other pieces purely abstract. I felt that much of it was a powerful expression of memories, dreams and emotions that have, in the act of creating them, likely given an emotional release to the maker. That is in part the therapeutic value of creating a piece of artwork, but to value this enough to put it on display in the commu-

nity should also be recognised, as a way in which we can encourage self-worth and self-esteem.'

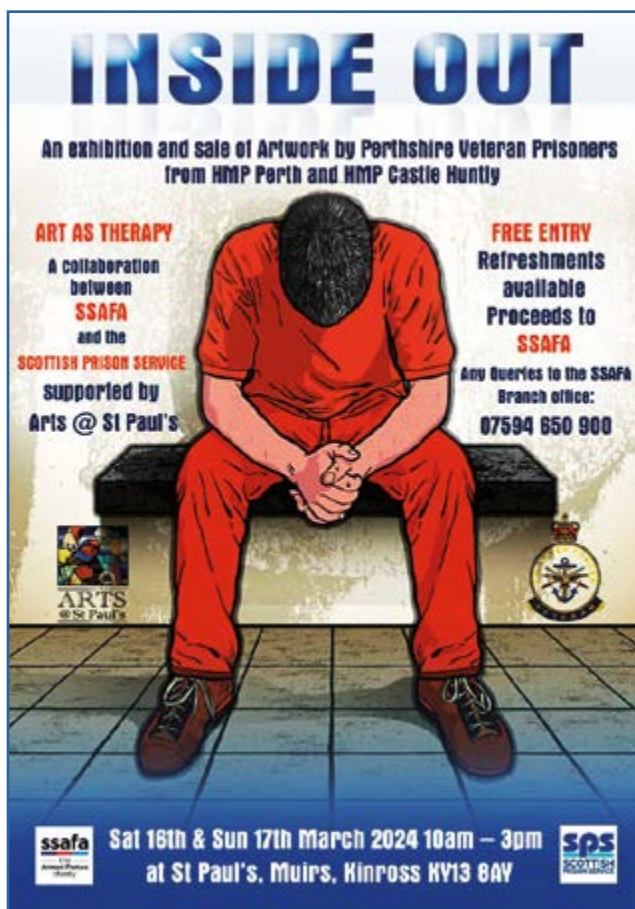
'How to display this work? It needed to be presented in a way in which we could hang it as an exhibition, but the cost of mounting and framing would be prohibitive. So on a visit to the Art Centre in Keltie I discussed this with owner Staig. From under the counter, he kindly produced a pile of surplus card mounts, and the solution was found.

'Andy took the collection of mounts to the prison at Perth, so the artists in question could learn how to present their work in a card mount. We hope to be able to adapt our hanging system at St Paul's to display a good body of the work and the rest can be viewed from a browser.'

We are also grateful to Colonel Johnny Clavering, locally, who secured a generous donation for this venture, from a trust he works with. Some of the artwork was previously on display at the concert held in Kinross Parish Church in November. However, this will be the first time it will be exhibited in total.

The upcoming exhibition work has several purposes and aims:

Firstly, it will put on public view the veterans' artwork, and we hope that this, in itself, will be of value.



It will also allow some families to view their relatives' works on display.

Finally, it will give opportunity for members of the public to view the artwork, and should they wish to purchase any, it will be for sale and very modestly priced. Proceeds from sales will enable SSAFA to continue its work with veterans and Forces families, where need is found.

Please go and visit the exhibition. Open on Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 March at St Paul's, Muirs, Kinross between 10am and 3pm each day. Entry is free. Kids and dogs are welcome!

LIGHT UP KINROSS QUIZ NIGHT

LIGHT UP KINROSS, the voluntary group who arrange the Christmas lights and switch-on ceremony in Kinross, are holding a quiz night at the Masonic Hall on Friday 22nd March, beginning at 7pm. There will be a prize for the winner.

2024 marks LUK's 25th anniversary and all quiz funds will go towards making this year's display one to remember.

Fundraising events will be held throughout the year and it is hoped that the public will show their support. A spokesperson for the committee said 'The switch-on is always a very popular event and we want this year's to be as special as possible. Every penny raised will be a great help.'

Further information on LUK's Facebook page.

ANDREW WINS AGAIN

IN THE CONFETTI AWARDS Gala Final in Glasgow, Milnathort celebrant Andrew D Scott was crowned Best Wedding Officiant, adding another accolade to his growing range of trophies.

Confetti celebrates excellence in the Scottish wedding industry. Nominees are voted for by customers before a group of industry experts conduct research and reviews on the shortlisted businesses.

Andrew stood out among an impressive lineup in a category which showcased exceptional dedication, commitment and creativity, cementing his status as best in business.

Andrew said, 'I'm just so delighted to win Best Wedding Officiant. It's such a fantastic industry to work in. I know I've done my job when I see my couples, their friends and family smile, laugh and cry – tears of joy, of course!'

ADVERTORIAL



BUILD YOUR OWN AT BALADO

THE INTEREST IN SELF-BUILDS has never been higher with more than half the population of the UK interested in building their own home. Self-building in Kinross-shire just got easier with nine individual self-build plots at West Copperbank, Balado, located on the edge of Balado, and accessed through the village via an existing private road.

Designed by local architect Scott Strachan Architecture, each plot has pre-approved planning permission for a mixture of bungalows and two-storey properties.

West Copperbank has planning permissions for nine homes with a mix of four-bedroom bungalows and four-bedroom family villas with integral double garage. The layout of each home has been thoughtfully designed to maximise on space and light, with large kitchen/dining rooms and separate sitting room, with the family villas also having a family room. As these are self build plots, the final interior layout and specification can be defined by each purchaser, allowing for personal needs and design touches throughout each home.

The development has been designed to be A-rated energy effi-

cient, featuring solar PV panels and an air source heat pump in each property. The exterior of each home has planning permission for a stunning natural stone and white rendered façade that blends seamlessly into the surroundings. Furthermore, each plot comes equipped with basic infrastructure, including access road and utilities are already in place.

For the plot buyers, there is also the option of construction project management through local business, Thomson Project Management. They can provide a range of services for self-builders, from budget costing to sourcing tradesmen/materials and hands-on site management. This can be for the whole build or specific build stages.

Balado is just a short drive from Kinross and is conveniently located near the M90 motorway, it provides easy access to Perth/Dundee to the north and Edinburgh to the south, making it an ideal location for commuters!

For further information on plots at West Copperbank in Balado, get in touch with Home Sales & Lettings on 0131 258 2708.

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WOMEN SIX NATIONS INTERNATIONAL RUGBY FIXTURES 2024

Round 1

Saturday 23 March	France		KO 14.15 Stade Marie-Marvingt Le Mans		Ireland
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 23 March	Wales		KO 16.45 Arms Park Cardiff		Scotland
BBC SPORT					
Sunday 24 March	Italy		KO 15.00 Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi Parma		England
BBC SPORT					

Round 2

Saturday 30 March	Scotland		KO 14.15 Hive Stadium Edinburgh		France
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 30 March	England		KO 16.45 Ashton Gate Bristol		Wales
BBC SPORT					
Sunday 31 March	Ireland		KO 15.00 RDS Arena Dublin		Italy
BBC SPORT					

Round 3

Saturday 13 April	Scotland		KO 14.15 Hive Stadium Edinburgh		England
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 13 April	Ireland		KO 16.45 Musgrave Park Cork		Wales
BBC SPORT					
Sunday 14 April	France		KO 12.30 Stade Jean Bouin Paris		Italy
BBC SPORT					

Round 4

Saturday 20 April	England		KO 14.15 Twickenham London		Ireland
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 20 April	Italy		KO 16.45 Stadio Sergio Lanfranchi Parma		Scotland
BBC SPORT					
Sunday 21 April	Wales		KO 15.15 Arms Park Cardiff		France
BBC SPORT					

Round 5

Saturday 27 April	Wales		KO 12.15 Arms Park Cardiff		Italy
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 27 April	Ireland		KO 14.30 Kingspan Stadium Belfast		Scotland
BBC SPORT					
Saturday 27 April	France		KO 16.45 Stade Chaban-Delmas Bordeaux		England
BBC SPORT					

All Times GMT

KINROSS-SHIRE WARM SPACES



Loch Leven Library

Tuesday and Thursday: 10am-7pm;
Wednesday and Friday: 10am-6pm;
Saturday: 10am-1pm.
Warm space, hot drinks.

Glenfarg Community Centre

Mondays: soup and roll 12.30-1.30pm.
Thursdays: coffee and cake 10am to 12pm.

Men's Shed

Mondays: 2pm-4.30pm, hot drinks and rolls with activities.
kdms.secretary@outlook.com

Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam

Every second Wednesday until March 2024, 12-4pm.
Booking required; please call 07990 662073
and speak to Margaret.

Orwell and Portmoak Church

Milnathort Warm welcome, last Friday of the month,
10am-12noon. Messy Church and 3-course meal

Portmoak Church

Speaker and afternoon tea. Call
01577 861200

Carnbo Village Hall

Monday evening talks, first
Monday of the month, starting
at 7.30pm, refreshments. Call
07917 319003.
Coffee and Chat, Wednesday
following the Monday talks,
10am-12noon.

Kinross Day Centre

Monday to Friday. Lunch and activities for older people,
including board games, quizzes, singing,
indoor curling and gentle exercise.

KYTHE

Study group (age 11-19), Monday, 3.45-5pm
Fitness group, Tuesday, 3.45-5pm
Art group, Wednesday 3.45-5pm
Music, Wednesday, 6pm-8pm (by appointment only)
Chill and bible chat; Thursday 3.45pm-5pm
Drop-in, Friday 1pm-4pm <https://kythe.org.uk/>

Millbridge Hall, Talking Donkey Café

Fri 11.30am-1.30pm. Open to all for a great hot lunch,
a cuppa and a blether.

Warm Packs: Broke Not Broken, Kinross Day Centre

Soup in a flask (flask can be brought back and re-filled at the
Centre, Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

Loch Leven Library

Warm items, e.g. blankets, hot water bottles and flasks.

Kinross Parish Church

Board Games and Bridge: Mondays 1.45 - 4pm



ENTERPRISE SUPPORT FROM GROWBIZ

GROWBIZ HAS HELPFUL online events lined up this month, designed to support rural business, social enterprises and the self employed.

On Wednesday 6 March, learning session attendees will discuss cashflow management and how it can help you manage your projected income and expenditure. On Thursday 14 March is a 'Marketing Mastery' event, looking at features and benefits to attract your ideal customer. Tuesday 19 March will see the second in a series of four learning sessions about being more sustainable, as part of a project funded by SSE Renewables.

Our online learning sessions are free, informal, interactive and open to anyone thinking about starting or growing a business or enterprise in rural Perth and Kinross.



You can also book an online drop-in slot on Thursday lunchtimes throughout March to speak with an Enterprise Facilitator. This is especially helpful if you have a specific question or perhaps like some feedback on an idea, new project or application.

If you can't attend the relevant event, a member of the GrowBiz team will be happy to provide 1-1 support. Email connect@growbiz.co.uk to request a chat. To see all of their services or book an event go to www.growbiz.co.uk.

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Enquiries to Peter Croft - Tel: 01383-223004

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WHAT'S ON?

March/April

Late night Gather & Gab
 March 1st 6pm - 10pm
 April 9th 6pm - 10pm
 Open late, small plates & BYOB

Mother's Day weekend
 March 9th - 10th
 Open 9am - 6pm Saturday & Sunday.
 Afternoon tea, breakfast, brunch & lunch.
 Brunch boxes w/ flowers.

Spring wee ones' Afternoon Tea
 Starting March 29th
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PORTMOAK 2024 – THE BALL STARTS ROLLING!

WHO DOESN'T LIKE a get together – especially when it is within walking distance, does not have to be booked six months in advance and often costs less than a tenner?

Last year Portmoak once again held a successful festival focused on providing a range of events which might bring the community together in a variety of ways. The Portmoak Festival has been running for about 20 years. It is not a fundraiser, but just tries to cover its costs by offering low key events organised as simply as possible. If you have even a little time to help organise an event or to help, please get in touch with the organisers – they'd love to meet you and get you involved for as much or as little time as you have available.

One less low key event last year was the Sarah Rankin cookery demonstration which was quickly sold out. Organisers say they 'never doubted that it would, and Sarah was generous with



her time in working with us to get the best set up'. Other community members pulled out the stops to offer hospitality to the audience with a glass of wine and some canapes to get things warmed up.

The audience enjoyed hearing Sarah tell her Masterchef story as well as show off and share a few recipe ideas, and hear how her business and book are coming along. It also allowed us to experiment with online booking, and to introduce a card payment system.'

Another new idea was a Climate Conversation Café with a focus on domestic energy and vehicles. Everyone knew somebody who was doing something and wanted to hear it from the consumers as opposed to politicians or salesmen. Several folk had got air source heat pumps, some had solar panels and were embarking on batteries and others were totally sold on their evs, and could share experiences of getting a charger installed in their driveway. Some were even able to share data on savings they had made since installing various new climate-friendly solutions. We had asked Joanna Lockhart, a local architect with a good knowledge of energy efficient building approaches and she was able to give her reflections on what she had heard from us



and made some sensible comments on ensuring we are strategic about changes.

'Women who Whittle' sessions in the Community Orchard were introduced by the local Portmoak Woodland Group, helping women to carve a small object from a piece of wood. There was Jazz in the Orchard and a great jazz night with Dave Batchelor and Friends in the hall. There were fabulous raffle prizes as ever, sourced by another very helpful and obviously persuasive member of the group.

It was delightful that two different groups ran the popular Pudding Club and Afternoon Teas as well as ever, that a wonderful exhibition of children's wildflower art was mounted in the hall, that the under 5s were able to join in their own festival event. In the background Kinnesswood in Bloom were busy making the village beautiful for the Britain in Bloom competition. And having the village looking good has always been an important backdrop to various festival events.

A spokesperson told the *Newsletter*, 'Many thanks to all who contributed in any way – you know who you all are, that local events need a whole load of different talents, and that many hands make light work. From planning to admin, from money to gathering raffle prizes, framing and hanging exhibits, making puddings, engaging extra servers, setting up PA systems, moving tables, cleaning the hall, printing tickets, selling tickets, coming along and spending a bit of money... Please volunteer to help this year – all ideas welcome for events with a difference!

We are starting to get going for 2024 with the first two weeks of June lined up. There have been a number of suggestions for events but we do need some fresh blood to organise these, or existing local groups to take one on. Please get in touch with Norma Smith tomandnorma.smith@gmail.com or Alison Robertson alineil@btinternet.com if you can help.'

TRAFFIC NOTICES

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF DRIVING, PARKING AND LOADING

B996 HIGH STREET, KINROSS

A temporary traffic regulation order is to be effective from the 15 March 2024 for a period of one day. The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading on the B996 High Street, Kinross from its junction with the B918 Station Road (311927, 702327) to its junction with Bell Gardens (311856, 702525), a distance of 242.09 metres or thereby. Pedestrian & emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

SOUND AND VISION IS BACK

THERE IS ANOTHER CHANCE for you to experience the collaboration between Composite Photographer Julie Close and Denise Crighton-Ward, leader of the Tullis Russell Community Band.

Julie studied photography and took a post as medical photographer with NHS Tayside, later becoming Head of Medical Illustration. As desktop publishing developed she became more involved with making teaching aids and medical presentations using the new computer software. It was at this point that she started to see its creative potential.

Since retirement Julie, of Scotlandwell, has developed a highly creative approach to photography by rearranging and juxtaposing her original images using computer software. The results may be a composite image in a frame which creates a 3D landscape you feel you could step into, or a dreamy mood-board. Or it might manifest itself in a quirky folded greetings card or be the illustrations for one of her little story books.

Then came animation and the manipulation of the original images into an evolving moving picture show. Then, one evening with her friend Denise, the two of them realised the potential of putting together beautifully crafted live music combined with the experience of entering the world of Julie's visual imagination.

Anne Taylor, Chair of Arts@St Paul's told us, 'Last year they created a well-re-



ceived performance at Orwell Church. It generated a great deal of interest, so we think it worth repeating... if you missed it last year, now is your chance to catch it.

'A small group of the Tullis Russell Community Band musicians played St Paul's last year in support of the carol service and their music filled the little church beautifully. This time the whole band will perform, accompanied by Julie's animated images. It will be a performance not to be missed!

The performance

is on Saturday 23 March in St Paul's, at 6.30pm – seating is limited so don't delay! Tickets go on sale at Baillies from the start of March, priced £6 for an approximately 45-minute performance. You may also leave a small donation to the St Paul's Restoration Fund, if you wish.

We look forward to meeting you there!

ADVERTORIAL

New Sweep and Health Check Package From Stove Stuff

OWNING A WOOD burning stove is not only a cosy addition to your home but also an efficient way to heat it. As Spring approaches, wood burning stoves may not be in use as often, due to warmer weather. However, what many people don't realise is that this is the ideal time to have your chimney swept and your wood burner checked over.

It is highly recommended by HETAS (Heating Equipment and Testing Approval Scheme) and stove manufacturers that your chimney is swept and your woodburning stove is maintained and serviced at least once a year, depending on usage, as this will help to ensure its optimal performance, safety, and the lifespan of your stove.

With this in mind, Stove Stuff have created a Sweep and Health Check package which includes:

- **Sweeping of the flue liner or chimney system.**
- **Checking the bricks, seals and glass for damage.**
- **Checking the rope seals.**
- **Testing the stove.**

As a HETAS registered stove installer, Stove Stuff understands the importance of keeping your stove in good working order helping your wood burning stove run to its maximum efficiency.

A Flue Clean starts at £62.50+vat with a FREE stove check thrown in.

For more information on Stove Stuff and their new 'Sweep and Health Check' package, log onto their website www.stovestuff.co.uk

FLYTIPPERS BEWARE...

PKC HAVE ANNOUNCED the renewal of their campaign against the dumping of illegal waste. Flytippers in the area have been warned they will be investigated and prosecuted.

The council investigates every report of fly-tipping they receive and prosecutes whenever possible. They also have the power to issue fixed penalty notices of £500 for smaller cases.

Fly-tipping is a serious environmental crime. It scars our landscapes and pollutes the environment, costing the council thousands of pounds every year. As part of last year's council budget, recurring funding of £90,000 a year was agreed to help improve the approach to tackling the problem.

The Safer Communities Team, Waste Team and wider Environment Service developed a plan to work closely together to improve the council's response, and a dedicated member of staff was recruited to prevent fly-tipping and pursue offenders.

This improved approach is already seeing positive results. Between 31 August and 31 December 2023:

- 74 reports of fly-tipping were received



- 51 cases were accepted for formal investigation (the rest could not be classified as fly-tipping after initial investigation).
- 15 fixed penalty tickets were issued.
- Two people were reported to Police Scotland for a total of nine incidents of fly-tipping.
- Two people were reported to the Procurator Fiscal.
- Four warning letters were issued.

- 74 fly-tipping sites were restored. Mobile cameras are being deployed at hot spots in a bid to catch criminals in the act.

Councillor Grant Laing said: 'Illegal rubbish dumpers should know that we will investigate them, gather evidence and prosecute whenever possible. Fly-tippers can end up with a £500 fine and, in serious cases, they will end up with a criminal record.'

'There is absolutely no excuse for fly-tipping.'

Climate Change and Sustainability Convener, Cllr Richard Watters, added: 'We are confident this approach to

fly-tipping will continue to produce positive results for communities, ensuring tippers will be deterred and the appearance of our beautiful countryside and towns will be maintained.

'I would encourage all members of staff to report all incidents of fly-tipping in their communities so we can investigate and hopefully bring the culprits to justice.'

Cases of fly-tipping can be reported for investigation by calling 01738 476476 or by emailing scf@pkc.gov.uk. You can also report fly-tipping online via the council website.

A BEAUTIFUL GOODBYE, A FINAL FLING

PICTURE THE SCENE: your friends and family gathered to celebrate your life, sharing heartfelt memories, expressing the profound impact you have had on their lives, perhaps conveying sentiments until then left unspoken.

Now, imagine a crucial difference – the recipient of this outpouring of love is not a memory but a living presence, able to attend and take part in the heartfelt celebration.



A living funeral is a unique and special opportunity to thank the people you love for their role in your life's journey: to express your love for them and for them to express theirs for you. An opportunity to experience the weight of your own presence in the lives of others. A living funeral is not necessarily held instead of a traditional funeral or memorial service, but as a joyous, meaningful celebration of life.

Elaine Cormack, local independent celebrant, invites you to explore the concept of a living funeral – a chance to express gratitude, share memories, and celebrate life's journey while still in the embrace of the living.

Origins

While the idea may seem modern, living funerals trace back to ancient civilizations. Today, as societal attitudes towards death evolve, living funerals have emerged as a poignant way to commemorate life's milestones and confront mortality with authenticity.

Who Might Consider Having a Living Funeral?

Living funerals aren't reserved for a specific age or circumstance; they're for anyone who values crafting their own narrative and

acknowledging their impact on the world. Whether facing illness or simply seeking to celebrate life, people from all walks of life can embrace the opportunity to share memories and leave behind a legacy of joy and connection.

Inclusivity

Elaine welcomes people of all backgrounds, faiths, and beliefs to embrace the transformative power of a living funeral. She ensures that every ceremony reflects the individual's values, fostering a sense of belonging and acceptance for all who gather to celebrate life's journey.

As Abraham Lincoln said, 'It's not the years in your life that count, it's the life in your years.'

With Elaine's guidance, your living funeral can be a celebration of a life well-lived, a legacy of love and laughter that will echo through the hearts of those you hold dear.

To learn more, book a call with Elaine today. Let's make your living funeral a beautiful goodbye, a final fling, and a celebration of life's infinite possibilities. Call Elaine on 07545 138436.

www.celebrantceremoniesbyelaine.co.uk



THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

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SARAH RANKIN COOKS



Toasted bread is as underestimated a food as you will find. It can transform even the most basic of ingredients from a snack into a meal.

Thinly sliced melba toasts take a shop bought pâté from pedestrian to elegant with its light and delicate

crunch. A thick cut sourdough rubbed with garlic and butter and pressed onto a griddle pan transports the humble sliced tomato. And soft boiled eggs are nothing without soldiers.

A good quality ham is essential for this one, sim-

mered with bay, peppercorns, thyme and celery. Use the fabulous stock and any leftover ham as the basis for a wonderful lentil soup. The wild garlic is already appearing round by me, but if you can't get hold of it, you can use chives instead.

HAM AND WILD GARLIC BECHAMEL TOASTS

You Will Need

(Serves 4)

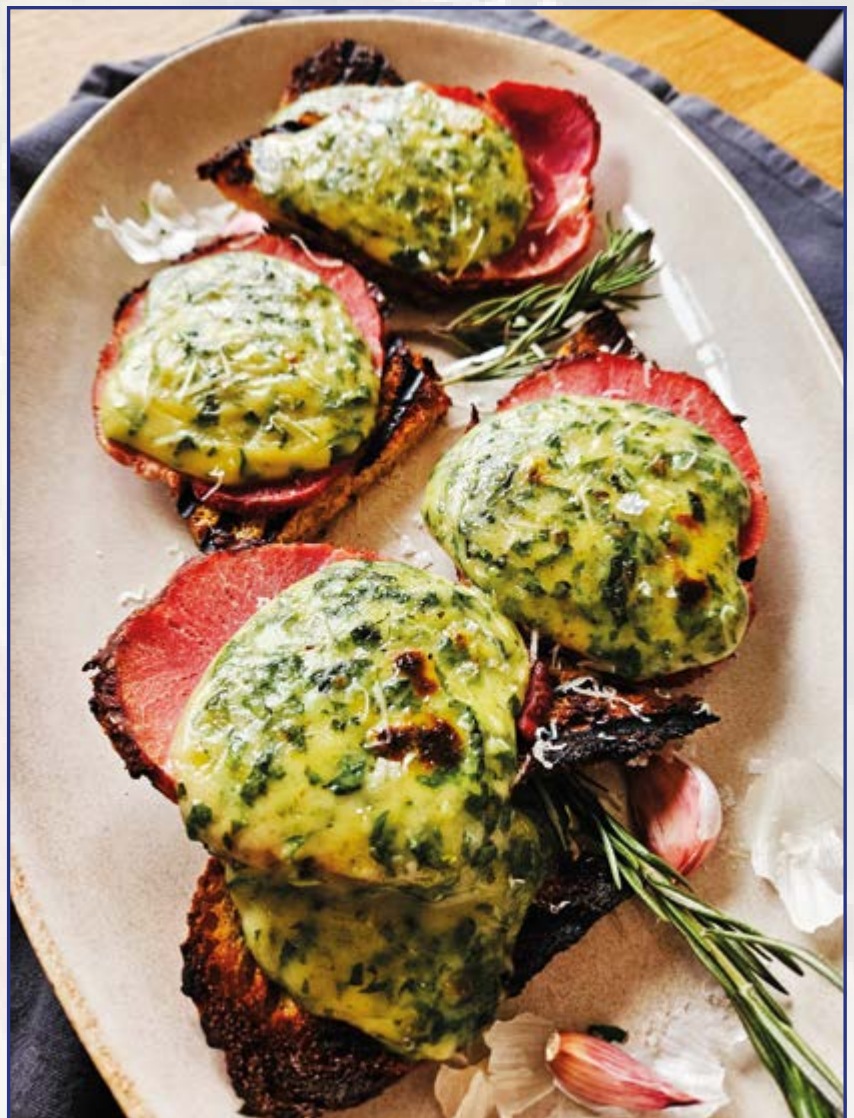
4 thick slices of cooked ham
4 thick slices of sourdough
1 garlic clove
50g butter
50g plain flour
150ml milk
Grating of nutmeg
Large handful of wild garlic, blanched and dried on kitchen paper (or bunch of chives prepared in the same way)
1tsp English mustard
3tbsp grated gruyere
Salt and white pepper

Peel the garlic clove and rub across both sides of the bread. Butter each side lightly and place on a griddle pan with a weight on top and grill until nicely toasted on both sides. You can pop them under the grill if you don't have griddle pan.

Meanwhile, melt the rest of the butter and add the flour to make a roux. Slowly add the milk to make a thick bechamel sauce. Add the Dijon mustard and season with salt and pepper and a grating of nutmeg. Roughly chop the wild garlic (or chives),

and add to the sauce, off the heat.

Place thick slice of ham on the toasted bread, and spoon over a generous amount of the sauce. Sprinkle over the gruyere and place under the grill until bubbling and browned. Eat immediately and enjoy!





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LOOK AT YOUR LABELS!



wearing and washing, polyester sheds microfibrils in large amounts. Results of research done by Plymouth University indicate that one person could release almost 300 million polyester microfibrils per year by washing their clothes, and more than 900 million to the air by simply wearing the garments. This is especially true of fleecy jackets, popular garments in our Scottish climate. Thirty-five per cent of the microplastics that enter the ocean come via synthetic textiles and as a result, over seventy per cent of fish caught at mid-ocean depths in the Northwest Atlantic have microplastic ingested. These are staggering statistics and don't include the environmental and social harms done by producing cheap fast fashion.

Often, we think that a problem is too big for individual action. But you can do something:

- Buy less: buy better;
- Buy second hand;
- Dispose of your old clothes responsibly;
- Avoid man-made fabrics such as polyester, polyamide and acrylics;
- Learn how to take care of your textiles, including mending.

WE ALL KNOW THAT buying food that is produced locally is better for the environment than food that is flown all over the world. But what do you know about the carbon footprint of your clothes?

Did you know that the fashion industry (clothes, no other textiles) produces between 8 and 10% of all global emissions? This is more than the aviation industry and the shipping industry combined. The clothes on our back come with a very high hidden price tag, even though you can buy a summer dress for under a tenner.

Out of the 3.1kg of textile waste each Briton produces every year, only 0.3kg are recycled and 0.4 kg are reused. The rest goes into landfill. Textiles are said to be the world's second biggest polluting industry, responsible for 92 million tonnes of waste annually. Not all textiles are breaking down in the environment and herein lies a problem.

On a very simple level, we can divide textile fibres in 'natural' fibres and 'man-made' fibres. Examples of natural fibres are cotton, linen, hemp (plant-based) and wool, alpaca fleece, silk and others (animal based).

Man-made fibres (viscose, rayon, Tencel, acrylic, polyester) are made in a factory. The raw materials for these fibres are either from the natural world (viscose is made of wood, so is Tencel) or from oil, such as polyester, polyamide, nylon and acrylic.

The official name of polyester is PET – the same material plastic bottles are made of. Polyester is cheap, easy to wash, with a good drape, light and strong and this makes it desirable for the fashion industry. Often blended with other materials, it is now so ubiquitous that the proportion of synthetic fibres in our garments has doubled since 2000, rising to 60% in 2019.

The difficulty with clothing ourselves in plastic is not just what happens when the garment is made or discarded. Just by

Come to the Repair Café we hope to start later this year to learn to take care of your clothes!

Trudy Duffy-Wigman



ANDREW'S CYCLING PHOTOGRAPHY IS A REAL AWARD WINNER



TO BE NOMINATED FOR the Mark Gunter Awards would be a career highlight for some photographers, but at just 19 years old Andrew Leinster didn't know the awards existed when he was nominated for one.

Andrew started his journey into photography and design at Kinross High School, with support from the Technologies department, who he says helped him enormously.

Andrew's bedroom walls are covered in photos from Grand Tour races, big road scenes, and 'a lot of mountain bike stuff'. After an injury that stopped him racing back in 2020, he borrowed his Dad's camera and began uploading pictures of his friends messing about on their bikes to Instagram.

Andrew told the *Newsletter*, 'In 2020 I was injured and I couldn't ride for a while. I was also falling a bit out of love with racing,

having done it for so many years, and I just needed something new.

"I borrowed my Dad's camera and went out with a group of friends on the bike, and just captured what we were doing and put it on Instagram. I couldn't ride much, so I just took pictures of them doing jumps and digging trails. My Grandad is a professional cycling photographer as well, so he's a bit of an inspiration to me.'

Then Andrew started going to cycling events. When he needed to borrow a laptop charger, Grant Murdoch from the SDA invited him into the SDA cabin and Andrew, 'just sat in the corner, aged 17 and quite intimidated, editing pictures.'

His photos didn't go unnoticed and after a recommendation from Grant, Scottish Cycling asked Andrew to take photos at the Scottish Championships.

'That was my very first mountain bike work. I was super excited and spent all week researching what I needed to do, packing my bags etc. I remember not having a camera bag at the time, so I just emptied all my maths homework out of my rucksack, wrapped my cameras in hats and chucked them in!

'Since then I've shot every single SDA race I've been able to get to, plus a heap of events for Scottish Cycling, and I guess it was all off the back of starting that Instagram page!'

Perhaps the simple message here is that life is all about giving new things a go! Andrew told the *Newsletter*, 'Seeing how other photographers have done and trying to do that myself has been what I've been trying to work out, so to be listed alongside them for this award is really cool! There are some people who I hadn't heard of, but I now follow them and can take inspiration from them too.'

Andrew is currently studying product design at Dundee University. But after that? He says, 'After uni it's definitely something I'd like to consider doing, either full-time or alongside another role. But it's definitely something I want to pursue!'



Above: Andrew's award-nominated photo



NO LEAP IN THE DARK!

An update to the Kinross-shire Civic Trust Raingardens project

BACKGROUND

Kinross-shire Civic Trust (KCT) has embarked on its third biodiversity project in three years. The primary aim this year is to improve wetlands in Kinross to promote an increase in the amphibian population. There has been a significant drop in amphibians in the UK. There has been, for example, a 68% decline in common toad populations in the UK over the past 30 years. One of the biggest factors contributing to declines in Scotland's native amphibian and reptile populations is habitat loss. Thanks to the Communities Nature Fund from Perth and Kinross Council, KCT has been able to move forward with this project to reverse, in a limited localised way, habitat loss in the Kinross-shire area.

The main thrust is to further develop the three wetlands areas. These are:

- **Church View Wetland:** Enclosed by a fence and now with a bench, this wetland was becoming clogged up as bullrushes had overtaken too much of the free water.
- **Flood Plain:** Last year a pond fed from groundwater was created, and some wetland plants introduced. Also, a bench was made overlooking the area. Already, the pond has been populated by a wide variety of species of flora and fauna but it needs further development.
- **Clash Burn Wetland:** The free water here, like the Church View Wetland, needed de-clogging.

The wetlands are in the Junction Road area of Kinross.



Free water at Church View Wetland

PROGRESS TO DATE

Church View Wetland

The free running area of water has been greatly increased by the removal of the invasive bullrushes. The effects of creating more open water is to encourage different flora to inhabit the area as well as amphibians and other fauna.



Enlarged pool in the flood plain



The new smaller ground water fed pond

Flood Plain

The pond created last year has been widened considerably and in a safe way with graded sloping down to the groundwater that feeds the pond. In the spring the area will be planted with wetland plug plants and, over time, it is confidently anticipated that there will be an increase in the amphibian population. Where species start to thrive, they can have positive effects on other species. A second smaller pond has also been created close to the larger pond created last year. It also is fed from the groundwater.

An additional investment to help our amphibian neighbours is in the form of ladders in the ten drains along the edge of the road adjacent to the flood plain. Amphibians can become victims when rainwater washes them down drains. The amphibian



ladders provide a way to make their way out and return to their new habitats.



Free water in the Clash Burn Wetland

Clash Burn Wetland

Here, the free water has also been de-clogged and the burn now flows in the right direction. Two groundwater-fed ponds have been created.

Concluding this year's Wetlands projects

There will be a planting day in the flood plain in the spring. This will be around the enlarged pond and the newly created smaller pond – the new habitats for the amphibians. It is crucial that these habitats meet the needs of amphibians in terms of water quality, which is provided by the groundwater, and the vegetation and surrounding land area to support their breeding, feeding and shelter requirements. With advice and guidance from Danièle Muir of Tayside Amphibian & Reptile Group, and overall design input from Brian D'Arcy, this year's project will move to its final stage during the spring. The plants being introduced will be totally native and will also seek to encourage other fauna, including pollinators.

One fundamental point of the wetlands/flood plain area is that it acts as a sink for excess rainwater to help prevent flooding to our roads and buildings. Developing the wetlands further will improve biodiversity with environmental benefits as a whole increased.

The KCT would welcome support from people interested in the environment as this and other projects are taken forward.

Andrew Flinn, Kinross-shire Civic Trust



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LOGISTICS IN THE 1944 NORMANDY CAMPAIGN



Amateurs study tactics. Professionals study logistics.

Field Marshal Rommel

NUMBERS

IN THE EARLY HOURS of 6 June 1944, an armada of 5,333 Allied ships and landing craft, manned by 150,000 seamen, transported 130,000 men and 20,000 vehicles (including tanks) across the Channel, to open up a decisive breach in the Atlantic Wall, which the Germans were manning and defending with their lives.

LOGISTICALLY, HOW ON EARTH WAS THAT DONE?

LOGISTICS PLAYED A KEY role in the success of Operation Overlord, the Allied invasion of France in June 1944. The objective of the campaign was to secure a foothold on the mainland of Europe for further operations. The Allies had to land sufficient forces to overcome the initial opposition, and then build them up faster than the Germans could respond. Planning for this operation had begun in 1942. The Anglo-Canadian force, the 21st Army Group, consisted of the British Second Army and Canadian First Army. Between them, they had six armoured divisions (including the Polish 1st Armoured Division), ten infantry divisions, two airborne divisions, nine independent armoured brigades and two commando brigades. Logistical units included six supply unit headquarters, 25 Base Supply Depots, 83 Detail Issue Depots, 25 field bakeries, 14 field butcheries and 18 port detachments. The army group was supported over the beaches, and through the Mulberry artificial ports, specially constructed for the purpose.



All these factors below, and more, had to be planned for in detail and from a long way out from D day 1944...

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Supply Systems*

Medical / Recovery / Rail / Ports

Postal / Signals / Intelligence / Deception

Homefront

With 36 divisions eventually on the continent, the Allies needed 20,000 tons of food, fuel, ammunition, and equipment every day, to be crossed over the Channel on shipping, and up a beach head, until Cherbourg was re-built, and Antwerp seized – much, much later.

The build-up to D-Day was undertaken by Operation Bolero, a

logistical effort of unprecedented magnitude. Sailing on now-secure sea routes, the U.S. Navy and merchant marine took 1,200,000 troops to Britain, where hundreds of camps and bases were established, and supplied with everything, from chewing gum to bombers. Britain's existing infrastructure was inadequate to support the massive effort, so a thousand locomotives, and 20,000 freight cars were shipped from the United States, plus material for hundreds of miles of additional rail lines. Transatlantic shipments increased to the point that some 1,900,000 tons of supplies reached Britain in May 1944 alone, showing the scale of logistics.

The manpower required to meet the needs was enormous. Less than one-quarter of the Allied troops in France were in combat units, and only about 20 percent served as infantrymen. A four- or five-to-one 'tail to tooth' ratio was not unusual in other theatres of war, either. In mechanized warfare, fuel and oil were essential to success, and Allied logisticians solved the problem of adequate petroleum supply. They designed and built the Pipeline under the Ocean (PLUTO) to pump the lifeblood of tanks, trucks, and all other motor vehicles directly to Normandy.



Other innovative projects involved prefabricated piers called Mulberries and block ships. The latter were 28 merchant vessels, intentionally sunk to provide breakwaters for artificial piers. Most were old, worn-out vessels dating from as early as 1919, though a few were 1943 Liberty ships. In all, 326 cargo ships were involved, including two hundred American vessels.

In the 27 days following 6 June, the Allies poured massive amounts of men and material into Normandy. As of 2 July, a million troops, representing 25 divisions (thirteen American, eleven British, and one Canadian) had come ashore. They were supported by 566,648 tons of supplies and 171,532 vehicles. These are mind boggling numbers, you will agree.

If you want to find out more about this enormous and fascinating subject, please to come to a talk I'll be giving in Loch Leven Library on Wednesday 27 March at 6pm. And on the actual 80th anniversary of D-Day – 6 June – I'll talk about what happened on that historic day too at 6pm. 6/6 @ 6!

Andy Middlemiss BEM DL

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Destination 1848 at Loch Leven's Larder



As the Loch Leven's Larder success story continues, we find out about the latest exciting development at Channel Farm...

WE MET UP WITH the brand new 1848 Interior Store's manager, Teresa Geissler.

Teresa explained the purpose built store's ethos; 'We wanted to create a brand new space that offers something different, from locally sourced gifts to high end Scandinavian furniture and lighting at the leading edge of style.' Teresa went on to detail just how much work and vision director Emma Niven has put into showcasing products from some of the leading local, UK and European manufacturers. She further told us more about the team at 1848; 'My colleague Frankie has a flair for visual merchandising and has worked in high profile stores, including Harvey Nichols in Edinburgh.' We have to agree the style, sophistication and ambience in 1848, aligned with the very warm welcome customers can expect makes the store a feast for your senses – it's simply stunning.



By way of background 1848 is the year when the original farmhouse adjacent to the new building was completed, and the mustard colour used so effectively throughout the store comes from the 'Mustard Shed' which was originally on the new shop's site.

Things don't stand still at 1848. The stock is very fast moving, always in front of the latest trends and all from pre-eminent furniture, lighting, interior accessories and cookware suppliers with sustainable business methods operating to the very highest of ethical standards.

With Teresa's professional photography background there's always something stimulating to see on 1848's Instagram. Have a look for yourself; [Instagram1848_at_the_larder](#)

In closing, Teresa summed up by saying; 'We wanted to create something unique at 1848 to continue the rich heritage of Loch Leven's Larder. Our customers are guaranteed a great browsing experience and a very high quality offering from a range where Scandinavian meets Scottish. There will always be something new to complement the highest standards of service that customers from near and far have come to expect.'

So don't leave it too long to pop out and see Teresa and her team. We loved our visit there and we're certain you will too. The *Newsletter* wishes 1848 every future success.



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 (Nahum Chapter 1 verse 7)

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LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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 Baltree 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 in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights. Please contact David Colliar, email davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk or Bill Freeman, billywhizkid78@gmail.com.

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, or contact Shonagh on 07864 625069/shonagh.ferguson@aberlour.org.uk.

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. They'd love for you to join them. If you'd like to learn more please 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 and we are also looking for a treasurer. You can still contact me for the foreseeable future by email at 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. We have several volunteering roles available. Contact Daryl on 01577830346 or email kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinross in Bloom

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

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 Richard Watters



I HAVE WRITTEN to the Energy Consent Unit at the Scottish Government in relation to the three wind farm proposals in the Ochil Hills. The proposals concern Craighead and the adjacent Brunt Hill wind farms above Carnbo, as well as Windburn further to the west between Alva and Blackford. There is a need for the Energy Consent Unit to consider all three applications in line with the latest Scottish planning framework (NPF4), where Policy 11 states the need to look at the 'cumulative' impact of wind farm proposals. I requested that all three applications be determined within the same system, looking at the overall impact of all the proposals. Currently, Brunt Hill and Windburn will go through the Energy Consent Unit, while Craighead will be determined through the Perth and Kinross Planning system due to its size being less than the threshold of 50 MW, which automatically sends the application to the Energy Consent Unit.

At the February meeting of the Climate Change and Sustainability committee, the 'Fleet Decarbonisation Update' report for Perth and Kinross Council was approved. This included



the recommendation to move the Council's refuse collection lorries from diesel to HVO (Hydrotreated Vegetable Oil). Initially, there will be a three-month trial period to ensure there are no unforeseen consequences in switching over, especially due to the extensive and rural geography of Perth and Kinross. Making the change to using HVO as a fuel is relatively straightforward, with no need for any vehicle conversions. Once the diesel tank is empty, it is filled with HVO fuel and is 'ready to go'. The benefit of moving to HVO is the reduction in the fleet's carbon footprint, leading to a saving of 725 tonnes of CO2 per year. This provides an immediate and considerable step forward in reducing the Council's carbon footprint generated by its larger fleet vehicles. This is a transitional move, as the council will still be looking at the potential of using other green fuels, such as hydrogen.

The Update also instructed officers to prepare to move all our lighter fleet vehicles under 3.5 tonnes to electric, starting in 2025. These recommendations will significantly advance the decarbonisation of the fleet overall with a pragmatic and measured approach, leading to around a 50% reduction in our fleet's CO2 emissions.

At the latest Kinross-shire committee, there was unanimous approval for the sustainability consultants and engineers, ARUB, to produce a Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Active Travel masterplan. The expectation is that a draft will come before the committee for approval at the next meeting on 16th May. This will help

put the area in a good position to make use of the substantial Transport Scotland money earmarked for Active Travel, which will be administered through the council. Thanks to Tactran (Regional Transport Partnership) for agreeing to fund this and to Council Officers for making this happen within such a short timescale.

The report will initially look at some 'quick win' routes that can help improve the path network in the area. Over time, as we see the masterplan materialise on the ground, we should start to see an extensive network connecting settlements within the area, as well as joining with similar routes in Fife and Clackmannanshire. There is also the potential to have a route connect Glenfarg to the Bridge of Earn to Newburgh Active Path, currently being built by the Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust, utilising the two historic rail tunnels north of Glenfarg, a potential route that has a lot of local support.

Councillor Richard Watters

Councillor Neil Freshwater



Southbound VAS sign at Gairney Bank.

At the time of reading, the missing vehicle activated sign (VAS) should hopefully be part (if not fully) installed on the B996, for traffic heading from Kinross towards Kelty at Gairney Bank. I have been campaigning for this missing sign for some time after the three other signs appeared at Gairney Bank & Bridge. The reason for the delay was due to their being challenges with utilities pipes under the road and presumably making sure that the new sign did not interfere with this. Roads officers have advised that installation should be fairly quick as it is solar powered and does not need wired into the mains. I have also again asked officers to look for the missing speed limit sign which has been absent from the same location, with a view to being reinstated.

Speedwatch equipment purchased

It is great to see that momentum is gathering for the community speedwatch. This was operating some years ago in Fossoway but the equipment was lost with the merger of Scotland's police forces. Therefore it was great to see the new equipment on show at Milnathort & Orwell Community Council (MOCC) this month which was bought with public grant funding. MOCC is now taking the lead for the scheme for the whole of Kinross-shire and a good number of people are signed up and have taken the training. It's taken quite a bit of campaigning to get the critical mass of volunteers, over the past 18 months so it is good to see it starting.

Portmoak paths narrowing

A resident attending Portmoak CC this month raised the problem of the paths narrowing due to foliage debris build-up. This has been a growing problem for some time. I have written to roads officers to see if that could be looked at with a view to restoring the usable width of the path. Given that this is something which I don't think there is done annually I hope that action can be taken soon. It was also reported that there are overgrowing hawthorn bushes by the Bishopshire golf course impinging on the path. It is not clear who is responsible for this but I have made some enquiries.

Roads disruption in Kinross and Milnathort

Many readers will be aware of the delays that have occurred due to roadworks in Kinross and Milnathort as part of the Virgin Media fibre broadband upgrades. All ward councillors have received complaints about this and so a meeting was held with Virgin this week to discuss the situation. It seems that there was some miscommunication about the plans leading to confusion. Hopefully the works shall be finished in the next few weeks and the installations will mean increased choice of fibre broadband



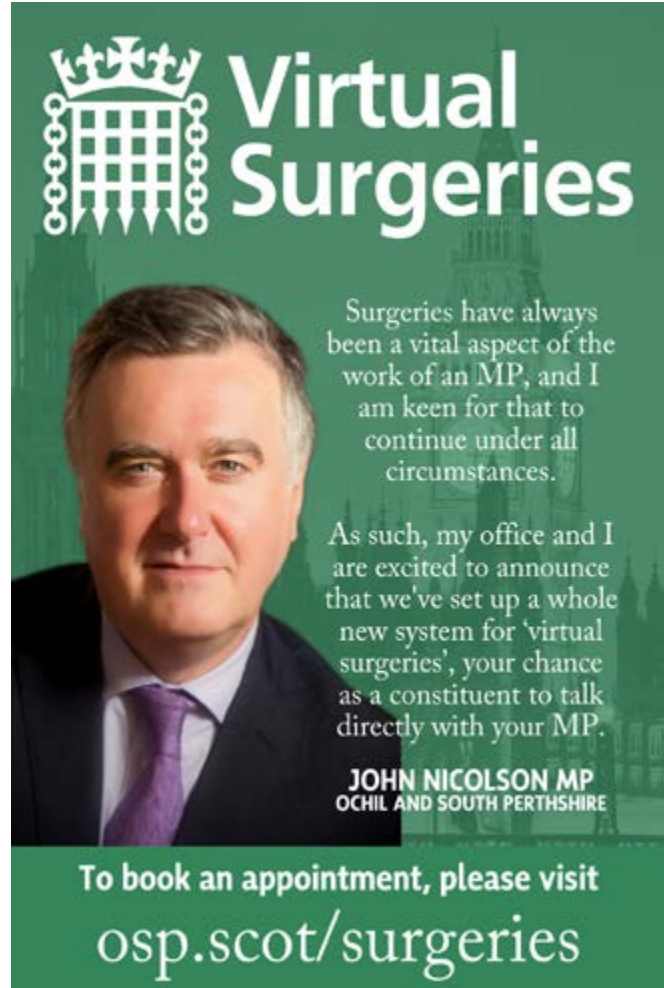
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options available. Questions have also been raised about whether or not further operators might come along and want to install more equipment in the same area leading to future disruption. Whilst it is not 100% certain, it is hoped that the combination of the Openreach and Virgin infrastructure would be sufficient for most providers to offer a good competitive services for the foreseeable future.

Cleish Bus Service

A fellow resident of Cleish has been in touch having carried out a useful survey of local residents asking about their desire for a bus stop/service in the area. Cleish is one of the few villages in Kinross-shire that has no bus service (other than school bus services). If memory serves me correctly, there was a bus service in the past which was replaced by the subsidised taxi services (DRT). Unfortunately, we now have very limited taxi options in Kinross-shire which limits both DRT and wider taxi use. Cleish also presents a challenge in that it is essentially an 'island', as its three roads (Cleish Hill, B9097 and Hardiston road) do not pass through any other villages, and are not interconnected, so critical mass is a challenge, with the nearest bus stops being Hatchbank or Balado. That said, I think we need to look at how the public transport service options might be improved.

Councillor Neil Freshwater

Councillor Willie Robertson



Road Safety Issues:

There has been progress on a number of road safety requests.

Reduced Speed Limits to 40mph have been introduced on the A911 between Scotlandwell and Auchmuir Bridge.

Before the end of March new 40mph buffer strips should be installed at Blairingone, Crook of Devon and Drum.

New 'Give Way' signs have (eventually) been erected at the Burns Begg Street/High Street junction in Kinross.

The long awaited bollard between Lathro Lane and Dalwhammie Street (to stop people from driving through here) should be installed in the next four weeks.

The double yellow lines requested for outside The Sycamores on the Muirs are in the programme for the new financial year.

Staff shortages in the Council's Road Safety Team has caused delays in the delivery of many of the road safety requests.

Speedwatch

The Kinross-shire Speedwatch initiative is very close to going live. It is being co-ordinated by Milnathort & Orwell Community Council. We were shown the speed gun that will be used at their February meeting. If you are concerned about speeding in your area and would like to join the speedwatch team please let me know and I will pass your details on.

Citizens Advice Bureau

The latest report from the Perth & Kinross Citizens Advice Bureau on enquiries from Kinross-shire shows a big increase in requests for debt advice. The figures are as follows as a percentage of total issues;

Benefit enquiries	40%	Previously	17%
Debt enquiries	17%	Previously	27%
Utilities support	7%	Previously	18%
Charitable enquiries	7%	Previously	8%
Employment enquiries	6%	Previously	5%

The total number of people contacting the Perth & Kinross CAB in the last quarter of 2023 was 6710. 48% of those were contacting the CAB for the first time.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Jim Fairlie, MSP



SINCE I LAST wrote in the *Kinross Newsletter* a number of things have changed. The days have been getting longer, but the less said about the weather, the better. On a personal level, I have been appointed by the First Minister as Minister for Agriculture and Connectivity. I am honoured to have been chosen by the First Minister to take on this role and I am well aware of the challenges ahead. Whilst my new role will take up a considerable amount of my time, that won't prevent me from getting out and about across Perth and Kinross to undertake my duties as your MSP. My team in Perth will still be available to progress casework and I still look forward to attending events across Kinross-shire.


My in-tray includes the Wildlife Management and Muirburn (Scotland) Bill. This is a result of the Werrity report that my predecessor, Roseanna Cunningham as environment Minister, instigated to tackle raptor persecution. I have been heavily involved in scrutinising the Bill in my previous role on the Rural Affairs and Islands Committee in the Scottish Parliament. Its purpose is designed to wipe out the scourge of raptor persecution and enhance grouse moor management in a sustainable way, which protects the environment, wildlife and the livelihoods of the folk who live and work in our rural communities. We must not forget that in this time of changing climate and much greater prevalence of wildfire because of climate change, it is the keepers and shepherds on these estates who are in fact the unsung heroes and standing armies that protect our hills glens and indeed properties in the event of wildfires that we witnessed all too many of last year. Unfortunately, we can expect more of these events, so we must make sure we have a resilient community able to tackle it when the time arises that we need them.

Going forward, I will also be involved in steering the Agriculture and Rural Communities (Scotland) Bill through Holyrood. This is a vital piece of legislation which will provide vital ongoing financial support to our rural communities, including farming, forestry, and rural development support.

Although I was born and raised a Letham boy, I have been passionate about rural affairs from a very young age. I then made my career in the rural hills of Perthshire before being elected to represent this area in our national Parliament. I look forward using this experience in my new role and I look forward to working with all interested stakeholders going forward. That being said, I am still delighted to attend events and carry out my role as an MSP to serve the residents of Perthshire South and Kinross-shire.

As always, if you need to contact me, please email Jim.Fairlie.MSP@Parliament.Scot, call 01738 620540 or write to me at 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 OPE.

Jim Fairlie, MSP



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Politicians

John Nicolson, MP

I'VE BEEN VISITING Palestine and Israel for decades. As a journalist I interviewed many of the big players – Benjamin Netanyahu, Yasser Arafat, and memorably the great Edward Said, amongst many others.



My first visit was during the first Gulf War. Saddam Hussein was firing his crude 'scud' rockets towards Israel. He was at the height of his powers but his missile strength was shown to be far from mighty. The Western Allies were set to drive him from Kuwait and inflict on him his first ignominious defeat.

Would this be the moment, many asked, for the Palestinians to be offered a comprehensive peace which would offer them a state with clear and agreed borders? Israel would have to offer concessions – a withdrawal from occupied Palestinian land and some right of return for refugees. But surely everyone could see that peace was the prize?

I made a documentary for the BBC exploring the options. I warned that should Israel and its Western allies not seize the moment, the Palestinians might be forced into the arms of an extremist – but then obscure – group called Hamas.

I think we all know how events played out.

It has always struck me how much Israelis and Palestinians have in common. Victims of dispossession. Warm and hospitable. And passionate about education as a means of self improvement. Both sides have their extremists including religious extremists. But they are Mediterranean peoples. Islam in Palestine isn't remotely comparable with the Saudi model. The Palestinians have had senior female leaders like Hanan Ashrawi. And as anyone who meets leaders of Palestinian delegations around the world will know, their stance is moderate and internationalist.

How then to find words for the tragedy which has engulfed the Palestine people today? As I write Israeli bombs have killed 29,000 people. 9,000 children have died. The death toll per head of population is greater than any conflict since the Second World War. Gaza lies in ruins. But the world looks on paralysed.

I vividly recall Palestinians in refugee camps clutching the keys to houses their families were forced to flee in what is now Israel, when advancing Jewish troops spread terror. Palestine was then a 'British mandate'. And Palestinians would, along with their old fashioned keys, show me their house deeds guaranteed by the United Kingdom and stamped with the mark of the crown.

We owe them. At the very least we owe them our voices raised in outrage at the collective punishment they are now enduring in defiance of international law. We owe them... And that is why I joined my SNP colleagues in the Westminster Parliament demanding an immediate ceasefire. I hope we can find common voice to condemn the collective punishment of innocent civilians.

We know we can't force Israel to stop bombing. But we can apply pressure. Silence is tacit acceptance of Israel's actions.

I can't, in good conscience, remain silent. Embarrassed silence will not save lives. It's time for our voices to be heard loudly and unambiguously. Enough bombing. Enough slaughter..

John Nicolson, MP

Liz Smith, MSP

MY EMAIL INBOX was full of Mid Scotland and Fife residents who were furious at Perth and Kinross Council's proposed plan to axe curling and swimming from their long-term plans. The plan would mean merging Bell's Sports Centre, the Dewar Centre and Perth Leisure Pool, with the aim being to build a new facility in the city. However, Perth and Kinross Council's new plan did not include a swimming pool, ice rink or indoor bowls rink.



Some of Scotland's senior Olympians, such as Eve Muirhead, rightly expressed concern about this as did many parents of youngsters using the facilities. Several of them wrote to me as Convener of the Cross Party Group on Sport to express their dismay.


In advance of the meeting among councillors on the issue, Murdo Fraser and I sent a joint letter and I am pleased to report that following pressure from ourselves and the public, the proposal was overturned, and a statement was released saying that the council would now include an ice rink, as per our calls. Vincent Bryson, head of Scottish Curling, made an inspiring presentation to councillors and I know he, too, is delighted at the change of plan.

Sports like curling and swimming are vital in terms of encouraging fitness, reducing barriers and fostering a sense of community. I believe that the council were making a huge mistake with this move, with disappointment and shock echoed by many residents across the region and beyond. It was even more baffling that this proposal was being considered after the extraordinary success Scotland has had in Curling recently on the world stage. The part this facility has played in generating this success cannot be overstated and Perthshire Olympian Eve Muirhead was right to criticise the move. The Dewars Centre is the heart of curling in Scotland, which also happens to be the historic home of the sport.

At the end of January, I was delighted to visit Dewars alongside Murdo Fraser and Councillor John Duff. The ice-rink was well attended by people of all generations and absolutely buzzing with enthusiasm. This is exactly why we need Dewars.

Liz Smith, MSP

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NEWS FROM ETHIOPIA

WINNING WAYS

by Jo Middlemiss

I AM WRITING THIS from the Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP) in the Buccama Health Centre, in deeply rural Southern Ethiopia. Every year is a little different but this year the world seems particularly disturbed by war, disasters, famines and political upsets.

Usually when we come here, we spend a day in the capital Addis Ababa after the long flights out, and then set off for the Health Centre by road. This year there were very real tribal disturbances, and for about three nervous days, we were advised not to travel – bands of armed rebels were stopping vehicles at roadblocks they had set up, and setting fire to them. Thankfully, things calmed down, and we did in fact set off by road down a safer route. We arrived here in one piece with all our bags and baggage of donated equipment and clothes intact. Phew!

As we arrived on a Saturday, when the world is quieter, our welcome was a little mute, which was a good thing for our newest fellow traveller and volunteer helper, my fabulous sister-in-law Carol. Her eyes have been out on organ stops since she got here, at all the novel sights, scenes and extremes.

There is a surplus of bananas this year, and we could live on bananas alone. Carol offered to make banana bread, and that became a very popular thing. While she was winging it without scales, no recipe and a local oven with one setting – hot – the call came in to attend a circumcision of a local boy aged 10. As a new visitor, she was given pride of place as honorary Godmother to observe the procedure. The brave little patient said not a word! All the male relatives come to witness the ceremony and ride away with the child on motorbikes making an enormous and noisy fuss.

That done, we were sitting down to a quiet lunch when an emergency pregnancy arrived at our clinic. The girl was 26 weeks pregnant with pre-eclampsia and had to go immediately to hospital. Our intrepid Sister Haimanot set off with the girl, the midwife, her mother and us in the ambulance – sirens blaring.

During our first week we were delighted to find the work going on apace:

- *The new maternity wing which we commissioned last year is almost complete.*
- *The Podoconiosis Unit is well used, three times a week, with 500 people per week attending for foot washing, education and treatment if needed. (Podoconiosis is known as a Rare Neglected Tropical Disease of the feet and legs, occurring in very particular regions of the world among subsistence farmers.)*
- *Our prolapse mothers are also being incredibly well looked after. Uterine Prolapse occurs with great frequency here, but help is at hand. Whenever a woman turns up with the problem, she gets treated straight away, either with a pessary, or the offer of surgery. Although you might consider Ethiopia Third World, in this instance there is no waiting list for a pessary, and a maximum of three*



weeks for surgical repair. That is quite amazing when you consider waiting lists for the same condition in Scotland!

Apart from these successes, the need is still huge, and fairly overwhelming. The cost of living is soaring; EMP pays the salaries of 27 hard working people. We are struggling to keep that going but we feel we must. For example our top midwife is asking for a salary increase, which will only bring the salary up to £204 a month, including overtime.

If we don't implement increases, the staff will be forced to leave. That is why we at the Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP) are determined to keep this wonderful little place central in our hearts and minds. We have to find the extra help.

Renewed thanks to our Kinross friends and faithful supporters for your interest, help, standing orders, gifts and kindness – you can't know how much it means to the wonderful people here, who in many cases have the clothes they stand up in and that's it. You rarely see them, however, without a smile and a laugh.

For your diaries please – I am running an Ethiopia charity concert in the Loch Leven Kinross community campus assembly hall on Saturday 22 June at 6pm, with (very kindly) Leven Voices and the wonderful Edinburgh-based Capital Concert Band. We do have a surprise star guest, solo performance, booked too! More details later. Sorry you've had it so cold, wet and miserable, I hear recently – it's only 24°C here today, and the African sun is splitting the sky! Back in early March.

Jo Middlemiss MBE

MINDFUL MONDAYS RELAXATION CLASSES

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Kinross Hub March Calendar



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

Fri 1st	10am–12noon	VOICEABILITY for free advocacy regarding benefits access and supporting people to be heard in decisions about their health, care & wellbeing 07918 560891
Wed 6th	1.30pm–4pm 10am–12noon	CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit, Blue Badge etc 07955 333163 Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847
Thu 7th	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 8th	10am–12noon	Community Listening Service , an opportunity to talk, particularly during stressful events at home or work, or after bereavement or loss. 01382 423116 or 07967 771941 tay.listening@nhs.scot
Wed 13th	10am–12noon 2pm -4pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 PKC Social Work for signposting and support. 01577 867300
Thu 14th	10am–12noon 1pm–3.30pm	Home Energy Scotland offering impartial advice on energy use, keeping warm and minimising costs 0808 808 2282 PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help those who have learning disability, acquired brain injury, mental health issues, autistic spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities. 07788 389659
Fri 15th	10am–12.30pm	PKC Skills & Employment - support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268
Wed 20th	10am–12noon 1.30pm–4pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 63884 CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955 333163
Thu 21st	2pm-4pm	Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/ Signposting 07775 701836
Wed 27th	10am–12noon 1pm–3pm	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 63884 Support Choices will be here to offer independent information and advice about getting social care and support 01350 729130
Thu 28th	10am–12.30pm 2pm–4pm	Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 PKC Housing Team for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 552231

LOCAL ADVICE HUB

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

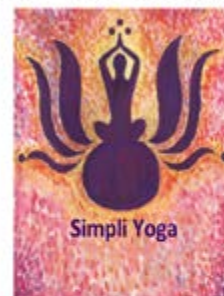
If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

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

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

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

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LOOK AFTER YOUR EYESIGHT



WORLD GLAUCOMA DAY is observed on 12 March every year. This day is observed worldwide as part of the week set aside to raise awareness and eliminate blindness caused by glaucoma.

Glaucoma is the name of several eye diseases that can cause vision loss by damaging the optic nerve. Often the diseases develop slowly and don't cause any pain, which makes it easy to ignore until it's too late. Blindness caused by glaucoma is irreversible. However, the disease is treatable if caught early.

Damage caused to the optic nerve by glaucoma can be treated to halt the progression of the disease or, at the very least, slow it down. While there are some causes of glaucoma that have a sudden onset, most of the time, these diseases develop gradually and can be caught in time to prevent blindness.

The leading cause of glaucoma is a buildup of fluid that causes an increase in pressure in the eye. Glaucoma disease is caused when the aqueous humour — a natural fluid produced by the eye — fails to drain out naturally from the eye.

Usually, the fluid drains out of the eye and is replaced with fresh aqueous humour, which the eye produces constantly. However, if something is wrong with the drainage angle, then the fluid will be retained in the eye, and over time, the fluid buildup will increase the pressure on the optic nerve. The fibres

on the optic nerve start dying as a result of the pressure. Over time, all the fibres die, causing total, irreversible blindness.

What Are The Warning Signs?

Seeing halos around lights, vision loss, redness of the eye, and tunnel vision are some of the warning signs of glaucoma.

SURPRISING FACTS ABOUT GLAUCOMA

It's The Leading Cause Of Blindness

Glaucoma is incredibly common and one of the leading causes of blindness in the world.

The Risk Increases With Age

The likelihood of you contracting glaucoma increases as you get older, with other risk factors including family history and use of steroids.

There Are Three Primary Forms

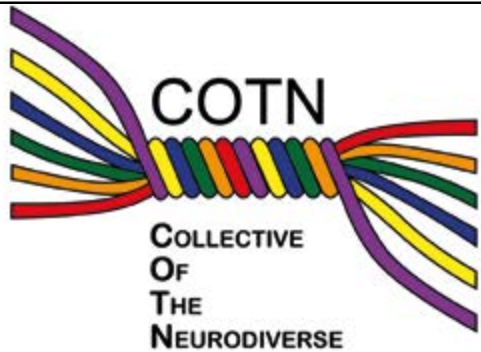
Depending on how the blockage forms, glaucoma has three types — open-angle glaucoma, angle-closure glaucoma, and normal-tension glaucoma.

Treatment Includes Drugs And Surgery

Treatments for glaucoma include eye drops to lower the eye pressure or reduce the amount of fluid and laser surgery to create drainage for the fluid.

Everyone Is At Risk

While the likelihood of contracting glaucoma increases with age and with several risk factors, almost everyone is at risk of contracting the disease at all stages of their lives.



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

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

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

COMPLETE LOOK NEWS

OUR FEBRUARY DOUBLE POINTS offer was a great success, we're looking forward to seeing you take advantage of that discount you earned!

With Mother's Day just around the corner we have some gorgeous gifts in store for you. Neom Organics has a stunning new candle range featuring ylang, ylang and mandarin. The Feel Good Vibes candles are available in two sizes and have beautiful packaging.

Our vouchers too make the perfect gift if you'd rather let Mum decide. You can drop in to collect, or order on our website under the Book Now tab.

We'll be happy to gift wrap as well

as offer advice on the best product or treatment for whoever you want to spoil on Mother's Day!

Our Declor stock is now all at 20% off and every purchase receives a free gift! Both available only while stocks last. Remember that Declor is now longer being manufactured so when it's gone, its gone! We're sad to see this iconic brand go, but we're looking forward to showcasing some new ranges very soon.

The Complete Look team want to be able to offer the most up to date treatments and ensure they are continuously updating and improving their skills. With that in mind, we've recently undertaken some

training and can now offer and a brand new and improved Lash Lift treatment. Lash lifts create an eye-popping look without the need for mascara, and can really open up your eyes.

We're also offering a special deal for March with Jessica Gel Nails and Henna Brows for only £25 while there are appointments available. The Henna Brows is an updated treatment that will require a patch test 24 hours prior to your appointment.

Remember that we are always happy to see you, so drop in any time to chat about our treatments and products, we're happy to help.

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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 February Meeting

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

Present at the meeting on 6 February were CCLrs N Marchant, S Bruce-Jones, A Carter, G Pye; Assoc CCLr C Farquhar; Cllr R Watters; 10 MoP.

Apologies: CCLrs A Cheape and T Lamb; Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater and W Robertson.

Police report

From 2 January 2024 (last meeting) there have been 48 calls to Police from the Fossoway area and 3 crimes recorded on Police systems.

Between 30 and 31 January, three sheep were stolen from Solsgirth, Blairingone. Investigation is ongoing.

On Saturday 3 February 2024 traffic officers were on mobile patrol on A977 Main Street, Powmill where they recovered a stolen vehicle.

Over the last month local officers from Kinross have been carrying out speed checks at Crook of Devon and Carnbo amongst other areas. During this tickets have been issued for various road traffic offences as well as drivers spoken to and warned.

CCLr Pye noted that the Solsgirth incident had also been reported by the Rural Alert system, which several present were not aware of. To sign up visit: <https://www.ruralwatchscotland.co.uk/#SignUp>

Matters Arising

Windfarms

The CC held a public meeting on 30 January 2024 at 7.30pm in Carnbo Village Hall where the results of the wind farm survey were shared. The meeting was attended by 10 MoP and Cllr Watters. The results have been posted on the CC website www.fossoway.org and the posters were made available to view at this CC meeting and will also be available at the next CC meeting in Moubray Village Hall.

The conclusion of the report notes that the survey was distributed to all households in Fossoway District and 110 responses were received equating to 11.7%. The majority of households who responded support renewable energy but opinions were strongly divided on onshore wind farms in the Ochils; with opponents concerned about the impact on the landscape and supporters believing they are essential to halt climate change.

The findings have provided good insight into residents' concerns during construction and operation of any wind farms that receive planning permission. This information will inform all Community Council responses to any planning application. If any application is successful the survey findings on possible use of community benefit funds will be used in any discussion with planners and developers.

CCLrs Bruce-Jones and Marchant listened to the Planning and Place Making Committee meeting on 10 January where the Committee was made aware of the PAN application for the Craighead wind farm. This was purely to make the committee aware of its existence and there was no actual planning discussion. The CC had sent an email CC'd to our Cllrs regarding concern of cumulative impact and how other wind farm proposals would be considered that did not go through the PAN process and also to raise awareness of our survey. Cllr

Cuthbert raised this and asked planning officers to liaise with us as we had a lot of information from local residents.

Two other Cllrs made comments - concern regarding how construction traffic would be managed, light pollution; and the visual impact as this Cllr believed the area could become 'blighted' with these tall turbines.

The report has been circulated to other CCs in the area, the currently active developers (Galileo and ePower) and Local Councillors.

Mike Barnacle cautioned the CC not to take too much notice of the survey given the small percentage (12%) of respondents, although as the survey showed that 62% of respondents were not previously aware of the proposals that is a useful result. There were a number of deficiencies of in the questions, including failure to mention the history and cumulative effect. Mike Barnacle encouraged the CC to press Local Councillors to arrange a public enquiry.

The seven CCs in the area surrounding the proposed wind farms have formed a "Sustainability Group" with the intention that a combined approach to the Wind Farm developers will enable a more substantial community benefit to be achieved. As yet the group is in the early stages, CCLrs Bruce-Jones and Lamb have attended the startup meeting, and although the group has drafted a Memorandum of Undertaking for the membership, this CC does not think it is ready to be agreed yet. We will feed back comments to the Group.

Community Development Trust

The Trust has been awarded funds by PKC for the development of a website and community engagement prior to the start of the Community Action Plan and Local Place Plan process which we anticipate will also be funded by PKC. The Blairingone school project is progressing, and meetings have been held with DTAS and PKC to support a financial feasibility study. We are still waiting for PKC to provide a valuation of the property for lease or purchase.

A request for start-up funding has been submitted to the Kinross-shire Fund. Next meeting of the CDT is 20 February.

Road Safety in FDCC area including A977 mitigation measures

Drum Crossroads

The traffic lights are now operational, and appear to be making a difference. Sarah has asked for the 30mph limit to be extended to the start of Drum, which is currently progressing through the legal process. There have been some negative comments on social media about the new lights, so the CC

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proposes to make a statement about the thinking behind the mitigation measures. The time is now right to look at the performance of the currently implemented measures and decide what might be done next. It would be very useful to ask PKC to study the makeup of the traffic and whether it is local traffic or through traffic.

Speed Watch

Due to the unfortunate loss of the previous approvals of the volunteers, progress has been held up pending the Police re-doing the approvals.

Fossoway Area Transport – 202 Bus Service

The 202 bus continues to run hourly; however, as Stagecoach have now decided to extend the route at Dollar to the Ness turning circle, services are being seen to be running later than scheduled. This adds up over each morning and afternoon schedule to some delay. However, the bus does usually arrive at some point and the tracking system is operative for most services. There is an intention to replace one of the buses with a model that is more suited to rural roads. Councillor Lamb attended meetings with Fossoway CDT and also Glenfarg Community Transport and continued discussions as to a way forward for a more reliable and efficient transport service in the near or distant future. Discussions with these parties as well as PKC continue.

Yellow Grit Bins

The previous requests are being processed, but there is no guaranteed timescale.

New Business

Potholes – The CC encourages the Community to report them directly using this link to PKC's website: https://my.pkc.gov.uk/service/Report_a_fault_or_an_enquiry_on_a_road_or_street

Consultations

Financial Conduct Authority: Access to Cash

The CC will be responding to this consultation with a focus on how assessments to access to cash services are performed in locations which cover a wide geography with limited public transport.

Scottish Government: Democracy Matters Phase 2

The consultation paper proposes communities get together to discuss how they want their community to develop and how they engage with organisations like PKC. As we have already formed a Development Trust and last summer organised several Big Place Conversation engagement events, the CC has decided not to respond.

Proposals for a Heat in Buildings Bill

Like many other countries, Scotland has a legal target to reach 'net zero' greenhouse gas emissions, which cannot be achieved without changing the heating systems in the vast majority of our buildings. The survey closes on 8 March and can be found at [https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-](https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/proposals-for-a-heat-in-buildings-bill/)

[change-directorate/proposals-for-a-heat-in-buildings-bill/](https://consult.gov.scot/energy-and-climate-change-directorate/proposals-for-a-heat-in-buildings-bill/). The CC is preparing a response, but urges the public to submit their own views too.

Community Council Business – Meetings Attended

Councillor Lamb attended the following meetings regarding public transport:

4 January – Fossoway CDT

11 January – Glenfarg Community Transport.

Councillors' Reports

Richard Watters: Kinross-shire Committee were funding a core paths master plan for the whole of Kinross-shire, but in fact Tactran have now agreed to fund it, although overall control of the plan remains with the Committee.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications

23/01562/FLL Part change of use of garage to short-term let accommodation unit, erection of ancillary building/kitchen and installation of wood fired hot tub (in part retrospect) at Chapter House, Fossoway, Kinross, no CC comment (discussed by email as comment date was before this meeting.)

23/02142/FLL Siting of two holiday accommodation units and associated works at Chapter House, Fossoway, Kinross. The CC objects as contrary to NPF4 Tourist Policy 30 – not compatible with surrounding area.

23/02082/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and associated works at land 30 metres north west of County Fabrics, The Water Mill, Crook of Devon, Kinross, no CC comment.

Planning Decisions

23/01961/FLL Erection of a dwelling house and associated works at land 250 metres south west of Broomhill House, Station Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross. Application was rejected – the CC had objected.

Correspondence

The CC has received a request from a BSc student at Edinburgh University to distribute survey about the population's understanding of conservation of Scottish Rainforests. The survey can be accessed at: https://sruc.onlinesurveys.ac.uk/public_survey.

AOCB

Huw Wallace reported that the hydro scheme is working well and generating 15% more power than expected and hence the community benefit will be correspondingly larger. A new group will be set up later this year to manage the benefit.

A Carnbo resident observed that the proposed 40mph limit and pavement seems to have fallen off the radar. The CC will do a new review the spreadsheet of traffic items next month.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be on Tuesday 5 March at 7.30pm in Carnbo Village Hall. All welcome.



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Milnathort and Orwell Community Council

News from the February Meeting

Present at the meeting on 8 February were N Bingham, P Britton, A Wanless, K Heneghan, A Macrae, Cllrs W Robertson, D Cuthbert, R Watters, N Freshwater and L Watson (MPS)

Apologies: M Thomson, PC B Samson, 9 MoP

Police Matters

From 14 December 2023 there have been 52 calls to Police from the Milnathort area and 8 crimes recorded on Police systems.

Crimes of note (since last meeting 9/11/2023)

22/12/2023 Carrying a knife and possession of drugs (Perth Road, Milnathort) 1 x arrested and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

19/01/2024 Theft by housebreaking (Loch Leven Larder) MO: Smash window and steal items within, subject to live investigation.

28/01/2024 Attempted murder (New Road, Milnathort) MO Repeatedly stab victim with bladed article 1 x arrested and reported to the Procurator Fiscal. In relation to the attempted murder, this was an isolated matter with the person responsible being arrested shortly after the incident occurred. There is/was no wider threat.

Road Traffic Matters

Over the last month local officers from Kinross have been carrying out speed checks in Milnathort among other areas. During this, tickets have been issued for various road traffic offences as well as drivers spoken to and warned. During these stops officers have also recovered drugs in a vehicle and the occupant charged.

Traffic officers have been carrying out speeding checks on the M90 at Junctions 6 (Kinross) and 7 (Milnathort) whereby they have issued tickets for speeding.

Actions from previous meeting

Gate/Bridge/Fence Gate to Fleming Court

The gate procurement is in progress, and the foundations for the new bridge are currently being built.

Burleigh Wall

Estimate to rebuild the wall is £5359.

Correspondence

Kinross Better Place to Live Fair 2024

The Kinross Better Place to Live Fair will take place on Saturday 23rd March 2024, 10am-3pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. Please see the attached booking form and terms and conditions. Please return this form as soon as possible to Pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk or post to The Grey House, 70 Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY. Thank you to those of you that already have.

Green Living Fund

Voting goes live from 12 February 2024 until 1 March 2024. All residents will have the ability to vote on what the budget can be spent on. The MOCC Core Paths group have submit a request to help fund the storage for our equipment. Receiving these funds will help the volunteers to continue clearing the core paths and ensuring they are passable and maintained for our everyday use.

Virgin Media / Diona Roadworks

A couple of weeks ago, Diona were working in Croft Wynd – short or no notice of works given to the residents, they started work early in the morning, and blocked people's drives.

The attitude of those working was not nice towards the residents, they reluctantly stopped work to allow residents out of their driveway to go to work etc. They have left a zig zag

of new patched tar on the pavement and the quality does not appear to be of the same quality as is currently there. They also came back on Sunday morning to finish off what they were not able to do earlier in the week as they were moving to a new site, Springfield Road on the Monday.

Last weekend the Stirling Road area had its broadband service cut for three days due to Diona snagging the Openreach cable and pulling it out of its connection. Originally the Openreach engineers suspected it was one fault that would be corrected by the end of the day. However, it was not fixed until the end of the third day as it appeared that Diona had caused four faults on the Openreach cables.

When the Diona workmen were approached, they were rude, very confrontational and tried to blame Openreach for having a cable in the way.

Cllr Watters, asked for all issues with Diona to be sent to him as there was a meeting with Virgin and Diona planned at the council.

The Diona workmen indicated that they will be back on South Street and the new houses in Curlers Way.

Milnathort Primary School Update – provided by Laura Watson

The pupils are continuing to support the road safety campaign and currently have a cardboard cut-out police officer, PC Kirsty that they will be putting out into the community and monitoring the impact.

The school have started a Wellbeing Wednesday to help promote physical and mental wellbeing, and the sports committee are looking at other extra-curricular sports. The P6's have started their skiing and the P7s visited the curling rink at Perth. They are also exploring the sport of Boccia, which is an accessible version of bowls.

The school had a visit from the PKC countryside trust, they are advising on what trees to plant around the school and helping with the outdoor curriculum.

Core Paths Update

In the process of ordering stone to infill the hollows on the Core Paths.

Waymarking

Waymarking Paths MTHT/131 (Hattonburn); MTHT/133 (Pacehill).

We'll liaise with the landowner and then organise a weekend task to waymark both paths.

Core Path – MTHT/127 Standing Stones

This Core Path has been ploughed over and effectively obliterated. A Core Path in Scotland is a designated route established by local authorities under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003. Core Paths have an extra level of legal protection, as authorities have powers to keep these paths free from obstruction, even if landowners refuse to act. Dave

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Community Council News

Stubbs at PKC reports the case is still open, and officers have written to the landowner on several occasions regarding the obstruction to the Core Path but had no response. PKC will continue to pursue.

Potential Projects

Core Path running from footbridge beside golf course to Burleigh Road. There's a need to remove rocks and level out to allow flail to cut path.

Surfacing of boggy section of Path running west from Crow Wood. These are big undertakings and would need a contractor to do the work. We'll look at packaging both jobs together into one quote/funding application. The CECF (Community Environment Challenge Fund) may fund up to £10k but would require match funding.

The **Core Path at Stirling Road** was flailed on 18 December, the first step in re-establishing the Core Path.

Quote for the re-build of the wall east of Burleigh Castle has been received and is being considered.

PKC Community Greenspace have been given some money for groups who wish to improve biodiversity in their local area. We're applying for wildflower seed and a 10-sapling tree pack. Credit to PKC for cleaning up fly-tipped materials at Arlary Core Path.

We've applied to the Green Living Fund to pay for safe storage of the flail and the other equipment we use. We're through the first round, but our project is one of many that the public vote for, so there's an element of competition – if we don't get enough votes, we don't get the funding. We'd be so grateful if you could vote for Milnathort Core Paths Group. It's very easy, you don't have to register, you can just sign in with your Google or Facebook account or your Mygovscot account. Here's the link to the voting page:

<https://pkc.communitychoices.scot/budgets/2>

Milnathort Core Paths Group are under 'Kinross-Shire'. If you felt able to encourage friends and family to do the same, that would be tremendous.

Planning Applications

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

23/01936/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse 16 Mayfield Gardens, Milnathort, approved.

23/01938/FLL Change of use of dentist surgery (class 1A) to short-term let accommodation unit, 18 South Street, Milnathort.

Large Planning Applications

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

Speedwatch

The 'speed gun' has been purchased and received, we will be scheduling training soon with Police Scotland.

We will also be running a logo competition inviting all the local primary schools to enter.

When set up we will be going out in groups of three, typically in areas we do not reside in. Details of any vehicle that is over the speed limit by a predefined value provided by Police Scotland will be noted, with car details and registration. Police Scotland will then use this information to contact the owner to let them know they were observed travelling over the speed limit. We are still looking for volunteers, please get in touch at speedwatch.ks@gmail.com

Presentation On New Kinross Pharmacy

A new pharmacy is proposed for the south of Kinross on the High Street, it is hoped that it will help take some of the burden from the Milnathort pharmacy where customers are travelling from Kinross, due to there being only one pharmacy in Kinross. They are hoping to provide not just the Pharmacy First but also Pharmacy First+ service. The owners are existing pharmacists in Kinglassie and Falkland and see that the Kinross-shire area needs another pharmacy to help the customers and the existing pharmacies which seem under pressure from the size of the area and the recent new builds.

There is a process that needs to be followed before a new pharmacy can be opened, which involves a consultation with the public to understand the need, then a hearing with the health board on the outcome of the consultation, before the health board will give a decision on whether the pharmacy is granted. From the start of the consultation to the granting of the pharmacy to pharmacy open is expected to take at least six months.

Bin Frequency collection – new grey recycle bin

The frequency of collection of the grey bin is not enough, people's bins are filling up very quickly, where these bins are only collected once a month however the green bin which is now not so full is still collected twice a month. This isn't the case for everyone, but can something be done to change the schedule.

Cllr Watters responded that the council will take a couple of months to review the data on the collections and will make a decision then as to whether any changes are needed, they do not want a knee jerk reaction that might require changing again at a later date.

Comments and questions from the floor

It was asked what would be happening about the core path around the field behind Carrs Billington and specifically the option of changing the path so that it exits at Mill Lade. This

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is hopefully to be an alternate path for school kids back and forth from the new housing estate at Curlers Crescent to the primary and high school. The existing Core Path requires a crossing over the Fochy Burn, and exits at the field entrance just at the motorway slip road. Kevin responded that the landowner and farmer have a proposal which they planned to review late last year but this was cancelled due to the weather, so he will reach out to the landowner to understand what their plans are.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Cuthbert: Kinross shire committee will be held next Thursday 15 February. Some of the topics to be discussed are; road safety, Jackie Pepper will present on Care packages in Kinross.

Cllr Watters: If you are lying in bed on bin day and get a whiff of a fish and chip van smell, unfortunately this is likely to come from the bin lorries as PKC expand their de-carbonisation of their vehicle fleet for larger vehicles. These large vehicles like bin lorries will change from diesel to vegetable oil, with the hope of moving to hydrogen.

The report for the strategic path network for the whole of PKC originally missed out Kinross-shire was previously missed out. The Kinross-shire Committee funds were earmarked to help identify areas of improvement across Kinross-shire to catch up with this omission, which will provide recommendations to produce a Kinross-shire wide path network plan that will also join together with the Fife network. Tactran have now offered to pay for this so that it will now not use KC funds.

Cllr Robertson: We are hoping that as part of the 2024 road improvement activities the most dangerous crossing in Milnathort, the zebra crossing at South Street will be earmarked for replacing with a pelican crossing.

The budget will be difficult everything is up for review including grass cutting reduction, gritting on roads, and street cleaning. I recently wrote to NatureScot, when I was younger I would regularly see water voles on the North Queich, however they have no record of them being on either the North or South Queich's. Water voles are a barometer species.

Cllr Freshwater: Road safety, there is a list of 120 projects in Kinross-shire with a review of what is being actioned and what is not being done in 2024, specifically the crossing on South Street.

AOB

Christmas lights: Thanks to all those that helped to put up and take down the Christmas tree and lights around the village, we hope to grow the number of lights each year.

Kinross-shire Committee: this will be next week, and Neill asked for the topic of cemetery provision to be brought up, however the person who would be speaking to this subject is currently off sick.

Sustainability Group: A draft MoU has been created and shared with the other CCs for review and comment.

Memorial Garden Trees: replacements have been sourced for the trees blown down in the memorial garden. Some MPS and high school pupils, along with the councillors and the Provost will be invited to help with the planting of the new trees sometime in the near future.

The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 14 March 2024, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall.

Kinross Community Council

News from the January Meeting

Present on 23 January were Cllrs L McKay, W Freeman, M Wilson, T Stewart, C Willsher, S Wells and P Chan, Cllrs D Cuthbert and N Freshwater, 5 MoP and minute taker Mrs C Aird.

Apologies: Cllrs E Leslie, B West, Cllrs W Robertson & R Watters, PC B Samson.

Cllr McKay advised that Cllrs B West, C Willsher, S Wells, P Chan would automatically become full members of the CC after 15 February 2024. They will be joined by Cllr K Spain.

It was also noted that the CC accounts were required to be verified by 25 February 2024.

Police Scotland Report

PC Samson and his colleagues were unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report.

An incident was reported to Police at Morton Motors, Montgomery Street, Kinross on 19 January 2024. This is currently under enquiry with an officer as a potential vandalism.

Crimes Of Note (since last meeting 28/11/2023)

30/11/2023 Threatening or abusive behaviour. Adult male shouting and swearing at staff, Kinross High School. 1 x reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

15/12/2023 & 21/12/2023 Vandalism (windows smashed at a flat) (Bowton Road, Kinross) Subject to live investigation.

17/12/2023 Fail to stop after accident (Avenue Road, Kinross) Subject to live investigation.

30/12/2023 Fail to stop for police and dangerous driving (High Street, Kinross) 1 x reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

07/01/2024 Police Assault (Dalwhamie Street, Kinross) 1 x reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

19/01/2024 Vandalism (Vehicle tyres slashed) (High Street, Kinross) Subject to live investigation.

22/01/2024 Threatening or abusive behaviour and Police assault. (Dalwhamie Street, Kinross) 1 x reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

22/01/2024 Threatening or abusive behaviour (Nurseries, Balado, Kinross) 1 x reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

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Traffic Statistics

Following a vehicle crash on 23 December 2023 on the M90 near junction 6, a driver was charged and reported for driving under the influence of drugs and having bald tyres.

On 30 December 2023, roads policing officers were on patrol in High Street, Kinross when they observed a vehicle parked on zig-zag road markings and charged the driver accordingly.

On 21 January 2024, local officers from Kinross were on patrol in High Street, Kinross when they stopped a car as it had no insurance. The driver was charged accordingly and car seized. PC Samson and PS Craig have carried out visits at Kinross Day Centre and Rachel House hospice in Kinross in the last month, both of which were positive for engagement with the local community.

Officers can be contacted by telephone (101), by email *ben.samson@scotland.police.uk* or *taysidekinross-shirecpt@scotland.police.uk* or at Kinross Police Office, 17 High Street, Kinross.

Matters Arising

Dog Fouling: Cllr D Cuthbert requested any incidents (where/when) to be reported to him and he would follow this up.

Drain Cleaning: Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he had reported this to PKC and advised that cleaning was undertaken on a rotational basis. He requested that incidences be reporting using the myPKC portal.

Potholes: Cllr P Chan reported a pothole around the drain at the Wilson Court junction which is causing drivers to service out to avoid it.

Kinross Town Centre

Burns Begg Street: lines had now been painted onto the road, and were slowing drivers down, the lines were already starting to chip off.

Traffic Wardens: wardens had attended the town centre in the first week of January (evenings) but had not witnessed a lot of traffic. A request is to be made to ask them to attend again.

Mill Street Parking: drivers are parking over dropped kerbs and on pavements and Councillors were asked what could be done about this. The meeting was advised that if there were no lines then PKC have no authority over this, although parking attendants could be advised. A member of the public advised that there were two types of dropped kerbs – one which is put in front of a property and the other at a pedestrian crossing. It was also suggested that road traffic officers from Police Scotland are the only officers who could issue fines for this.

It was suggested that Kinross in Bloom be asked to place planters there to deter parking.

Bike Storage, Park and Ride: Cllr N Freshwater advised that the bike storage facility at the park and ride was missing, and PKC were looking to implement a ‘smart storage’ option.

Millbridge Hall Car Park: Cllr Wells advised that the car park requires several repairs and was advised that these should be reported via the myPKC portal.

Car Park behind Hunters: had now been power washed resulting in the parking bays being clearly seen.

High Street Parking Restriction: Cllr Wells asked for an update on the timescale for the removal of the restrictions. Cllr Cuthbert advised he did not currently know the timescale but that he was meeting with PKC in a few weeks and would be asking for an update.

Cllr Freshwater suggested a meeting be arranged between PKC, the road safety teams and KCC to discuss the list of concerns in the town, and it was agreed that Cllr Cuthbert would circulate list for the CC to review and update.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications Received

23/01980/FLL importation of inert waste material, associated storage, processing and screening to produce secondary aggregates and exportation at Balado Quarry, Balado.

Planning Applications Determined

23/01819/FLL alterations to garage to form ancillary accommodation unit at 94 Muirs, Kinross, approved.

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

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

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23/01180/IPL demolition of barn and erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) at land 45 metres west of East Brackley House Kinross, approved.

21/01536/FLL erection of 9 dwellinghouses, garages and associated works (LDP site H51) at land to the south of the A977 Balado, approved.

23/00911/FLL erection of a dwellinghouse and associated works (revised design) at land 20 metres northwest of Tillyochie Farm Cottage Balado, approved.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Cuthbert advised that there had been a full meeting of PKC the day before where several items had been discussed, including the potential closure of leisure centre facilities, as well as the budget for 2024/25.

Reports from KCC Councillors

Cllr M Wilson enquired about the cleaning of road signs and Cllr Cuthbert confirmed he had asked PKC about this previously, but it was not something they would routinely undertake.

Cllr P Chan advised that the metal barrier at Gallowhill Road/Lomond Place was on an uneven surface and asked if this could be levelled. He was advised to report the matter via the *myPKC* portal.

Cllr McKay commented on the size of the grey bins advising that they were not big enough. Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that PKC were evaluating this issue and that they would be refusing to empty any bins with 'illegal' contents. He also advised that it was possible to order another grey bin, noting that they were currently out of stock.

Cllr McKay also advised that the Davies Park upgrade was on track for Spring.

Cllr McKay enquired whether it was possible to fit traffic cameras in the High Street and in Millbridge Hall car park. Cllr Cuthbert felt that this could be done and suggested Cllr McKay write to PKC.

Cllr McKay, on behalf of Cllr E Leslie, queried where the 'Keep Clear' signs for the primary school were on the list of works to be undertaken in the town.

Cllr Freeman advised that he had renewed the Data Controller licence on behalf of KCC. He has been unable to progress the purchase of a camera for the telephone box due to KCC not receiving their budget from PKC.

Correspondence

Cllr McKay advised that an email had been received from a resident of the flats near Mill Street car park regarding the possibility of improving the cycle infrastructure improvements at the car park.

The resident advised that they have a number of neighbours who use bicycles but there are no storage facilities so the bicycles are kept on stairwells, in cupboards and in the flats themselves. They feel that the area would benefit from utilising the Cycle Storage and Parking Fund (Residential Cycle Storage and Parking Fund – Cycling Friendly – Our Programmes – Cycling Scotland) to allow for the installation of a shelter for residential use, including other nearby and surrounding flats. The resident also feels that with Mill Street being one of the largest central car parks in the area, it is frequently abused by frequent pavement parking, and has no provision for electric charging or any bike shelters or other even basic storage, and they had therefore contacted the CC for advice on how to progress this matter.

Members agreed with the residents' points and it was agreed that they should be invited to a future meeting to discuss their concerns further.

Cllr Freeman advised that an email from a representative of Glendale Security Systems, based in The Muirs, had been

received. The representative advised that while the company had been going since 1990, it had recently been taken over by the owner's daughter and she was looking for the community to support her in her business. The email had been passed to *Kinross Newsletter* for them to contact the new owner about a possible article.

AOCB

It was noted that several meetings were arranged for the next few weeks and it would be beneficial for the KCC to be represented. These meetings were:

Community Forum (12 February at 2pm) – Cllr Freeman was to confirm his availability.

Kinross-shire Committee (15 February at 5pm)

Stronger Communities (14 March at 10am)

Better Place to Live Fair (23 March)

Attendees to be confirmed in due course.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on 26 March 2024 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome.

Portmoak Community Council

News from the December meeting

Present at the meeting on 12 December were Cllrs N Freshwater, W Robertson, R Watters; Cllrs A Miller, D Morris, A Davidson, S McGregor, K Donaldson, D Paterson; and 2 members of the public


Apologies: Cllr D Cuthbert.

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee Update


The Vice-Chair had attended the KC meeting on 23/11/23. It was a satisfactory meeting. One of the main issues was the absence of Kinross-shire from Tacktran planning maps for building connected path networks and this was recognised as

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requiring resolution. PKC to bring a plan of action for the first KC meeting in 2024. Cllr R Watters flagged funds that the KC has from 2023, and 2024, to use that money up to the Tacktran funding. Sustrans funding to be allocated. PKC Officer to drive forward these projects for Kinross-shire.

Road Safety Action Update

PCC had received a communication from Bowhouse residents regarding the proposed and agreed 40mph speed limit between Scotlandwell and Bowhouse, still awaiting action from the first meeting of the KC, some 24 months previously. Cllr W Robertson had approached PKC Roads but had received notification that the project would be delayed until the end of March/April 2024 as a Road Safety Officer had resigned from the team and this would cause delays with implementation of projects. Cllr Robertson had been told that funding would be used to secure another position to the Roads Safety team. There was concern that funding for this position was only for 1 year, and that the position would not be filled. Dept Chief Exec had promised to resolve the issue. The Chair did not accept that PKC resourcing and funding to be the major reason that the Bowhouse 40mph limits had not been actioned. Cllrs W Robertson and D Cuthbert and N Freshwater met with Daryl McEown to outline priorities and one of these priorities had been the 40mph limit signs, at this meeting the reason given for the delay was that legals had not been actioned at that point. The Chair pointed out the legals are now complete and the signs are scheduled to be put up at end of March/April 2024 so he considered that the work should now be completed. Residents attending the call asked what the route of escalation would be if the March/April 2024 action date was not met? Cllr W Robertson suggested that escalation would be via a local Member of

Parliament. As a first line Cllr W Robertson suggested that PCC and Residents write to Chief Executive at PKC with a complaint on this issue, with CC to the Cllrs.

The Chair thanked Cllr K Donaldson for putting together wording for GDPR for Speedwatch which will assist with moving project forward.

Cllr D Morris raised issue of painting of yellow box to be painted on the road at Bruce Road and Bishop Terrace junction to prevent parking where there was a crossing for the Primary School children had a crossing

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path

Entire upper section of path, from Community Woodland to Church, is likely to receive support from the landowners with a feasibility study the next step. It was agreed that to complete the upper section would improve the path, even if the lower section from the Church to Scotlandwell was not yet completed. If the entire upper section was approved, then the Chair would write to the landowner with regard to the lower section. There has been no response from the landowner at all to any communication from PCC. Cllr D Morris had suggested there would be additional funding for strategic routes and this was one of the strategic routes identified to the Tacktran map.

Play Facilities at Scotlandwell Green

It was thought work would commence in early 2024 which is welcome news. There was a commuted sum from H54 and enhanced funding from ScotGov for the play facilities, The Chair had requested the commuted sum be ringfenced for other community projects in Portmoak. Many other worthy causes in Portmoak could benefit from the commuted sum. Cllr D Cuthbert sent the details of the planning report and this had indicated the commuted sum funding must be used for the ongoing upkeep of the play facilities. There was discussion about the allocation of



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the commuted sum for the play facilities only when it could be used to benefit many worthy projects within Portmoak. Funding for the play facilities is already in place with 25 years lifespan. Cllr W Robertson has written to PKC to enquire if any alteration to the policy is possible. The Chair thought the allocation was pointless given that the playpark was about to be upgraded from other funds. Cllr R Watters advised that from a legal perspective the commuted sum must be spent as directed, after 10yrs the money is paid back to the developer. It was suggested that a local campaign to identify another piece of equipment that the children would like to have and use the money rather than lose it.

Portmoak Church – the future for the church and car park

Chair outlined the potential problem of the loss. November meeting agreed to have a Community Consultation meeting to see what could be done with the church building. Community Consultation meeting was likely to be sometime in January 2024.

Sustainability Group Meeting: report from last meeting

21/11/23:

PCC members had not managed to attend the last meeting regarding windfarms proposed in the Ochils. Cllr R Watters outlined on the possibility for Community Councils to collaborate and ensure payback for their communities that would ensure local improvements. If all the developments proceed then seven CCs stand to benefit with funds allocated on a sliding scale with many options that need to be discussed, researched and agreed carefully.

New Matters

Updated Scheme of Establishment for CCs from 1 Jan 2024

The CC does not need to formally adopt the new Scheme of Establishment, it would automatically come into effect on 1 January 2024. The SofE document is available at PKC website if members of the public would like to view it.

Kinross Half Marathon 2024: Road Closures on Sunday 12 May 2024

Notice had come to PCC about the forthcoming event in 2024. The 2023 event seemed to have been run very smoothly and PCC would continue to liaise with the organisers and support where possible.

Reports

Police Reports

Police liaison had not been available to attend the meeting and had sent their apologies.

Planning

New Applications

23/01999/FLL Erection of storage shed Causeway Cottage, Scotlandwell

PCC members had reviewed the application and had no comments on the application.

Existing Applications

22/01191/FLL Erection of 16 dwellinghouses (three with detached garages, one with detached garage/ancillary accommodation), formation of six plots for affordable dwellinghouses, formation of SUDS pond, landscaping and associated works, land 100 metres south east of Cragton Villa Rost Gardens, Scotlandwell.

Cllr D Morris had attended the planning committee meeting. The H54 development had been approved in principle. The Chair had subsequently corresponded with PKC planning regarding his reservations about the site investigation, as there were significant risk concerns that had not been dealt with in the planning application. A response had been received from D Littlejohn stating note had been taken of the Chair’s letter. PCC hoped PKC did not ignore the knowledge base of locals. Cllr K Donaldson suggested that PCC write to ScotGov to flag that the peat removal issue had not been properly addressed. Cllr D Morris felt PKC were deliberately misleading the Cllrs in as much as from a planning point of view it was irrelevant what soil formed the first metre, the investigation had shown 'peaty soil' which was unsurprising as the field had been farming land. They were hiding behind SEPA in making this statement. D Morris raised concerns about the competence of SEPA. The Chair was particularly interested in the supporting documents which show peat. Ground gas was also a concern, as it has led to the demolition of properties in other areas of Scotland. Additional investigations and work need to be done on the site.

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Cllr W Robertson reminded the meeting that H54 was in the LDP2, as agreed with the community. If PKC had refused the application every chance it would be passed at appeal. Cllr D Morris suggested that at the time the LDP was drawn up there was no knowledge of the substrate or soil type. At the time of the creation of the LDP, there was no opposition in principle to the use of the site for building. On the affordable housing plots on the site, these were also still an issue, which made the H54 site a test site for the policy. Cllr R Watters highlighted that it was important to make affordable housing affordable in perpetuity using mechanisms such as careful burdens on the properties, shared equity, help to buy, affordable housing plots were only one aspect.

The Chair asked the assembled meeting to agree if PCC should remove the item from the agenda or retain it and take it forward to the Scottish Government. The PCC members were in agreement with this approach to take the planning application to the Scottish Government.

Planning Decisions

Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee

Building stage is in progress and completed building expected by mid-2024. The road is also in some new state of disrepair.

Treasurer CC Accounts

CC account: £ 286.34

Current balance: £ 849.29

Michael Bruce Account £1677.24

Some interest still to be paid into the MB account from RBS account.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr R Watters: PKC had received a CDP A-rating with regard to climate change. The CDP, formerly known as the Carbon Disclosure Project, was a not-for-profit organisation that runs the global disclosure system for companies, cities, states and regions to manage their environmental impacts. More information at: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/23709/Perth-and-Kinross-given-A-rating-for-environmental-action>.

Kinross Banking Hub: the application for a banking hub in Kinross had not met the criteria. The Cllrs would continue with this project.

AOB

The Chair wished to record a Congratulations to Kinnesswood in Bloom for their Britain in Bloom win which included a personal accolade for John Nicol acknowledging his considerable ongoing commitment.

The next Portmoak CC meeting will be an online meeting on Tuesday 12 March 2024, at 7.30pm.

Blairadam and Cleish Community Council

News from the February meeting

Present on 5 February were F Principe-Gillespie, C MacLaren, F Whalley, S Gordon, Cllrs N Freshwater and R Watters

Apologies: M Taylor, Cllrs W Robertson and D Cuthbert

Crime Prevention & Police Report

Theft from a container on Hatchbank Road, Gairney Bank. Criminal(s) broke open shipping container and stole two off-road motorcycles. This crime is subject to a live investigation.

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland

PC Samson encourages members of the public to sign up to their local neighbourhood watch alerts. Police post localised updates and information requests that might not otherwise be posted on Facebook or Twitter.

Sign up at www.neighbourhoodwatchscotland.co.uk.

Broadband Update

Blairadam Area

The final phase to connect up the remaining properties in the Blairadam area has moved into the design and planning stage with Openreach. The next update on the project is due from Openreach in April and it is hoped that the project will be completed later this year.

Drainage

Cleish

There has been no progress to remediating the drainage problems raised at the last meeting; this has been due to the continued bad weather and poor ground conditions.

In addition to the flooding referred to above there may also be a blocked culvert in an adjacent field – the CC will investigate and speak to the landowner to see if this problem can be rectified.

A fresh drainage issue has been identified in Cleish main street where a recently repaired gully has stopped draining water and is now flooding, and causing further problems as the road around the gully is eroding. This issue was raised with Cllr Watters who attended the meeting and inspected the problem.

It has been noted by several members of the community that the drainage problems are causing problems with access to the church and graveyard.

Keltybridge

The gully at the foot of the Dullomuir Farm Road continues to cause problems with flooding, and during winter this area of the road and pavement was completely iced over, leading to



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one of the residents of Keltybridge falling and being seriously injured.

The Community Council sent best wishes for a speedy recovery. Sean Gordon spoke to the PKC Roads Department in early January, and they agreed that the drain needed to be repaired so that it functioned correctly. Cllr Watters will speak to the roads department to determine a likely date for this work.

Financial Update

Financial balance is £604.06.

Planning

Awaiting Decision

24/00095/LAW Alterations to dwellinghouse, erection of garage and formation of driveway (proposed) 6 Blairadam Grove, Keltybridge.

23/02135/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse; land 20 metres south of Hillview Kinnaird, Blairadam, Kelty, the CC has objected to this application.

23/02102/FLL Erection of two dwellinghouses; land 50 metres south east of Craigton Gardens, Cleish

23/02039/PAA Erection of an agricultural building; The Willows Blairforge, Kelty.

23/01695/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse; land 15 metres east of Borrowdale Blairadam, Keltybridge, the CC has objected to this application.

23/01655/FLL Change of use, alterations and extension to ancillary accommodation to form dwellinghouse; The Flat, 6 Main Street, Keltybridge, Kelty.

22/02018/FLL Siting of two holiday accommodation units, stable building/log store, three sheds and garage, formation of access road and associated works (in retrospect); land 190 metres north west of Blairfordel Farm, Kelty, the CC has objected to this application.

Approved

23/01565/LBC Installation of replacement roof window and garage roof covering at Middleton House Blairadam Keltybridge, Kelty.

22/02113/IPL Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) land 30 metres north east of Craigbank House, Cleish, withdrawn.

23/01706/FLL Change of use of woodland to form extension to garden ground and erection of garage, The CC objected to this development.

Planning Committee

23/00532/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse and associated works, land north of 31 Main Street, Keltybridge.

The PKC Local Review upheld the decision to refuse planning permission for this site, the CC objected to this development.

Local Place Plan

As noted in the minutes from the previous CC meeting, the CC would like to explore the possibility of creating a Local Place Plan for Cleish & Blairadam, to reflect the views of the community on how they would like the community to develop over the coming years. The Local Place Plan is the most effective way that a local community can express their vision for the future of their local area as the council is required to take into account any existing Local Place Plan when looking at planning applications.

The Local Place Plan for Cleish and Blairadam would need to be submitted by September 2024 to be considered as part of the next PKC Local Development Plan which will run from 2027 to 2037.

Cleish and Blairadam CC plan to canvas the local community in the coming months to gauge interest in developing a Local Place Plan for Cleish and Blairadam, and in the meantime if you have an interest in helping develop or contributing to this plan please reach out to the CC at: cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com

Windfarm Community Benefits

The CC attended a meeting with the sustainability group which is looking for a way to have the local Community Councils work together to coordinate our negotiations with the wind farm developers in relation to the benefits and community funding which is made available as part of any windfarm development.

There are good examples from around Scotland where groups of Community Councils have come together to collaborate and to negotiate a better deal for the community, and the Cleish & Blairadam Community Council would like to explore this option. With this in mind we will shortly be surveying everyone in the local area to understand how the community would like to proceed, and to gauge the interest in our CC joining with the nearby CCs for the overall benefit of the community.

The goal will be to complete the survey before the next CC meeting where the results of the survey will be shared, and a decision will be made on how to proceed.

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

Glenfarg Community Council

News from the January meeting

Present at the meeting on 8 January were: Cllrs Fraser, Pilmer, Christie, Murray, Ponton, MacLeod, Smart, Cllr Freshwater, and four MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs Cuthbert and Robertson, PC Samson

Police Report

In PC Samson's absence Cllr Pilmer advised on the following: 28 calls and two crimes reported.

Overgrown Path

Cllr Pilmer reported that he had inspected the area of concern in relation to a footpath from Copperfields to Callford Brae adjoining Main Street. The footpath has become overgrown with vegetation and needs being landscaped. Photographs and a written statement were passed on to Cllr Robertson who was to pass the matter on to the relevant PKC department for remedial activity to be carried out.

Meetings

Speedwatch Meeting

Cllr Ponton had attended a local Speedwatch community meeting recently and reported that it was very positive with funding in place. A Speed Monitor device is planned for purchase and the next stage is for members of the community to be encouraged to apply for a volunteer's position. Trainee positions are looking to be filled (a pool of as many as possible) and they would operate in local areas. The matter is to be advertised locally through media and will outline the recruitment process and likely subjects e.g. H&S, GDPR, use of equipment, what to do and not to do, on-line training, discussion with the Police. Further information will be made public nonetheless, a website to assist is www.communityspeedwatch.org. It was discussed further about engaging with the local primary school to design a poster for public display.

Sustainability Group Meeting (Wind Turbines)

Cllr Ponton reported that the SG meeting had a visit by another CC group to share information regarding the setting up of a combined group with the aim of communicating and negotiating with potential energy developments. Glenfarg is working with another six neighbouring CCs to find the best way forward for the community.

Kinross-shire Meeting

Cllr Smart reported that he had attended the meeting on behalf of the GCC and that the topic of biodiversity and maintenance was raised. Cllr Smart outlined that PKC had vision of 'cutting back' on the amount of grass and other vegetation activities that it carries out that in turn would or could create a more biodiverse existence for its many greenspaces within P&K. Whilst the benefits could be realised – rewilding, plants, birds, maintenance costs, direct labour reductions, it was met with a concern that areas of greenspace could become overgrown and unkempt. It was noted further that green areas relating to road way footpaths with verges and junctions' 'line of sight' for pedestrians, other vulnerable groups and vehicle users may be compromised with safety as a fact of being at risk. The vision was met with concern and that in our area it would need to be monitored such as our local junctions and path ways, our Wallace Park, and other areas. Cllr Smart reported further on a discussion about a network of paths featuring north/south and east/west in the area as a vision for a national path route.

Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Works upgrade

Cllrs Fraser and Christie are part of the Liaison Group, along with representatives from Scottish Water and the project team, who in turn reported on a recent meeting. Notes of the meeting are available for reading on the Community Council page of the Glenfarg.org village website. Cllr Fraser confirmed that this would be the relevant reference point for information relating to the topic and that it was conveyed to the area through email and social media. Cllr Fraser commented on the willingness of Scottish Water to listen to concerns plus the objections from the original planning application and to work with PKC Planning to address all matters. Matters such as a footpath extension from Church Brae to Glendy junction, locating a parking area on Church Brae/Lomond Bank and the possibility of a Community Benefit Fund were raised too. It was understood at this GCC Business meeting that no formal planning approval has been granted to date. The GCC believes that the matter is pending and that we should be notified of a PKC Planning decision mid to late January 2024 at the earliest.

Lochelbank Wind Farm Panel Meeting

Cllr Pilmer reported that, at the last LWFP business meeting, chaired by Foundation Scotland in November 2023, a funding application on behalf of the local Scout Group had been made for: the purchase of a Steel Shipping Container, the requisite associated works and that its proposed siting would be within the grounds of the Village Hall. Cllr Pilmer confirmed that he had not supported the funding application and offered an alternative solution but that the matter was still pending given the facts that the funding application was not made known formally to the newly formed Trustee committee for the Village

Hall nor that a Planning application had been submitted to PKC Planning. The new Chair of the Village Hall Trustees, who attended the GCC business meeting, confirmed that the matter was unknown and that he would contact Foundation Scotland directly. He requested Cllr Pilmer to forward on to him the contact details of Foundation Scotland's LWFP representative.

Addendum: A Lochelbank Community Fund Grants Poster is displayed in the GCC Notice Board and the next round for Funding applications will close on Tuesday 13 February. Thereafter the other dates are Tuesday 18 June and Tuesday 24 September 2024.

Flooding Issues

Cllr Christie and R. Stewart PKC (Flooding) had carried out a walk and visual survey of The Avenue and related areas where water is flooding through gardens, encroaching properties, and affecting the Greenbank's Road, Avenue and Crescent and the Main Street too. It was discussed that drains, gullies, culverts sump or sumps require to be inspected and cleaned with a particular requirement for drains to be inspected by a camera survey. Some work was believed to have been carried out although further work is now a necessity. It was confirmed that another area of flooding exists at the junction of Main Street and Marinden Park whereby Scottish Water had attended. However, it is believed that drainage is a factor to this problem and that it will require to be addressed by PKC. A bilge pump was discussed as a public asset for use in an emergency by known/possible property/properties once again. However, it was noted that a property's owners in Greenbank Road had now purchased their own piece of equipment to alleviate a potential flooding threat. Update for March GCC business meeting.

Village Inn Update

A member of the public gave an update on the latest news about this topic. That the existing liaison group between the Village Hall Trustees, Village Inn representative and GCC's Cllr has been suspended. The reason being, because on behalf of the Village Inn group working in association with the new Village Hall Trustees, a new architect has been engaged along with a surveyor for part of the Village Hall Schoolhouse to have a report and drawings constructed to give a vision on a future relationship with the community facilities. This was met with approval by those in attendance and it is hoped that a new vision can now take place formally with the public being invited for comments. Another update will be forthcoming at the next GCC business meeting.

Glenfarg Transport Group

Cllrs Smart and Fraser reported that the GTG is continuing to go from strength to strength. GTG have recently received excellent coverage in the media and that the community



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bus ownership was being increased with another vehicle now amounting to six. Passenger weekly use numbers had increased with the number of 400 being recorded recently. CClr Smart stated further that early in 2024 the CTG plan to operate a trial for an Hourly Service to Perth with flexibility built in allowing for drop off/collection places. It is hoped that the Scottish Government Minister for Transport will make a visit and that more community trips are planned for a social aspect timetable – Stirling, Livingston, Glasgow SECC. More information to follow at the next Business Meeting.

Planning

- 23/01876/FLL Change of use of building to dwellinghouse and associated works Land 15 Metres South East Of Woodbine Cottage, Duncruevie, awaiting decision.
- 23/01838/FLL Replacement extension to dwellinghouse & formation of balcony, 2 Candy Farm Cottage Glenfarg, awaiting decision.
- 23/01536/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse at Davaar, Main Street, Glenfarg, approved.
- 23/00815/FLL Change of use of building at Mill Cottages, Millgang, Duncruevie, to private dwelling house, withdrawn.
- 23/01787/FLL Alterations and extension to Duncruevie Cottage, Duncruevie, approved.
- 23/01788/LBC Alterations and extension to Duncruevie Cottage, Duncruevie, approved.
- 23/01779/LBC Internal alterations to Duncruevie Cottage, Duncruevie, approved.

Finance Report

CClr Murray reported the Treasurer’s Report 08/01/24.
Action points (completed from previous report/meeting)
 Top up from PKC into the CC account. Chair, Secretary and Treasurer had a meeting prior to Christmas to discuss items relating to the CC accounts. It was agreed that we would be applying for a Grant to cover the cost of the Christmas lights each year. This has yet to be actioned.
 Phoned Malcolm Jack from Foundation Scotland because there has not been a Micro Grant Top up yet.
 Had a meeting with Isla Craig with regards to the two accounts. We now have a dual authentication process, gives me a bit more cover legally. Also, the reporting of the accounts might be different next year with regards to the microgrant funding displays. To ensure the right money is coming out of the right pot and we know how much is left in each fund.
Action points to be completed going forward:
 Receipts for micro grants, need to approach each micro-grant granted for proof of expenditure. (Still to be continued).
 Chase up micro-grant-fund top up.
 Send out all newsletter advertising invoices.

Account Movement 6 November 2023 – 8 January 2024

TREASURER A/C	
Balance 08/01/24:	£ 575.35
Money In:	£ 658.03
Money Out:	£ 86.25
NEWSLETTER A/C	
Balance 08/01/24:	£3673.75
Money In:	£0
Money Out:	£ 975.99

A member of the public commented further about the advertising revenue for the village newsletter and that to date, for 2024, there were 12 subscribers. It is hoped that more advertisers will come forward because advertising assists with the financial upkeep of the Newsletter.

A discussion took place regarding the funding of the Christmas lights and that it is an expenditure that is becoming costly year on year. Cllr Freshwater was able to advise on how our neighbouring community of Kinross funds its Christmas lights and this was noted. It is hoped that we can source funding for our Christmas lights to allow us to spend our budget more frugally.

AOCB

A member of the public offered services, on behalf of his local Church, from a community benefit Rapid Response team. The RR team has responded to community issues in the Perth area previously – flooding and working with the Fire & Rescue service to provide community aid as volunteers. Specifically, for the Glenfarg area, an offer was made to monitor and to grit/salt the Glenfarg to Duncruevie road for the removal/abeyance of a frosty/snowy road surface. This has come to light due to a car sliding into a ditch around the double S bend area located towards the village entrance/exit in the vicinity of the 30mph village signage and bordering the Copperfield’s footpath to Duncruevie. The offer was met with agreement nonetheless, because the roadway is under the ownership and jurisdiction of PKC it was noted that the road (C Class) would be salted but on a descending scale of priority. The matter was discussed and that PKC should be approached for comment and advice. CClr Fraser thanked the member of the public for the community offer then stated, that for the record, pavement gritting that is carried out by volunteers, within the village, that they had to be on an approved list and covered by insurance for this activity. This may well extend to the offer by the RR team if agreed. Further investigation about the offer is to be enquired about and that he instructed the secretary to contact PKC for advice and report back to the GCC and the member of the public.

The next meeting of Glenfarg Community Council will be on Monday 4 March 2024.

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- Damage to Sites of Special Scientific Interest
- The disturbance of sea mammals
- Illegal use of traps and snares
- Illegal cockle picking
- Removal of birds' nests from the eaves of houses at certain times of the year.

There are currently seven specific Wildlife Crime Priorities in Scotland and the UK.

- Bat Crime
- Badger Persecution
- Raptor (Birds of Prey) Persecution
- Freshwater Pearl Mussels Persecution
- CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species) Issues
- Poaching
- Cyber Enabled Wildlife Crime

Although any officer can investigate wildlife crime, every Division in Police Scotland has a Wildlife Crime Liaison Officer and there is also a network of part-time Wildlife Crime Officers across the force. These officers can be contacted to report a crime or to seek advice on wildlife crime matters. Call Police Scotland on 101 to report a wildlife crime or email us at Contactus@scotland.pnn.police.uk if you suspect a wildlife crime is/has taken place

DO:

- **Report** any suspicious activity as soon as possible to Police Scotland on 101 or 999 if it is an emergency, and ask to speak to a Wildlife Crime Officer if one is available
- **Take note** of the date, time, and weather conditions
- If possible, **identify a map reference** using the My Three Words app, or ideally a GPS reading of both the incident scene and location from where you witnessed the incident
- **Note a description** of person/s involved including gender, age, height, clothing, etc.
- **Write down** any vehicle registration numbers, make, model, and colour that may be involved
- **Identify other witnesses** and obtain their name and contact details
- If possible, **video or photograph** the scene, or make a rough sketch
- **Cover up** any suspected poisoned baits or victims to prevent any animal or person from coming into contact with them.
- **Do report.** Even if you are not sure - report the incident. The evidence of wildlife crime is not always obvious.

DO NOT:

- **Do not disturb** the scene by moving items or walking about unnecessarily
- **Do not touch** dead animals or birds, especially if you suspect that poison may have been used
- **Do not interfere** with legal countryside practices such as the legal use of traps and snares, hides, high seats, and shooting butts.

NEVER:

- **Never approach suspects** or intervene if you suspect someone is committing a wildlife crime – you may put yourself in danger.

The Crown Office & Procurator Fiscal Service also has a dedicated Wildlife and Environmental Crime Unit; working together we aim to ensure our officers are trained to the highest level to ensure thorough investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime.

RECENT INCIDENTS

02/02/2024 Dangerous driving (A977 nearby Kinross Services) Charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

02/02/2024 Theft by shoplifting. Over £6,500.00 worth (Sainsbury's, Kinross) Three people identified and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

14/02/2024 Vandalism (Montgomery Street, Kinross) MO Remove DVLA clamp via an angle grinder. One person charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

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- Contact the police immediately on 999

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

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

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

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

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

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

Police Scotland – Local Community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

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

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

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

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

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

Ways of Following the Police

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

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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.

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“ A bit about me... ”

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

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Historical Heroines

Thurs 7 Mar, 7-8pm

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Tickets are available on Eventbrite priced at £2. Visit https://bit.ly/fionavalpay_lochleven

D Day Planning Talk

Wed 27 Mar 2024, 6-7pm

Find out about the meticulous planning and preparations of D-Day, in this 80th Anniversary year. Thursday 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. Join retired soldier Andy Middlemiss on 27 March as he talks about the preparations and planning that led to D-Day itself.

A further talk will take place on Thursday 6 June (the actual 80th anniversary). Andy Middlemass will talk about landings and the ensuing breakout battles for Normandy that followed.

Tickets are available on Eventbrite (https://bit.ly/dday_lochleven) or can be booked in the library for £10 per person.

Interested In Writing?

The next Creative Writing Group session is at 7pm-9pm on Wednesday 6 March. Please contact the library if you would like more information.

Activities In Your Library

Come along to our free Thursday morning get together (10am-12noon) with your needles and pins for a morning of crochet and knitting, a chat and hot drink.

Or come along on Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm-4.30pm to try your hand at one of the ever-popular board games including Scrabble, chess and snakes and ladders. No prizes, no pressure, just fun and a warm drink.

Kinross Garden Group

Unfortunately, our February talk with Frazer Henderson, on plants in Yemen, was cancelled due to the death of our chairperson David Walker. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.



We will continue with the season and the next meeting is on 14 March at 2pm in the Parish Church, Kinross. Professor David Rankin will talk about 'The Rocky Road to Chelsea'; a journey that he and his wife Stella have made, successfully, with plants from their nursery, Kevock Garden Plants.

Summer visit schedules will be available for members to make their choice of garden visits, starting in May.

Membership fees are £20 for the year and £5 for visitors. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts, you will be made very welcome. Doors open from 1.30pm.

For more details contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589 or by email at acaroline1000@gmail.com

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



KLEO at Better Place to Live Fair

On Saturday 23 March from 10am to 3pm KLEO will provide some fabulous entertainment in the drama studio of the campus (room next to assembly hall). The following musicians will entertain you between 10am and 3pm; Perthshire Ukeleles, Annabel and Nigel (guitar) and Reeds United (small ensemble). Other singing groups and musicians will be announced nearer the time.

Comedy Night

On Saturday 23 March at 8pm in Milnathort Town Hall there will be an evening packed with laughs. You can look forward to seeing the following fabulous comedians:- Rob Kane, one of Scotland's funniest compères; Obie, star of the Perth and Adelaide comedy festivals and star of the 'F*ck it list' podcast; Richard Pulsford, winner of the UK pun championships; Cal Halbert, comedian, master impressionist, star of ITV's 'Britain's Got Talent' and the 'A to Z of impressions'. Bar at venue. Tickets are £11 and can be purchased on our website.

Acoustic Open Mic

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

Kinross Farmers' Markets

The markets will start again in April, with the first one on Saturday 27 April at 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross. The market dates will be on every fourth Saturday of the month from April to November (apart from the July market, there will not be a market that month). The following markets will be on the High Street: 27 April, 22 June, 28 September and 26 October. For these markets the High Street will be closed from the entrance at Burns Begg Street to the entrance at Montgomery Street.

There will also be some bigger markets at the Market Park (10am

Perthshire Ukeleles





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to 3pm). These markets will be the Spring Market on 25 May, the Summer Market on 24 August, and the Winter (Festive) Market on 23 November.

If you like to book a stall space, 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.

Kacophony Orchestra

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

Leven Voices

This is a fun, informal, drop-in singing group which you can join at anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary. Sessions run on Tuesday evenings with Horsecross Arts tutor David McLean from 7.30pm-9.30pm at Kinross Parish Church. The fee is £4 per session.

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

Portmoak Film Society

Scandi Noir 'Surprise' March Film

The audience gave top ratings to our February film treat 'Cinema Paradiso', the 1988 Italian classic movie paying homage to the role of cinema in a rural community. Its pulling power was evident with several new guests showing up from as far afield as Dollar and supporting our local film club in Kinross-shire.

And now for something completely different! For our penultimate film of the season, we're showing the Icelandic horror-comedy 'Lamb' on Saturday 9 March. Released in December 2021, it is produced by and stars the brilliant Noomi Rapace (of 'The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo' fame) as one half of a lonely couple on a remote farm in Iceland. Come prepared to be surprised!

All films are shown at Portmoak Village Hall in Scotlandwell. Doors open at 7pm and films start promptly at 7.30pm. Entry is £6 on the door and refreshments are served after the film. Regulars and newcomers are welcome. For further information, contact Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

Kinross-shire Climate Café

Our meetings in Loch Leven Library on the first Tuesday of each month focus on different aspects of climate change and advice presented by guest speakers who are experts in their field. Apart from the friendly chat and discussions we also support climate change action. Most recently we have been organising a local repair café that will start in Kinross-shire in April.

Repair cafes are informal pop-in events which are open to anyone. You can bring your broken items and have them repaired under the supervision of experienced volunteer repairers. This 15-year-old idea resulted in over 2200 repair cafes worldwide. We are planning one to start in Kinross-shire on 20 April. The plan was presented at our meeting on 6 February. The project needs funding to get off the ground and we are currently applying for the Green Living Fund. This fund is decided by the public and we are asking for your support through voting. You can find more details on p9 of this *Newsletter*. For more information view the grant application online at <https://pkc.communitychoices.scot/budgets/2/investments/9>

At our next meeting on Tuesday 5 March at 7pm we welcome Nathan Jamieson, Energy Advisor from The Heat Project (www.theheatproject.org). Mr Jamieson will present a talk on heat pumps

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

All profits given away to local good causes

explaining how they work and how they fit into the wider context of decarbonisation of the UK's heating. Some aspects of his talk will demonstrate how heat pumps are saving people money and reducing carbon emissions. He will also present a step-by-step method to assess if a house is suitable for a heat pump installation (or what you can be done to make it suitable). Finally, there will be advice on how to access the £7500 grant from Home Energy Scotland to help with installation costs.

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

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

CATCH

The case for lower cost, reliable, clean heating for our households and businesses continues to strengthen. We advocate a system that can deliver hot water directly without the need for significant property upgrade at a cost below gas and which will be an asset for significant community benefit into the future.

PKC support, which is essential, has been growing both in their stated strategy and directly from their implementation team. ScotGov support through the CARES agency is active with their first report due very soon. The current focus is on securing funds for a full feasibility study and stepping up community engagement. We have a great deal of work to do and would welcome additional help from our community. If you think you could help, or simply wish to find out more, please get in touch by email at info@catch-lochleven.org. Alternatively come and see us at the Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March at the Campus.

Kinross-shire Trishaws

We are thrilled to reveal the winner of our 'Name our Trishaw' competition.

Catriona MacDonald from Kinross chose the name Harris after her 10-year-old son. Harris and Catriona came to visit in January and Harris was delighted to see his name displayed on the trishaw. He is pictured below on the trishaw with mum, Catriona, in the passenger seat.



Catriona and Harris





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Kinross Centre

What an unpredictable month of weather we have had, from very low to unseasonably high temperatures. It has been difficult to know what to wear when we get up in the morning. However, the rain has been very consistent so the ducks must be very happy.

It has been another busy month in the centre with all service users enjoying our regular activities including curling (which is always a favourite), exercise classes, relaxation classes, a weekly church service, art group and bingo. Every day we have a range of activities for all service users to enjoy.

In the last month we have had special activities including celebrating the Scottish poet Robert Burns. We addressed the haggis after it was piped in by our friend and piper Richard Scott. The service users were given a good Scottish lunch with cock-a-leekie soup then haggis, neeps and tatties followed by a delicious sherry trifle.

We also celebrated Valentine's Day. Our dining room was decorated with hearts, flowers and some very tasty chocolates. Everyone should have the feeling of being loved.

We are involved in the 'Harmony project' with Perth Theatre and Concert Hall. It started in February and is a joint project with the centre and Kinross primary 5 children. The children have been coming along and chatting to our service users and have gone back to school with lots of information and stories on how things used to be. They have turned that information into a song, and we are looking forward to hearing them perform it on 22 March.

We hope you have a good month and enjoy watching all the lovely spring bulbs appear.

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 & District Town Twinning Association

With the 50th anniversary twinning visit taking place this summer (3-10 August) we are looking for any memories and photographs people have from any previous visit to Gace, including school exchanges. Many Kinross High School pupils have taken part in the school exchanges over many years and many other Kinross-shire residents have also been part of the twinning experience. Former



High School pupils look back on their time in Gace as the moment when learning French became real as they had to use the language skills they had learned. Other local residents look back and smile wondering how those with limited language skills worked round communicating with their trusty French/English dictionary. Technology has move on since the original letter writing communications with emails and various translating applications assisting greatly.

Anyone who has memories or photographs should send them to secretary David Munro: *email d_g_munro@hotmail.com*. We hope to create a collage of photos from the past 50 years for display during the August twinning visit.

We will be holding a stall at the Better Place to Live Fair at the Campus on Saturday 23 March where people can also hand in photos and memories.

It is hoped that after this year's 50th anniversary twinning visit, it will help generate renewed enthusiasm to carry forward to the next 50 years.



Milnathort Bridge Club

For many years The Green Park Hotel in Pitlochry has hosted a variety of special interest breaks, including three separate four night bridge breaks over the winter. Players have the option of tuition and friendly competition each day and points are awarded for placings each session. Sandy Greenhill partnered with Jan Hill did our club proud this year by taking pole position in the February week. Well Done Sandy and Jan.

For further information on playing bridge contact Gloria Wilson on 07961795812 or by email at *Gairneyview@gmail.com*.

Results

North/South

15 January

Jan Hill/David Poole

22 January

Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley

29 January

Helen Todd/Bob Robertson

5 February

Morag Ridings/Jane Smith

12 February

Catrina Marshall/Betty Wilson

19 February

Sandy Greenhill/Nicol Tomney

East/West

Alison Houston/Morag Ridings

Linda Bayne/Suzie Ballantyne

Jessie Mitchell/Liz Pottie

Sandy Scholes/Jean Bennet

Colin Wilson/Gloria Wilson

Cath Ballantyne/Marion Forbes

Kinross-shire u3a

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home



U3A is open to semi-retired and retired people and the joining fee is £10. We currently have a number of varied groups who enjoying activities such as a book club, military history, poetry, scrabble, genealogy, famous Scots and so on.

We also meet at Kinross Parish Church on the first Tuesday of each month. In May we hold our Annual General Meeting and each month from September to April we offer a talk to our membership from an invited speaker. If you are interested come along to a couple of talks, get to know us and get a taste of what u3a is all about. We would love to meet you.

On Tuesday 5 March we will host a presentation from a representative of CAB Perth. Doors to the Parish Church will open shortly after 2pm and the presentation will start at 2.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards.

Please note that we will have a table at the Better Place to Live Fair at the Campus on Saturday 23 March.

If you are interested in joining the u3a information is available from our website or you can contact us by email at mbs21@btinternet.com. New members are always welcome. Why not try out one of our monthly meetings?

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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

'Like' our page to be kept informed.

Search for *Kinross Newsletter* or go to:

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter





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 12 March, 'I come from a land down under'

Starting out at Rumbling Bridge the walk heads through the Devon valley towards Dollar. We plan to stop in Dollar for lunch before returning by bus to the start.

Tuesday 26 March, Bridge of Earn Circular

From Bridge of Earn this walk takes us around Dunbarney Estate, featuring lovely open views of the countryside.

Weekend Longer Walks

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

Sunday 3 March, The River Almond Walkway, 'Trains, Boats and Planes'

The walk heads upstream through a lovely, wooded river valley as far as the railway line of the eastern boundary of Edinburgh Airport. We return to the river via tracks, minor roads and an old pack-horse bridge. Booking is essential.

Saturday 16 March, Cupar to Hill of Tarvit Circular

From the centre of Cupar the walk proceeds south east to Tarvit Farm and continues to the Hill of Tarvit. Passing Scotstarvit Tower, we then travel north along rough paths and field edges, returning to Cupar along the banks of the River Eden. Booking is essential. Walking poles recommended.

Sunday 31 March, Crieff Hosh-Knock-Hosh

A circular, undulating walk through attractive woodlands, eventually ascending 250m to the Knock which affords panoramic views across Strathearn. Booking is essential.

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

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



Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk



We started the new year with four new members joining the club. This means that we now have over 50 members. Our commitment to fostering an interest in art in the community began this year with an 'Artists in Residence' session at Kinross Primary School on Thursday 1 February. Seven of our members enjoyed painting, drawing and sharing their work with groups of pupils and their teachers. The youngsters were very keen to get involved and ask questions and this intergenerational activity was a delight for young and old alike.

A treat for the members came later in the month with a demonstration by professional artist Jem Bowden with the topic Impressionistic Watercolour Landscapes. Jem is a full-time artist and tutor. He was the Society of All Artists (SAA) 'Artist of The Year 2014' and a demonstrator at the International Watercolour Masters in 2022. For the session at KADAC he demonstrated the creation of two landscapes from the East Neuk of Fife where he now lives and works. He worked at an impressive pace, talking the audience through his actions and we learned, for example, that he used a restricted palette of no more than five colours and two brushes to produce his impressionistic artworks. Communicating clearly with the audience as he painted made for a thoroughly worthwhile demonstration. There was lots of information for members at various levels of skill in using watercolours and it was enticing for others who have never tried painting in this medium. Details of Jem's tuition and galleries of his work can be seen on his website at <https://www.jembowdenwatercolour.co.uk/>. Our club professional adviser, artist Tom Sutton Smith, is to be congratulated on arranging such a well-received presentation.

The next big event in our calendar is the Better Place to Live Fair at the Loch Leven Campus on Saturday 23 March. The club will be represented by a number of our members and there will be an opportunity to talk to them about their artwork. We will be located at the front right hand end of the stage in the main hall.

You can find out more about the club by visiting our website.

Kinross High School



Scots Verse Competition

Well done to all finalists in the S1 Scots Verse Competition. The standard of performance was really high and the judges (Mrs Brown, Mrs Sim, Amy, Ellis and Finn) had a very difficult job choosing the winners! The winner was Oran and the runners up were Eloise and Lily.

Pupils and parents were entertained by the bagpipes played by Nicholas and Sandy. The ceilidh band played during the interval and the pupils also enjoyed Irn Bru and shortbread. Austin welcomed parents and introduced each performer. Well done to everyone involved!



Duke Of Edinburgh Award

Our new Bronze and Direct Gold recruits started their expedition training in February. They spent the day learning about food and cooking, campcraft and first aid. We are looking forward to working with them on navigation and route planning in the weeks to come, as we plan for our practise expeditions which will take place between mid-March and June. Many thanks to all the volunteers who make this possible for our young people.

Rotary Young Chef Competition

Congratulations to Ruari and Jocelyn who recently represented the school at Perth UHI. While they were not placed their dishes were excellent and they received very good feedback from the judges.

S2 pupils look at Satellite Technology

Thanks to Aerospace Kinross who came in and discussed the use of satellites and careers in the space industry with our S2 pupils. The young people experienced a range of workshops looking at light pollution before spending some time in the blow-up planetarium.

Streets Ahead

Three of our technologies ambassadors ran a club as part of their Young STEM Leader Award, focused on a competition sponsored by



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Clubs & Community Groups

the NCR foundation called Streets Ahead. Their task was to reimagine or redesign the high-street shopping experience in their local area.

The first years worked really hard and collaborated well with senior pupils. Their submission was selected (along with nine other schools) and the team was invited to an all-expenses paid trip to the V&A for a design and prototyping experience.

Our team was allocated designer Andrew Tibbles (photo below), a PHD student focusing on systems design around palliative care. He worked closely with the pupils introducing them to cause and effect diagrams to analyse and evaluate as changes were made. He encouraged them to challenge their assumptions and think creatively. The pupils then presented their prototype and process to all present. We are so proud of their achievement and participation on the day.

Sports Event

Pupil Support organised a sports event featuring races, javelin, high jump and other activities. Pupils did tremendously well and had a great time. All achieved personal goals in sports as well as being considered to possibly represent PKC nationally (we are waiting to hear!)

Trips

A group of senior pupils attended a live performance of Jekyll and Hide at the Lyceum Theatre in Edinburgh in January 2024. S2 and S3 pupils are going to London in May. They will see two West End shows at the theatre, along with other activities.

Music Successes

A group of pupils performed to the wider community in the library which was very well received. Music business students organised the Battle of the Bands in February and it showcased the talents of many of our students and some staff. The winning band was Polaroid; Joseph, Lucy, Jake and Ellen.

Another group of pupils performed at Rachel House and Ashley House before Christmas. They hope to do this more regularly in the future. Lennox, one of our S4 pipers, took part in Celtic Connections in Glasgow in January. Some pupils will soon be taking part in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships with our Bagpipe Teacher, Mr Frame. Congratulations to one of our pianists, Alex, who took part in the district final of Rotary Young Musician.

Spring Concert and School Show

The date of our spring concert is now Tuesday 19 March at 7pm. We look forward to seeing you there to support our young performers.

We are currently rehearsing for our school show, Seussical, which will be performed from 11-13 June in the school assembly hall. Tickets for our events will be made available at the online school shop. You will find the link to the shop on the school website.

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

Delicious Fairtrade Food!

Come to our stall at the Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March and see the variety of sauces, chutneys, jams and marmalade from Kenya and Eswatini, as well as Kilombero rice from Malawi and Beer Bread from South Africa. We also have Divine Chocolate and Café Direct Beans, ground coffee and instant coffee.



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Kinross Historical Society

The February meeting was opened with a tribute to the late David Walker given by the Treasurer, Anne Milburn. She spoke of his talents and enthusiasm and the breadth and depth of IT knowledge with which he supported our speakers.

The planned talk 'Lassodie the Lost Village' had to be cancelled due to the ill-health of the speaker. but President George Sutherland stood in at the last minute with 'Travels through History'.

His illustrated talk took the meeting through many countries around the world, from Syria to South Africa, from Galipoli to the Phillipines, from Russia to South Georgia and the Antarctic. Some of the talk was related to military history and the battles which had taken place in the different places. Some countries visited related to people, such as Lawrence of Arabia studying Syrian architecture and Shackleton on his attempt to reach the South Pole.

Sheena Matheson thanked George Sutherland for stepping into the breach and using his own deep knowledge to give with a talk that interested everyone at many levels.

Kevin Heneghan has been co-opted on to the committee and will take over the IT support from David Walker.



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Better Place to Live Fair

The Trust will have a stall at this event at the campus on Saturday 23 March. Please come and have a chat to find out more about the activities of the Trust.

Annual General Meeting

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

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

Raingardens Update

For a detailed report on recent and planned improvements at the wetlands at Junction Road, please see the article on p27 in this Newsletter.

Crook and Drum Growing Together

As the snowdrops appear in mid-February, we look forward to another growing season in Crook of Devon and Drum. Crocuses will follow in the new bed at the village hall, followed by dwarf daffodils in our planters and the community orchard. We are planning an interpretive sign for the orchard area, with funding from the Fossoway Community Benefit Fund.



By the end of March, we'll see many daffodils around the village, including 2000 new native ones around the edge of Waulkmill Park. These are part of our plans to encourage biodiversity, with more trees, and suitable flowers for pollinating insects.

PKC are making some plants available to Bloom groups to help with this aim, including some shrubs and native hedging, as well as wildflower seed. We have also been lucky to be granted eight fruit trees from the Tree Council's Golden Orchards project. They will be planted around the middle of March, once the positions are agreed with the Council. We will also include suitable plants such as marigolds in our planters this summer, to look attractive while being suitable for insects.



We are also going to be working with Fossoway Primary School, to advise them about biodiversity and growing some edible plants.

We would welcome anyone local who would like to help with our activities in any way. Please contact Amanda James on 07963 476803, or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com. You can also follow us on Facebook, and the Fossoway Forum group.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/
commongroundscharitycafe



Following on from a busy January, we have continued to welcome old and new friends to our coffee mornings in February. We celebrated Valentine's Day a day early with heart shaped home baking!

Our good news for March is a Project Lunch to be held on Tuesday 12 March at 12 noon. Margaret McLaren from The Good Shepherd Network Charity will be our speaker. This charity supports Bapty School in Uganda and provided funds for a medical centre on Lake Bunyoni, both of which are much needed in the area.

The charity we are supporting in March is Lepra based in Bangladesh which is one of the poorest and most densely populated countries. 4,000 new cases of leprosy are detected annually but, with a serious shortage of health workers, they are poorly equipped to deal with this. Help is required for the elimination programme in detection and treatment services as well as self care groups in improving quality of life for many families.

We look forward to seeing you for coffee on Tuesdays and Saturdays at 10am-12.30pm.

Kinross Beavers

On our first night back after the Christmas break the beavers headed outside to walk under the starry skies from Millbridge Hall to car park at the far end of Kirkgate Park. We took some time to



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look at the constellations and planets then it was back to the hall

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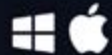
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for a quick game before finishing.

The following day was our first sleepover of 2024 at Millbridge Hall. First of all, we walked to phoenix hide before heading back via Kirkgate park. Once we were back in the hall it was games all round with a Lego room, a board games room and dodgeball in the main hall. After all the games, it was time to settle down for pizza and chips from Central Fish and Chips. Then it was movie time, watching Luca before heading off to bed.

On Sunday morning, everyone was up early for breakfast before tidying up their gear and having some final games before pick up time.

The following week we worked on our Code of Conduct, personal challenge badge and also used glow sticks to make trails in the main hall.

It was then all things Scottish the following week for Burns night. We worked on our Scottish thistle award. We learned about Scotland's location in the world, designed a coat of arms and wrote stories using Scottish words.

At the start of February, we were lucky enough to have Pete Chan come to speak about Chinese New Year, the Lunar Calendar and the 12 animals of the Zodiac (pictured below). We also made flying dragons and put a wish on a Chinese wishing tree. Some of the wishes were truly inspiring.

On the 9 February, we had a fun filled aviation themed night learning about aircraft for the air activities stage 1 badge. We were very lucky to get an awesome presentation from Emma who kindly gave up her time to come talk about flying in fighter jets as a navigator. A massive thank you from us all for giving the beavers such a fantastic insight into your experiences. We also made paper airplanes and competed against each other over which plane could fly the furthest. We also had some drawing and colouring time and designed our own aircraft.

We also said congratulations to Harry and Lewis who were invested into the colony after moving up from squirrels. We were delighted to appoint some new lodge leaders and a new assistant lodge leader. Congratulations to Jude, Leo and Tommy. Finally, congratulations to Daniel (above) who was presented with his Chief Scout's Bronze Award! Bravo.

Are you interested in volunteering with scouting? Volunteering is easier than you think. We have opportunities both behind the scenes and directly supporting young people in our group. With full support and training, you can volunteer on a flexible basis. Not only is it incredibly rewarding and great fun, but you will also learn some



brilliant skills which are transferable to the workplace and further education. *Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.*

Kinross Squirrels

It was a fun first night back at squirrels at the start January. We were hearing all about what everyone got up to over the festive break as well as looking at our Code of Conduct. There was also plenty time for games.

The following week the squirrels were celebrating Squirrels Appreciation Day. They designed their own squirrel and reviewed the activities we have done, picking one they would like to do again. They also played 'Squirrel's Coming' which is a squirrel-themed version of Captain's Coming.

At the end of January, the squirrels were making bird feeders for the RSPB Big Garden Birdwatch. As it was Burns' night the day before, the squirrels also enjoyed some Scottish themed activities; designing their own tartan and learning about Robert Burns before playing musical statues with Scottish music.

As we moved into February the squirrels were celebrating pancake day. They were decorating pancakes, with some really cool designs, and playing some pancake themed games. Everyone had a great time. At the end of the meeting we said farewell to Harry and Lewis who were both moving on to beavers.

Chinese New Year was the theme the following week and the squirrels learned about some of the traditions and celebrations. As 2024 is the year of the dragon, the squirrels decorated some dragon mobiles to hang at home to bring fortune and good luck. The squirrels also made 'Good Luck' posters, by drawing the Chinese symbol for luck and decorating the poster with colourful symbols and characters from the Chinese Zodiac. We learned that most of the squirrels were born in the year of the dog and our younger squirrels were born in the year of the pig. We also watched a short video about a girl called Abbie, who celebrated Chinese New Year with her family and spoke about what they did to celebrate the occasion. The squirrels also practised using chopsticks and used





them to pick up pieces of string and small cotton wool balls. We then ended the evening by presenting the squirrels with the badges that they have recently earned.

Congratulations to Lewis, Harry, Ben, Caleb, Robbie, Isobel, Evan and Eoin who have been awarded the Chief Scout's Acorn Award which is the highest award in the Squirrel section. 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 in helping with the section, then please email us at kinrosssquirrels@outlook.com for more information.

Kinross Cubs

It was great to welcome the cubs back for our first meeting of 2024 at the start of January. For our first meeting of the term we went over our Code of Conduct, issued challenges for the Personal Challenge badge for those who are still to complete the badge and played lots of games.

Congratulations to Struan and Sammi (pictured) who were invested into the Pack at the end of the meeting. Congratulations are also due to Edward who was appointed the new Seconder for the Red Six. Bravo!



The following week the cubs were working on their Scientist

badge as they took part in a variety of experiments. The experiments included building towers from spaghetti and marshmallows, measuring their pulse rate before and after exercise and they looked at how vinegar reacted with sodium bicarbonate.

The cubs celebrated Burn's Night as they took part in a variety of Scottish themed activities including a mini Highland Games and designed their own tartan.

At the end of January, the cubs were working on their Entertainer badge as they learned some campfire songs, did a drawing of their favourite character from a book or TV programme and were dancing a dance routine in the dark with glow sticks and light up glasses.

At the end of the meeting we said farewell to Danny and Rupert who were both moving on after spending the last couple of years at Cubs.

As we entered February the Cubs were celebrating Chinese New Year as they made lanterns and also learned about the different animals in the Chinese Zodiac. They also played some international themed games including catch the dragon's tail.

Volunteering can make a huge difference to young people's lives, as

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



The Rotary Club of Kinross and District

www.ribi.org



Youth Events

Our support of the local community in recent weeks has had a focus on our young people.

On 3 February Ruari McLoughlin and Jocelyn Paterson progressed to the next round of the Rotary Young Chef competition, held at Perth UHI. We thank Daniel FuTong (Grouse and Claret) for his helpful mentoring. Although not placed (and generally younger than most other competitors), their dishes were described as 'restaurant standard'.

On the same day, Alexander McGuire represented Kinross-shire in the next round of the Rotary Young Musician competition, held at Loch Leven campus. Although not placed to progress to the next round, Alexander impressed his audience with his superb piano performance.

Rotarians Andy Middlemiss and Brian Timms have been interviewing candidates for 'RYLA 2024'. RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Award) is a week-long residential camp at Nethybridge where senior pupils have a go at challenging activities such as rock-climbing, canoeing, hill walking, alongside leadership challenges and the opportunity to make friends with young people from all over Scotland. Andy Middlemiss writes, 'It is our

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pleasure and pride in the Rotary Club to pay all RYLA expenses - travel, residential costs and for the benefit of top-class instructors and equipment'.

Thanks to Kinross High School Depute Head, Stuart MacBeath for his assistance in co-ordinating the selection process. We are delighted to announce that Connie Spiers was selected to attend this summer, with Millie Bell as first reserve. Well done. We hope that you have an amazing experience and we look forward to hearing about it.

On 7 February, Rotarian Carolyne Poller visited Arngask Primary School and assisted with judging their Scots Verse Speaking Competition. Pupils from P1 to P7 recited a range of poems and performed to an extremely high standard. Very well done to all who took part!

These events provide our young people with a chance to showcase their skills, but also to challenge themselves, develop confidence and gain valuable experience. We are proud to provide these opportunities and support these fabulous young people.

Burns Celebrations

On 22 January club members themselves were performing at an informal and enjoyable celebration of the bard's life and work. It was a great evening of fellowship and fun.

Santa's Sleigh

Santa is putting his feet up before the next round of visits. Thanks to everyone who turned out to support us and donated to our collections. We are pleased to announce that we have used some of these donations to make contributions to the fine work of these local organisations; CHAS, Broke Not Broken, JAC, Young Curlers, Trishaws, Otters and Kinross Primary Parent Council. Thanks to members of these organisations who accompanied us on the sleigh trips; we could not turn out on so many nights without the assistance of others and we are delighted to support your organisations.

New Members

On 5 February we welcomed our newest member, Shona Mitchell, to the club. Shona told us that she was attracted to the Rotary ideal of 'Service Above Self' and looks forward to participating in some of our activities.

Andrew Flinn has joined the club in recent months and he gave us his 'Job Talk' at that meeting - a tradition whereby newer members speak about their lives before joining Rotary, strengthening the bonds of fellowship. Andrew has had an interesting and fulfilling life to date, starting his career in the Royal Navy followed by a series of jobs in finance. His enthusiasm and sense of fun for all that he has done shone through his fascinating account.

Our club comprises a wide range of backgrounds and careers, each with the common goal of giving something back to society as best they can. If you are interested in finding out more or visiting a meeting to see for yourself, you would be made most welcome.

Contact secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

January Draw

- 1st No 132 Mary Nisbet, Kinnesswood
- 2nd No 109 Richard Green, Easter Balgedie
- 3rd No 139 Margaret Paton, Kinnesswood

Kinross Guide Dogs



Our group has been expanding since the beginning of the year. Our new co-ordinator is in place, so planning for fundraising and speaking engagements will be at the top of the agenda for our first meeting. The Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March will be our first event. We hope to see you there. We will also be planning other events. More collection boxes are popping up in businesses across Kinross-shire, so please keep your change and foreign coins and notes to feed them.

Here is a wee update on our local guide dog puppy who is 9 months and is now in season. She is apparently very cuddly and loves to suck on her cuddly toy to go to sleep. Her puppy raiser Aileen absolutely adores her but informs us that she is being considered for breeding. Her medical checks will be done before she can be confirmed as breeding stock. If she is, she will head to the breeding centre for final checks and to decide on her next role. If this girl does become a mum, her donation to guide dogs will hopefully multiply into many life changing dogs. We cannot thank her breeder enough for that huge donation. Several of her siblings prance around the local area, so keep a look out for the lucky owners.

We also have an update on Helen who is cycling from north to south Africa, in aid of guide dogs. She arrived in Uganda after battling through the rain on a steep climb. Apparently it is going to get very dry for the next while and, no doubt, the rain will be missed during that period. You can follow Helen and donate through Facebook by searching for 'Helen Smith, One woman and her bike'.



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Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook

On 23 March we will be at the Better Place to Live Fair held in the Loch Leven Community Campus. Please come along to our stand and see photographs taken recently by our members. There will be some members available on the day to provide information about our club and all the activities and will also be happy to answer any photography-related questions you may have.

At the beginning of this month our league 3 competition will be judged by Douglas Allan in the Church Centre. This is the last leg of our league competitions and the scores from the winning photographs across the three categories of the three leagues will be calculated to give us our final winners at the end of the season.

We are also looking forward to a talk given by two of our members who have recently returned from a holiday of a lifetime to Antarctica. It will be fabulous to hear all about their adventure and to see a slideshow of their photography.

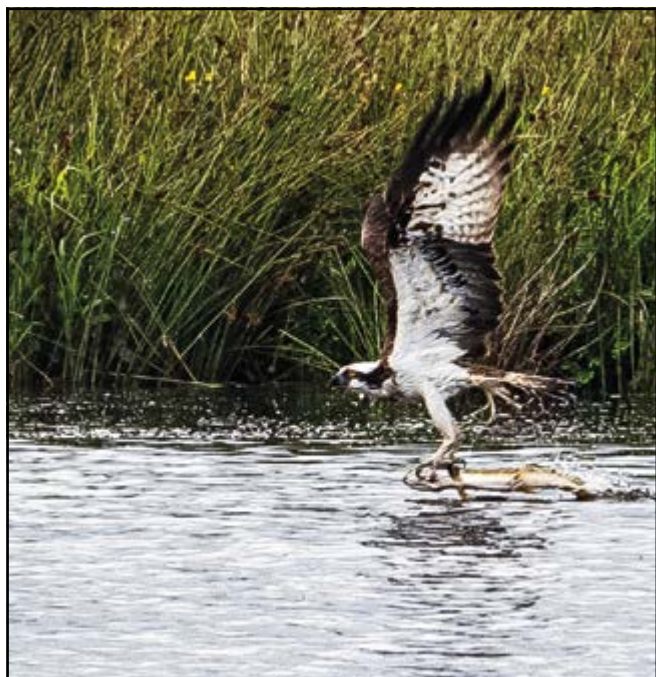
Our joint meeting in the hall with the Fife and Kinross Group of The Scottish Wildlife Trust takes place this month and we will be welcoming local wildlife photographer Roger Stewart from Perthshire. Roger will be presenting his superb and inspirational photographs of wildlife taken both at home and abroad. Definitely a meeting not to be missed!

Our last meeting in March will be a Zoom presentation by Tony North on 'The Art of Macro'. Tony is a photographer from Manchester and will talk about his knowledge and techniques in macro photography in the field shooting insects and other invertebrates. Through his photographs Tony explores the diversity and unique behaviours of these miniature marvels.

If you would like to learn more about Kinross Camera Club and the planned activities and events please contact us by email at secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk.

Whether you are a beginner or have years of experience with your camera you will be made very welcome. There is no need for lots of expensive kit; all you need is an interest in photography and meeting up with like-minded folk. Why not come along one evening and see if it is for you or visit our stand at the Better Place to Live Fair later in the month?

Our featured photograph this month is called Osprey and Pike and was taken by John St Clair on a visit to Vane Farm Nature Reserve.



Potager Garden

Over the winter our volunteers have been meeting regularly over coffee and planning our activities for the new season ahead. We had a spring clean of the shed and have repaired a fence panel which suffered in one of the winter storms.

We plan to meet again on Monday 4 March at 10.30am at the garden in Bowton Road if the weather is kind, or again for coffee at the Kirklands Hotel. Last minute plans will be advertised on Facebook; follow our page for the latest news.

We will then be meeting regularly on Monday mornings maintaining the garden. Anyone is welcome to join us for a chat, plant advice, or if you'd like to help us in the garden. We can find tasks for all abilities, and strongly feel that gardening and socialising is good for your physical and mental health.

We will have a plant stall at the Better Place to Live Fair on 23 March, with a children's planting activity; do come and say hello and learn more about what we do.

We will again be contacting Kinross Primary School, to see how we can best offer some gardening experience for some of the pupils, as well as working with the Leven class at Kinross High School. If any other youth or community group would like to arrange a visit to the garden and talk about growing in balance with the environment, please get in touch.

We are also in the planning stage of arranging an open gardens event in the summer with other local gardens, to raise funds for Marie Curie. More information will be publicised when a date has been arranged. Contact Amanda James, Garden Convenor, on 07963 476803 by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Boy's Brigade and Girls Association

Members of all three sections continue to carry out badge work on Friday evenings in a range of activities.

A focus on Robert Burns, the Chinese New Year and Valentine's Day involved a number of craft and puzzle work activities. The company section dodgeball team competed in the recent battalion competition and, although they didn't win, everyone enjoyed the experience.

The battalion volleyball competition for junior and company sections had to be postponed due to the weather and will be re-scheduled to a later date.

Junior section members will be entering the international games competition where they finished 20th out of over 200 teams last session.

Coming soon is the 5-a-side football competition, chess for both junior and company sections and an evening hike for company section. The anchor section look forward to a battalion activity day at Perth's Quarrymill on 23 March from 10am-12 noon.



Plants ready for sale at the Fair.



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 both its growth and its residents, current and past.

Since our inception we have undertaken a few projects. Last year we researched and created posters on the history of a number of local shops and these were on display in the High Street, followed by an exhibition in Milnathort Town Hall. Following on from this we looked into 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 welcome some new members. There is no charge except a payment of £1 for refreshments.

Our next meeting is on Wednesday 6 March at 1.30pm in the Kinross Centre. Please consider joining us.

Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

www.krmfc.com

Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC) is a club where we are all about building and flying radio-controlled models and we are always keen to meet new potential members.

Our flying site is around 2.5 miles west of Kinross on the A977. We have one of the longest grass runways in Scotland which allows us to operate large models and the occasional jet with no problems. It runs east to west to take advantage of the prevailing westerly winds. A club hut provides shelter if the weather takes a turn for the worst.



If you are interested in taking up the sport, please use the contact form on the club website at www.krmfc.com/contact. The club can offer friendly advice in choosing, setting up and flying your first aircraft. We can also offer flight training under close supervision of our instructors using a buddy box system, which really shortens the learning time and hopefully avoids an early meeting with the ground!

We cater for all aspects of flying, from gliders to electric, nitro and petrol-powered planes to some that even have miniature jet



engines in them! Our members have a huge range of aircraft from trainers to war time replicas to large 100cc aerobatic aeroplanes. Some of our members have also started 3D printing planes.

Club days are Wednesday and Sunday from around 10am. However, if the weather is nice and the wind not too strong, you will see people flying at the field just about any day of the week. Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult.

The club also works with other groups who have a common interest in aviation and has hosted heats for drone racing in the past few years and also for the UK Youth Rocketry Challenge (<https://www.ukroc.com/>), the Scottish Regional competition for that is taking place at the flying site on Tuesday 23 April this year.

If you just want to see what we are up to, the best way to see that is on our Facebook page [@kinrossradiomodelflyingclub](https://www.facebook.com/kinrossradiomodelflyingclub).

Kinnesswood in Bloom



Still recovering from our success in Britain in Bloom, we have decided to take part in Beautiful Scotland 2024. We've had a wee bit of a rest over the winter months but are now planning what we will be doing in the coming months. Much of what was done last year (such as the new barrels and signboards) has added to the amenity of the village and hopefully will last many more years. Some more barrels will be needed this year.

The bus shelter/community hub is now displaying a board telling the story of 2023 with loads of photos to illustrate the different areas of work. On the front of the building is the very smart Britain in Bloom award. Also in the bus shelter is our recycling facility. Batteries and vapes are taken to the Kinross recycling centre. Spectacles are recycled through a local optician. Stamps are gathered until there is a package full and sent off to different charities each time. This time they went to Parkinson's UK.

Henny's story of moving to a new area and finding friendship in Kinnesswood in Bloom was published on the RHS website and has been very well received. Our members had a lovely night out at the Balgedie Toll on Saturday 20 January. We had a lovely meal and great fun reminiscing about last year.

PKC Community Greenspace offered some free gardening items recently. We have applied for guttering for the school shed, a water butt, watering cans, wildflower seeds, plants and some gardening gloves. Never look a gift horse in the mouth!

We hope to have our village signs replaced shortly. They disappeared when some work was being done on the roads and were never replaced. Gordon is on the case.

We will shortly be starting our work parties. Hopefully the weather in March will be better than the last few weeks. The school will be starting their gardening sessions soon. They also have plans for art work and writing for this year. Art will feature birds, our chosen celebration theme, and writing may feature either birds or cake, our other theme. Expect some amazing little figures round the village this year.

The next meeting will be at 7.30pm on Thursday 7 March at the Well Country Inn.

Soroptimist International of Perth

<https://sigbi.org/perth>

SI Perth President Jean Black welcomed Soroptimists from SI Perth, guests from SI Clubs in Aberdeen, Dundee, Easter Ross, Paisley and an associate member, to our February club meeting. Alison Harrison introduced the speaker, Sandra Jones, from the NSPCC, whose presentation informed us about the work and activities of the NSPCC, formed over 130 years ago, to keep children safe. The date of the meeting, 6 February, had been chosen specifically for this presentation because it coincided with the International Day of Zero Tolerance to Female Genital Mutilation.

Sandra explained that 90% of the income of the NSPCC comes from donations, which enable the organisation to provide a 24/7 Childline service. Other important areas of work include campaigning and

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examples include the Speak Out, Stay Safe programme, which is a preventive programme taken into schools, offering workshops and speaking at assemblies. Sessions teach children to recognise abuse and neglect, encouraging and giving them the confidence to speak out in such situations. These workshops are year specific, tailored appropriately to the respective ages of children. On average, for every primary school class, two children will have suffered abuse or neglect.

In addition to Childline, another telephone service exists for adults concerned about children. This is called NSPCC Helpline. It costs £4 to answer every call. Sandra said that, by the end of her presentation, 80 children would have made contact locally or nationally. The organisation had dealt with 10,119 cases in the last year. Currently, they can answer only 3 out of every 4 calls.

Thanks to the work of NSPCC, the Online Safety Bill will now be considered by the House of Lords and 80 businesses, with an NSPCC presence. The NSPCC needs more counsellors and the cost for each one is £1,600. Typically, a new volunteer will support 200 children in their first year. A few examples of the type of activity someone might become involved with by volunteering included Book Scheme Co-ordinator, Co-ordinator for fundraising fashion/special events and Co-ordinator of Volunteers.

Another campaign taken into schools features a character called 'Pantosaurus', who engages with children to 'Talk Pants', teaching them that their bodies belong to them and again, to speak out about concerns. The vote of thanks was given by Alison Harrison.

If you are interested in finding out more about the work of the NSPCC, volunteering and/or donating, please visit their website at <https://www.nspcc.org.uk>. From there you can select 'NSPCC Scotland' from a drop down menu

Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk



What a start to the year we have had. It has been one of the busiest times in the woodlands, with dozens of nest boxes going up in Kilmagad Wood and countless birch saplings coming out of the peat dome in Portmoak Moss.

We marked national nest box week in February with a day involving the whole of Portmoak Primary School. We had initially hoped to attract a few children to such an event but head teacher, Louise Gordon, asked if all the pupils could help make and install boxes. Absolutely!

This year the school are celebrating local birds and that ties in with curriculum work on migration and coping with climate, which several classes are doing.

Kinross and District Men's Shed offered to make the nest box kits; bird box experts David and Linda Gibson supervised the design and installation, while members of our woodland group and staff from Woodland Trust Scotland helped out on the day.



Teachers, teaching assistants and a number of parents accompanied three groups of children on the walk from the school to the 'workshop' in Portmoak village hall. Then they watched as teams of us climbed ladders to fix up the boxes. The pupils had decorated them with beautiful pictures of nature, so not only cosy homes for the nesting birds but an art exhibition to enjoy if you are in Kilmagad Wood.

It was organised by PCWG member Dave Batchelor, who began to plan the event last summer and was delighted everything worked out: 'It was as perfect an example of a whole community coming together as you could imagine. Even the weather cooperated'.

Lunch for the Men's Shed, *et al*, was provided by the group. There was lots of soup and home baking, not to mention hot fruit crumbles. They have been a feature at all recent events.

Over the past month dozens of crumbles, with ever more exotic fillings, have been created by group member Marje Smith. That might explain why we have had lots of volunteers helping to pull birch out of the Moss!

We are grateful to both the Bog Squad and NatureScot for giving a day each of their time. There was a team of 11 from the Bog Squad and 8 from NatureScot which, together with our own volunteers, amounted to a fantastic 93 'person hours' of labour put into the bog restoration work.

Do you have time for some fun? Please save the day on Saturday 30 March for egg rolling in Chris's Place (the orchard) in Kilmagad Wood. We will put more details on our website.



The Bog Squad!

trypraying

Contact one of the churches in Kinross-shire for more information or visit www.trypraying.org



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Powmill SWI



Our January meeting was the Burn's Supper. It got off to a damp start when a pipe under the sink came apart resulting in gushing water bouncing off the back wall, under the kitchen cupboards and under the lino. Sharon managed to remove the u-bend and bend the pipe so that the water went down the drain. Phone calls were made and David Smith came to the rescue and reconnected the burst joint. Floor mopped up, the Burn's supper continued

with everyone in the main hall happily chatting awaiting the arrival of the haggis to the tones of *Caledonia* in the background oblivious to the mayhem in the kitchen.

Eventually we enjoyed the layered haggis, neeps and tatties cooked by Tricia, sherry trifle by Sharon, fruit salad by Maz, cheese and oatcakes by Lynne, shortbread by Fiona and drinks by Alison.

After supper Maz presented a Scottish quiz on the new digital projector which went down well.

COMPETITIONS

Miss Cameron Quach
Mary Wilson

Shortbread

1st Fiona Black, 2nd Mary Wilson, 3rd Sharon Buchanan

Table Centre

Mary Wilson

Next meeting is on 20 March, in the Moubray hall at 7.30pm. Calum Greer talking about his Young Farmers' trip to Canada. Competitions are flask of soup, maple leaf (any craft), bowl of bulbs. Everyone welcome (members and non members). Powmill SWI are holding a hall fundraising evening 'Mix and Match Fun Quiz'.

Milnathort SWI

Milnathort SWI met in the Town Hall on Thursday 15 February at 2pm. Ann Reid, our Secretary, presided over this meeting. After various business items she introduced our speaker for the afternoon. David Winton gave us a very interesting insight into his life as a butcher, David was well known to many of our members, lots of personal interaction of stories over the years, as he was a local boy who had grown up in Milnathort and recently opened his own butcher's shop in Milnathort. Cathie Cochrane gave the vote of thanks to David.

COMPETITIONS

Three Pieces of Tablet

1st Jane McConville, 2nd Denise Stephenson, 3rd Aileen Hunter

Flower Of The Month

1st Jane McConville, 2nd Denise Stephenson, 3rd Cathie Cochrane

The raffle was drawn and members thanked Ann for taking the meeting. Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 21 March in the Town Hall at 2pm. our speaker will be Sheena Chisholm telling us about her African Safari. The competition is for a home-made Easter card. Wednesday 27 March, 7.30pm. £3.50 including refreshments. There will be a raffle. All welcome – members and non-members.

On our 18 April meeting we have a speaker from Cloverlea Apiaries, and the competition is Holiday View Photograph. Visitors welcome. £4 (includes refreshments and raffle).

Glenfarg SWI

The topic for our January meeting, the first in our 2024 programme, was preparing our garden and houseplants for Spring. Our speaker was Deborah Morgan from Caulders in Kinross, who gave us hints and tips about what we can be doing now in preparation, including getting all our garden tools in tip top condition!

Many of us were enthused to get our houseplants tidied up and revived after the dark winter days in centrally heated homes. Trimming the roots on our orchids was one task – visions of 20 orchids out on a newspaper being trimmed is an image to behold of Glenfarg SWI members! Sheena Chisholm gave the vote of thanks.

Glenfarg SWI meets on the second Thursday of each month between September and May, starting promptly at 2pm and ending at 4pm. Visitors are always welcome and if you would like to attend, simply turn up at the Village Hall, bringing your own cup and entry fee of £4.

COMPETITIONS

Garden Ornament

1st Lynda Stewart, 2nd Margaret Swan, 3rd Liz Yull

Shortbread

1st Linda Martin, 2nd Lynda Stewart,

Flower Of The Month

1st Liz Yull, 2nd Sylvial Wall, 3rd Linda Martin

Carnbo SWI

President Heather Dennis welcomed members and guests to the February meeting.

After business Mr & Mrs Archie Hipwell gave a talk on their Rare Breeds, Shetland Sheep and the work to get the fleece in the best condition for further use. Samples of wool, scarfs, hats and jumpers were on show to see the various natural colours. Flora Douglas gave a vote of thanks.

COMPETITIONS

Flower Of The Month

1st Cath Mearns, 2nd Josephine Paterson

A Crafted Item Made Of Wool

1st Dianne Mitchell, 2nd Linda Band

The next meeting is in Carnbo Hall on 18 March at 7.15pm. All welcome. The speaker is Ms Deborah Morgan from Caulders Garden Centre. There is a Coffee Morning in Carnbo Hall on Saturday 16 March 10am -12pm. All welcome.

Cleish SWI

President Helen Buchanan welcomed 25 members and 11 visitors from Carnbo, Muckhart and Powmill Rural's to Cleish Village Hall for our February Fun Fundraiser Quiz Night. The quiz was kindly compiled by John & Helen Buchanan with John being the compere for the evening. A great evening was had with a fun quiz, raffle, tasty tea and lots of chat raising £140 for club funds.

The winning team was Margaret Nelson (Cleish), Jeanette Littlejohn (Muckhart) and Debbie Carter (Powmill) and taking the wooden spoons were Nancy Gibb (Cleish), Anne Bayne (Cleish) and Heather Dennis (Carnbo). Best quiz name was 'Five Go Mad In Cleish' Faye Gibb (Cleish), Margaret Kilpatrick (Cleish) and Sheila Hutchison (Carnbo). A vote of thanks was given by Vice-President Anne Douglas.

Our next meeting is on Monday 11 March in Cleish Village Hall at 7.30pm when we are having a talk by Cloverlea Apiaries – all welcome.

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



Kinross Hockey

Kinrosshockey.org

The ladies first XI are a mix of youth and experience this year. The captain, Sarah Collins (goalkeeper) knows that it's going to be a tough season as the youngsters are 'bloodied in' (is this the right phrase for a non-contact sport?).

Kinross is fortunate in its location (almost midway) as the team plays in a league which involves some early starts in order to travel to Inverness and Ayr.

The Club are sponsored by Azets. Established in August 2016 and backed by Hg, they are one of the UK's leading private equity investors. They have grown rapidly, handpicking businesses that share their personal approach, passion for innovation and commitment to helping clients thrive. With strong Nordic roots and over 7,500 people across their global office network, they deliver a range of accounting, tax, audit, advisory and business services and work with entrepreneurial owner-managed businesses, medium-sized enterprises looking to scale, large national corporates, public sector enterprises or private clients.

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>

It's been a busy few weeks for Kinross Road Runners with plenty of racing and also a chance to ditch the lycra and dress up for the Awards evening.

Starting off in Bathgate where the final fixture in the East District XC league took place, 10 KRR men were on the starting line. We placed 13th from 30 in the senior men's race and 8th from 18 in the masters.

Over in Crieff was the Strathearn trail festival with day and night 10km events on the Saturday and a half marathon and 5k on the Sunday. In the daylight 10k, Karen Ritchie finished 2nd female overall with Alex Reily making it a family double to finish 2nd in the night 10k. Clearly the 10k was a warm up for Karen as she completed the half marathon the following day coming home 7th in 2:26.42 ably supported by Niamh Quinn in 3:24.43.



KRR were very well represented at The Devils Burdens relay with seven teams of six runners. The race is run over the Lomond hills and around the Falkland estate in the depths of winter although this year, the weather was dry albeit windy on the top of those hills. Everyone had a great time and shared stories at the Devils Burdens survival party that same evening.

A couple of notable mentions to team Hill Hath No Fury (Ann Malcolm, Alison Robertson, Anne Macintyre, Linda MacEachen, Sarah Eaton and Judith Dobson) who scooped the ladies 60+ first prize while When Hill Freezes Over (David Scott, Allan Kemp, Scott Strachan, Caroline Jones, Lorna McDonald, Jillian Gordon)

Hannah Lopez, our club athlete of the year as voted for by the members



took the Mixed 40+ honours. Congratulations to all 42 runners and especially to our winning teams.

Lady luck was also on the side of the runners taking part in the Devilla Forest 5k and 15k. The week leading up to this popular race was windy and wet with sleet showers just two days before. However, on race day, conditions were pretty much perfect; dry with hardly a breath of wind.

Jane McGee was our only runner in the 5k with six taking on the longer distance through the trails and forest tracks, together with the notorious 'bog'. Tony Wallen was first home for KRR, chased down by Kirsty Gray and Fraser Munro with Brigid Wallen (2nd V60), Ann Malcom (4th V60) and Wendy Turnbull completing the team.

Our AGM took place at KGV and President Ann welcomed three new members to the committee; Allan Kemp, Catherine McAdams and Connor Finlay. Plans are already in place for the Loch Leven half marathon on 12 May so, if you need a target for the spring, visit www.entrycentral.com to enter the race.

And finally, there was a chance for everyone to dress up in their finest to celebrate the past year's achievements at the annual awards dinner held at Loch Leven's Larder. Congratulations to all winners but especially to Hannah Lopez who was voted Athlete of the Year by members. Hannah is our membership and kit secretary. She is a very encouraging coach, and you will also see her racing at every opportunity. A worthy winner. Well done Hannah.

We meet on Tuesdays for an organised speed training session and on Thursdays for a social run. The club welcomes all abilities so, whether you are new to running, experienced, looking for some new routes or even just to meet new faces, there is something for everyone. If you are interested then why not visit our website and get in touch.

Kinross Golf Club

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



Mother's Day Event

Bookings are now open for Mother's Day lunch and dinner on Sunday 10 March. We will be serving a set menu between 12pm and 6pm and there will be a free glass of fizz for all mothers. To book please email manager@kinrossgolfclub.co.uk

Social Event Feedback

A highly successful KLEO Burns Supper was held on 27 January.

Ladies Section

The ladies pre-season lunch will take place on Sunday 24 March at 1pm.

Club Opening Day of Season

Saturday 30 March is the opening of the 2024 season and will feature a Captain v Vice Captain match.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in the clubhouse on Sunday 28 January. There was a very good turnout of members. Our Centenarian member Madge Malcolm (below) was proposed and unanimously

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Volleyball teams



Centenarian member Madge Malcolm and club captain

accepted for Honorary Life membership of the club for her services to the club and the setting up of the ladies section. A commemorative bench was also awarded to Madge.

Kinross Volleyball

As the Perth and Kinross volleyball season draws to an end there is one month of fixtures left to complete in both the premier and recreational leagues.

In the premier league, the men's team took a dip in form due to player unavailability and too many unforced errors. They slipped from second to seventh place so let's hope they find their form again to finish on a high.

In the recreational league the men's team sit in second place



behind Team Fife. With the league splitting into two for the final rounds of fixtures, they will probably finish as league runners up with Team Fife a safe bet for the championship.

The Kinross High School team finish in the lower half of the split and they shouldn't be too downhearted as they have made steady progress over the season.

Indoor training continues on Monday evenings at 8-9.45pm in the large games hall at the campus. It is good to see a few new faces coming along to join in the fun. Our indoor sessions will stop at the end of March with our popular outdoor 'pop up and play' sessions resuming on the grass area adjacent to the campus rear car park. These outdoor grass sessions will help prepare our teams for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament on Perth's North Inch at the end of May and the Belgian De Haan tournament in mid-August.

In the schools Scottish Cup the boys team lost out in an exciting match away to St John's Academy with the winners now facing Crieff High School. The girls have been drawn at home against South Queensferry and this match will be played on 1 March.

Milnathort Golf Club

37 South Street Milnathort, KY13 9XA
01577 864069



Award Finalists

Scottish Golf Tourism Week are delighted to announce that on 21 March 2024, the 11th edition of the Scottish Golf Tourism Awards will take place at the five-star National Trust for Scotland's Culloden Battlefield Visitor Centre in Inverness.

Milnathort Golf Club is a finalist in the category for the best nine-hole golf course in Scotland which has provided an exceptional experience (both on and off the golf course) for visitors and members alike. The decision will be made over course design and layout, scenic beauty, course condition and maintenance and customer experience.

Junior Membership

Junior memberships are now available and our coaching will start in April. Juvenile age 7-14; Junior age 15-18. For more information or to sign up, please contact the office or visit our website.



Get into Golf 2024

There are still some spaces available for 'Get Into Golf' 2024. This is a two year golf programme which includes membership of the club at a reduced cost along with 8 group coaching lessons per year with our PGA golf professional. Year one is aimed at adults who have never played golf before.

Year two membership follows on from year one or you can join directly into year two if you have not played for a number of years and need a refresher. Contact the club to get on our list for 2024. Coaching will start in April.

Weekend Events

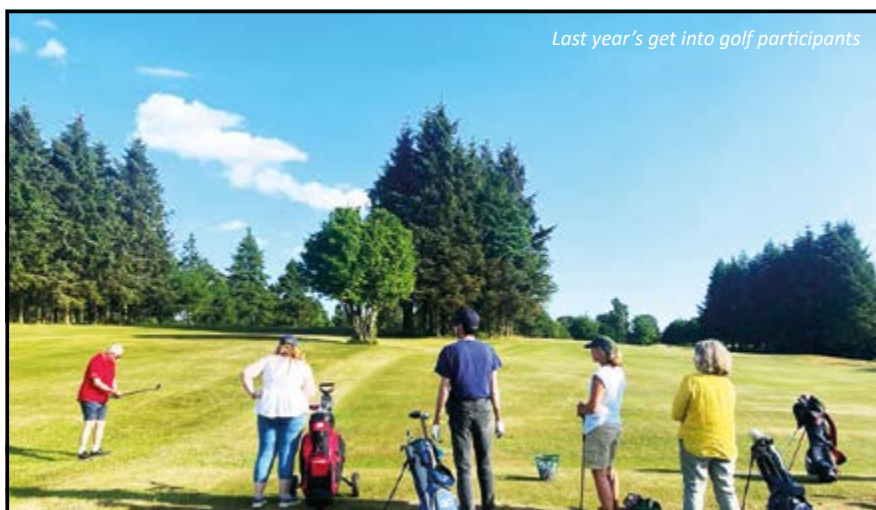
The Saturday breakfast club is a 9 or 18 hole stableford competition open to all playing members. You can choose to have a full breakfast or a breakfast roll with your tea or coffee after your round. There is no need to pre-book, just pop along to the clubhouse before 9am.

On Saturday 9 March join us for Mother's Day Afternoon Tea which includes a selection of sandwiches, scones with jam and cream, a selection of cakes and sweet treats, tea and coffee. There is an option to add a glass of prosecco. Tickets available between 1-4pm. Book now at the bar by calling 01577 864069 or email office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk.

Seniors

Pairs Greensomes, 7 March

In previous years this competition has run throughout the winter.



Last year's get into golf participants

Due to the change in format for the winter league this was not possible. Instead, we will be holding a one-off competition. Please enter through BRS as usual. A random draw will then be made to decide pairings. The one exception to this will be if the current holders enter, they will be paired to allow them to defend their trophy.

Winter League Final, 14 March

The finalists will be the five monthly winners, plus the four best runners up. For those of us who have not qualified, but still want to play on the day, there will be a sweep. Again, just enter through BRS.

On the 21 March the seniors are arranging their annual spring outing. Once again this has been arranged at Drumoig. Other venues were considered but, for this early in the year, Drumoig offers the best value and facilities. For a seniors outing in particular they have more than enough buggies.

There will be tea, coffee and bacon rolls before play, 18 holes and a two course meal after play. Two-seater buggies are £30. A notice will be on our board in the locker room.

Please just add your name and state if you need a buggy.

Further Information

The club opening day event will be held on 30 March. Please come along and support the club. If you are interested in any of the above, or for more information, please visit the club website.

Kinross Tennis Club

Email: kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

Facebook @[kinrosstennisclub](#) or @[siobhanmaacleodtennis](#)

With spring around the corner, Kinross Tennis Club are looking forward to a busy season ahead with lots of play on the tennis courts, socialising in the club house and competing across PKC and Tayside.

With the lighter evenings and warmer days, we would encourage members to come along to social tennis.

We have sessions on a Wednesday evening, Thursday daytime and Sunday morning. All the information is on our website or if you would like to book courts for yourself, you can download the free club spark booking app to easily select slots on court.



OPEN DAY!

Saturday 13th April 10am – 2pm

All ages and abilities welcome

Free use of courts and equipment

Refreshments

Information on membership and coaching

KINROSS TENNIS

Open Day

The committee are delighted to announce our annual 'Club Open Day' which will be held on Saturday 13 April 2024 – 10am till 2pm. All are very welcome! There will be refreshments and free use of the courts.

Please come along for a game on court or a chat and cake in the clubhouse. The committee will be meeting the Saturday before (6th) for a general clear up of the courts and clubhouse before the season kicks off and any helpers would be greatly appreciated.

2024-2025 Membership

Memberships will be due from 1 April 2024. More information including prices and how to sign up will be detailed in next month's *Newsletter*.

Coaching And Easter Camps

Spring is almost here and the courts are already full of Tots, Juniors and adults attending coaching and getting ready for the season ahead!

Outdoor coaching sessions resumed at the end of February and are running on Saturday mornings and Tuesdays after school for juniors, and on Sunday evenings for the adults. We're also gearing up for a 3 day Easter camp. This will run from Wednesday 3 April to Friday 5 April and the class times are as follows:

- 9.30-11am: 4-7 years
- 11-1pm: 7-10 years
- 1-3pm: 10-16 years

All sessions are suitable for players of all levels of experience and will involve lots of fun games and activities as well as match play for the more experienced players.

New players are always welcome at coaching sessions or camps. All equipment is provided.

If you'd like to book coaching or a camp or if you have any questions about coaching, please contact our (Level 3 LTA Accredited) coach Siobhan by text/WhatsApp: 07443 223408



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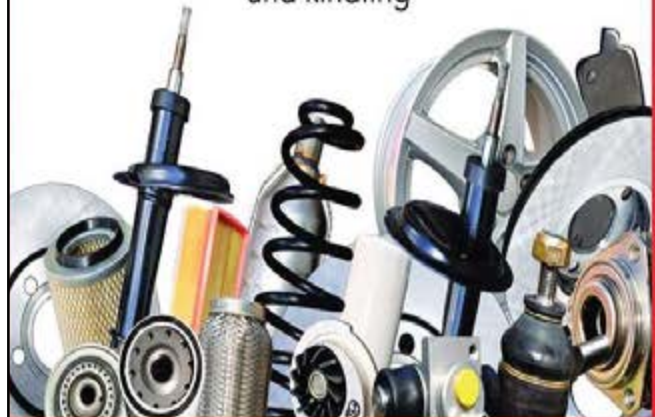


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NatureScot Loch Leven NNR

Bonding Time For Goldeneye

MARCH IS THE PERFECT time to get out around the loch as we make our way into Spring. Snowdrops are already out around the trail with dandelions looking like they'll be opening up soon. Goldeneye have started displaying, and the sounds of bird songs are getting louder as birds start looking for nesting territories and mates. Mute swans get extremely territorial, and you'll often see pairs chasing each other on the water.

In February we had a fantastic nest box making event on Valentine's Day, with 30 nest boxes being made and taken home, which will hopefully provide a safe space for a pair of garden birds. With the Easter holidays fast approaching we are working on more free events to be held at Loch Leven, so please keep an eye on our social media for updates on this.

Our volunteers were a great help at the nest box event, using their immeasurable knowledge to help visitors with tool use and explaining the importance of helping wildlife. They are also busy working on some willow anti-erosion defence on the South Queich, helping to stop the river banks from washing away during high rainfall.

Our Trout in the Classroom project is underway again this year, with Kinross, Milnathort, Arngask and Portmoak primary schools all having classes involved. Each class was given a tank with 75 Ova (Brown Trout eggs) and were tasked with monitoring their progress. Late February the eggs had all started hatching into tiny Alevin, and in the first week of March we will be heading out to local water sources, all of which lead back into the loch, to release them.

As the weather starts to get nicer and the loch starts to get busier, we know a lot of people enjoy camping or paddle boarding, and we highly encourage people to follow all SOAC guidance and our own local guidance to protect the nature reserve. If you're camping please do not have a fire, bring a proper camping stove and keep it off the ground, and keep an eye out for our change of water access coming in April, where we ask people to stay away from the shoreline to avoid nesting birds and young broods.

NatureScot is hiring two seasonal reserve officers to help with public engagement, habitat management and protecting the reserve this year. One post will be full time from April to October and the other will be part-time from mid-May to mid-September.



A goldeneye duck displaying

These posts will cover weekends, to ensure that we have a staff presence on site during busier times, engaging with visitors, answering questions and encouraging responsible behaviour. There will also be opportunities to get involved with practical management and wildlife surveys. Applications can be found on the NatureScot website, and the deadline for applications is on 6 March, any queries get in touch at Caroline.gallacher@nature.scot.

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
Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer*

Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

January 2024

Total Rainfall	125.9mm/5.03in	
Heaviest Fall	33.3mm/1.33in	(23 Jan)
Total Sunshine	58.2hrs	
Sunniest Day	5.0hrs	(15 Jan)
Max Temp Average	5.49°C	
Highest Temp	12.20°C	(23 Jan)
Min Temp Average	-3.22°C	
Lowest Temp	-13.50°C	(17 Jan)

A MESSAGE FROM NATURESCOT

There is currently no water access on the loch until April. This means no kayaks, paddleboards, swimmers or any variation on those! This is to protect the massive population of wintering wildfowl. We must do everything we can to protect them from any disturbance. Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Pining For Spring

Pine Marten by Caroline Legg



DESPITE THE BITTERLY COLD winds and the snow dusting the hills surrounding the loch reminding us winter is very much still clinging on, it's exciting to see the signs of spring starting to take light. From bursts of white snowdrops spreading throughout the woodlands to bird song filling the air as they warm up for breeding season, these familiar signs never seem to get old. In addition to these beautiful springtime sights, we've had the joy of having incredible bird of prey sightings recently with a sparrowhawk, peregrine, short-eared owl and five buzzards at once, all having been spotted flying across the reserve on the hunt for food. On the wetlands we have seen familiar sightings of large numbers of teal, wigeon and, at least 280 curlew as well as a regular visit from a little egret. Goldfinch and greenfinch have also become quite regular sightings in our woodlands, along with several hare bounding through. We have additionally had a very exciting visitor to the reserve who has been spotted numerous times on our wildlife cameras, a pine marten.

As we begin the ramp up to the breeding season, our reserve team have been hard at work making sure the reserve fencing is secure, clearing vegetation and brush cutting around the site to ensure that the vegetation levels are the perfect height levels for our incoming visiting lapwings. Our volunteers have also been tirelessly working to develop the new Sensory Cottage Garden which is starting to take shape beside the front woodlands as

you head towards the Visitor Centre from the car park. The plans for this look spectacular so be sure to keep your eye out for its development as their work progresses.

In the cafe, the team have been busy coming up with new creations and are looking forward to introducing some delicious new recipes in time for Easter. In the shop, we have also just received some gorgeous new stock with new stationery, scarves, and gifts just in time for Mother's Day. Why not come check it out and grab a cheeky wee slice of one of our delicious new cakes while you're here?

As we move into March we are looking forward to our new March Mystery Trail, running from Saturday 2-Sunday 24 March at just £2 per trail sheet, which can simply be purchased from the visitor centre on the day. Can you follow the trail and work out what our mystery creature is?

Our second-hand book sale is also returning in March, from Tuesday 12 March until Tuesday 9 April, with some fantastic new stock. Why not come and grab yourself a bargain and treat yourself or someone else to the perfect new read. With a wide range of subjects including adult fiction, children's books, bird and wildlife guides, nature and Scottish books, reference and much more.

We look forward to seeing you soon!

Freya

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Castle Island, Kinross

Tel 07836 313769



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Due to limited capacity, it is recommended that all visits are booked online at www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle.

OPENING TIMES

1 April – 30 Sept: Daily, 10am – 5.30pm (last outward sailing 4.15pm)

1 to 31 Oct: Daily, 10am – 4.30pm (last outward sailing 3.30pm)

PRICES

Adult (16-64yrs)	£10
Concession (65yrs+ and unemployed)	£8
Child (7-15yrs)	£6
Family (1 adult, 2 children)	£20
Family (2 adults, 2 children)	£29
Family (2 adults, 3 children)	£34

Historic Scotland members travel free.

The Pier: Hannah Phillips



Farming

Nappy Feet

IF YOU'VE SEEN ME in the supermarket buying nappies, I can explain, it's part of the process of picking up the pieces from the wet and stormy weather that hasn't eased for months.

Looking back to last autumn one of the highlights was celebrating Mum and Dad's golden wedding anniversary. Their wedding day in 1973 was dry and sunny, the reception was held on the banks of Loch Lomond and it made the perfect backdrop for photos, so we booked a meal at a lovely restaurant overlooking the loch on the 6th October to bring all the family together to celebrate. Fifty years on however and the weather was a different story, we almost didn't make it as floods had washed away a bridge and fallen trees closed nearly all the roads. Six months have passed since then and we've experienced another two storms and have not had many consecutive dry days since. The rain has just kept coming at us, it's been relentless and on the farm it's livestock that have suffered.

In between showers, a wee bit of fencing has been achieved and a 'bargain' piece of silage machinery is undergoing serious surgery in the workshop. Currently it remains in a state of deconstruction, it has been an expensive repair job but excellent wet weather project. There is no doubt it's been a very long wet winter for us all.

On a positive note, I'm quite glad to have discovered podcasts to get me through. I'm maybe at the coos tail regarding the trend of listening to these audio conversations from an app on my phone, but I'm most definitely hooked. I've picked off most of the ones I can find to do with motherhood, I love these ones, where celebrities share their experiences of parenting or the juggle of daily life, spinning plates kind of stuff that I can relate to. But then last month I stumbled on the podcasts that are produced by the farming community, quite a few presented by Scottish farmers, talking to each other about their own unique farming systems and challenges. The relaxed nature of the podcast makes it feel like a chat and I feel the guests open up, often revealing the inner workings of their businesses and explaining how they cope with their farming life. It's a cross between a training session and an episode of Graham Norton with the entertainment and banter meaning non farmers are listening too. What a privilege to be a fly on the wall to these conversations and what a great way to promote our industry authentically.

But back to the rain which has been especially hard on our sheep, a batch of 140 ewe lambs suffered badly, they got too thin and we just couldn't get them to start to thrive. We lost a few and vet investigation showed it was pneumonia that killed them but a high worm count that was making them



thin. We've treated them and moved them to a fresh field but they will be much smaller when they go to the tup due to this setback. The hybrid tups that we purchased last August for the late lambing flock worked hard but of course the fields were sodden all the time and this had an impact on their feet. Both tups that were running in the wettest field came out from the ewes in January but are still lame this week. So in an unusual move we have brought them inside to let them rest for a few days on straw and then turned each one up. We trimmed the hoof, cleaned it up, applied copper sulphate to promote healing and then wrapped it up in the size 5 nappy. It's the perfect bandage, super absorbent and the wee sticky tabs hold it in place whilst I wrap it up completely with duct tape. The sore feet are now dry and will get a chance to heal up properly I hope. If we are lucky, spring will bring in a different weather front to ease the pressure on our stock and I think I'll have to purchase a pair of earplugs to keep up on the podcasts during lambing.

Fiona

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Weekly Programme For March 2024

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (4 Mar ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (12 & 26 Mar ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Singing Group (12 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Football Memories ALL WELCOME (13 & 27 Mar ONLY)	11am-12pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	Craft Group (6 & 20 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
	Reminiscence Group Garden Room (6 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (28 Mar 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
	Harmony Project- final song	1.15pm
	Bingo (8, 15, 29 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
	Life Story Books (8, 15, 22, 29 Mar ONLY)	1.30pm
	Board Games	1.30pm
	World Day of Prayer ALL WELCOME (1 Mar ONLY)	2.00pm



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

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

KINROSS CENTRE

64 HIGH STREET KINROSS KY13 8AJ

TEL/FAX: 01577 863869; Email: kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm

Dominoes; Exercises; Lunches Daily



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Kinross Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ

Spreading the Word | Serving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri.

Otherwise operating remotely. Leave phone message or email.

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir

Contact the Church Office for our weekly email of events and Zoom details. Events below are in the church unless otherwise indicated:

Regular Services and Events

Sundays

9.15am Choir Practice

10.30am: **Morning Service**, gathering song about 10.25.
For young people: Junior Church (age 4 -11) meets in the Upper Room from 10.30 then joins in at the end of the service. Within the church there is a corner for parents with babies and toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services.

Sunday morning services are also available online: live on YouTube and Facebook. Thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD.

6pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom

6pm: **Crossfire**, church centre. Age P7 upwards.

Mondays

10-12pm: **Church Office** open to visitors.

2-4pm: **Bridge and Board Games Afternoon**

7.30pm: **Dungeons and Dragons** for adults certain Mondays – see diary below

8.00pm: **House Group** – Bible study and fellowship

Tuesdays

10-11.30am: **Stepping Stones** for babies, toddlers and carers.

2.30pm: **House Group**

Wednesdays

11.15am **Midweek Service**, at the church centre.

1.30pm: **Craft Group**

7.45pm: **Men's House Group**

8.00pm: **Women's House Group**

Thursdays

10.30am: **House Group**

11-12pm: **Table Talk** – chat on Zoom.

Fridays

10-12pm: **Church Office** open to visitors.

5.30pm: **Youth Dungeons and Dragons** certain Fridays – check website

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association,
(Church Centre during term time)

6 - 7.15pm Anchor Section (P1-P3)

7 - 9pm Junior Section (P4-P6)

7 - 9.30pm Company Section (P7-S3)

7 - 9.30pm Senior Section (S4-S6)



OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS

March

Fri 1 2pm: **World Day of Prayer** at Church Centre

7pm: **World Day of Prayer** at St. Paul's

Sun 3 10.30am: **Morning Worship** inc **Quarterly Communion**
Special collection for the Scottish Bible Society's *Bible for Bairns* appeal.

Mon 4 8am: Guided **Silent Meditation**

Tue 5 7pm: **Guild** at Church Centre

Fri 8 5.30pm: Youth **Dungeons & Dragons** (and on 22nd)

Sun 10 10.30am: **Mothering Sunday** – Morning Worship, including **Annual Stated Meeting**

Mon 11 7.30pm: Adult **Dungeons and Dragons**

Tue 13 10.30am: **Guild** meets for coffee at the Court House

Sat 16 11am: **All Friends Together** for adults with learning difficulties

Sun 17 2.30pm: **Let's Sing** – All welcome, but particularly those living with dementia.

Tue 19 7pm: **Guild** at Church Centre

Thurs 21 9pm: Evening service of **Compline**

Sat 23 10am – 3pm: **Better Place to Live Fair**
Loch Leven Campus – visit the church's stall

HOLY WEEK and EASTER

Sun 24 **PALM SUNDAY**

10.30am: **Morning Service 'Invite a Friend to Church'** day

Thu 28 **MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7.30: United **Communion Service** at Kinross Parish

Fri 29 **GOOD FRIDAY**

1pm: **Walk of Witness** from Kinross (Day) Centre

2pm: **Last Hour at the Cross** St. Paul's

7.30: United **Evening Service** Portmoak Church

Sun 31 **EASTER SUNDAY**

7.30am: United **Lochside Service**

10.30am **Easter Morning Service**

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.

MARCH 2024

3 Mar 11.15am Morning Worship. Fairtrade Stall.

10 Mar 11.15am Morning Worship

17 Mar 11.15am Morning Worship

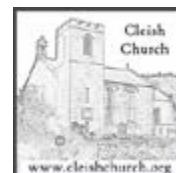
24 Mar 11.15am **Palm Sunday** – joint service in Cleish Church

28 Mar 6.30pm **Maundy Thursday** Communion service at **Fossoway Church**

29 Mar 6.30pm Reflective service to mark **Good Friday at Cleish**

31 Mar 9.45am **Family Easter Sunday service at Fossoway Church**

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>

MARCH

3 Mar: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

10 Mar: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

17 Mar: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

Refreshments will be available after the service

24 Mar: PALM SUNDAY

11.15am Sunday Morning Worship

Joint service with Cleish at **Cleish Parish Church**.
There will be **no** service at Fossoway on this day.

Thursday 28 Mar: 6.30pm Communion Worship

'The Last Supper With The Disciples'
Joint service with Cleish Parish Church



Friday 29th Mar: 6.30pm

Joint service at **Cleish Parish Church**
A reflective service to mark **Good Friday**

31 Mar: EASTER SUNDAY

9.45am Family Worship

Joint service with Cleish at **Cleish Parish Church**.
Come along and join in the Easter celebrations.
Craft activities, easter egg rolling and egg hunts for children of all ages!
Refreshments will be available after the service.

REFRESH THURSDAY

Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Church Hall
Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All are welcome.

FILM NIGHT

Fri 1 Mar 7.30pm in the Church Hall: **A Haunting in Venice** (12)
Kenneth Branagh stars as celebrated sleuth Hercule Poirot in this terrifying mystery set after World War II. Retired and living in Venice, Poirot reluctantly attends a séance where a murdered guest thrusts the detective into a sinister shadowy world.

Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits. Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether. All are welcome

FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

The group meets every **Friday 9.30-11.30am**, in Fossoway Church Hall. Join us for snacks, play and blether.

FOSSOWAY 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 6-8:30pm
Monthly: 2nd Sun of each month - Sunday 10th March 7-8:30pm
Come along – it's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats!

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Churches

For all young people aged 11-19yrs old.
Completely free!

MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Saturday 16th Mar at 8.30am** in the church hall with a speaker from Capability Scotland.
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 30 March from 4-6pm at Orwell
Church with all the usual crafts, fun, and food.

Dates For Your Diary

3 Mar **Joint family service** in Orwell Church at 10:30am

No morning service at Portmoak Church

5 Mar **Guild Friendship Group** meets in Orwell Hall 2pm – 3:30pm



7 Mar **Ashley House Service** at 2pm.

10 Mar **Communion services** in both churches at the normal times

15 Mar **Tea and a Blether** in Orwell, 2-3:30pm

29 Mar **Oasis Ladies Group** Portmoak New Room 10:15am-12pm.
Egg Painting.

Good Friday service in Portmoak Church at 7:30pm

31 Mar **Easter services** in both churches at the normal times

The Church Office and Shop is open 10-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

**(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Communion)**

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.

Tel: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

**Fr David and the congregation at St Paul's look forward to welcoming
to you to our Episcopal worship services and other outreach and social
activities.** We recognise how scary it can be to cross the threshold into
an unfamiliar place, so you're assured of a friendly smile and any help
you need for you and your family to feel comfortable.

Our Sunday and Wednesday morning services begin at 10am, unless
otherwise advertised. We usually hold Eucharists (worship with
Communion, sung with hymns on Sundays). Our church bell rings
from 9.45am.

We will provide regular updates on the website concerning our
schedule of worship. Please do refer to it regularly.

Although we don't insist that people wear face coverings, you are very
welcome to do so if that helps you feel safer in public spaces.



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Kinross KY13 9XT**

www.kinrossphysiotherapy.co.uk

enquiries@kinrossphysiotherapy.co.uk



Our services are also broadcast from the church building as livestreams via Zoom (please email us to be sent weekly links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal e-booklets, the weekly pewsheets and the occasional extra supplementary.

Events and Services in March

Fri 1 World Day of Prayer

St Paul's is hosting this year's prayerful act of worship with music, readings and personal stories of oppression and struggle which has been prepared by Christians from Palestine.

2pm: Shortened service (Kinross Centre)

7pm Full Ecumenical service (St Paul's Church)

Refreshments will be provided after each service

Sun 3 (Lent 3)

10am: Penitential Sung Eucharist

Wed 6

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

7pm Lent Study via Zoom (*please email Fr David for link details*): **Death, Bereavement and Having a Good Christian Funeral** A series of Youtube videos presented on behalf of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

8pm Compline

Sun 10 Mothering Sunday

10am: Sung Eucharist with Distribution of Flowers

Wed 13

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

7pm Lent Study via Zoom (*please email Fr David for link details*): **Death, Bereavement and Having a Good Christian Funeral** A series of Youtube videos presented on behalf of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

8pm Compline

Sun 17 The Beginning of Passiontide

10am: Penitential Sung Eucharist

Wed 20

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

7pm Lent Study via Zoom (*please email Fr David for link details*): **Death, Bereavement and Having a Good Christian Funeral** A series of Youtube videos presented on behalf of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

8pm Compline

Sat 23 6.30pm SOUND AND VISION CONCERT

Presented by Julie Close and the Tullis Russell Community Band This is a fundraising event for the church's Restoration Fund Please see separate notice for further details.

Sun 24 PALM SUNDAY

10am: Liturgy and Procession of the Palms and the Liturgy of the Passion according to St Mark

Thu 28 MAUNDY THURSDAY

7.30pm Sung Eucharist, Ritual Handwashing, Stripping of the Altar and the Watch (*The Watch takes place in the Meeting Room until 10pm. Please feel free to stay for the whole time or return later.*)

8pm Compline via Zoom (*please email Fr David for details of the link.*)

Fri 29 GOOD FRIDAY

2pm: The Last Hour

A hour of quiet contemplation with words and music. This connects the story of Christ's Passion as depicted by our special bespoke set of Stations with contemporary examples of betrayal, suffering and loss in today's world.

Sat 30 HOLY SATURDAY

8pm: Easter Vigil, Lighting of the Fire, Blessing of the Paschal Candle and the first Eucharist of Easter

Sun 31 EASTER DAY

7.30am *Kinross Churches Together* Lochside service, Kirkgate Pier
10am Family Sung Eucharist for Easter

Acknowledgements

FORRESTER

Elma would like to express her sincere thanks to all family and friends for all their help and support following the sudden passing of **Margaret**. For all the cards, flowers and expressions of sympathy received, they have been a great comfort.

Margaret passed away aged 90 years, at home on 11.01.24. Her funeral service was held on 29.01.24 at Dunfermline Crematorium.

Thanks to Rev Felicity Shaw for her comforting service and to Raymond of Taylor Sullivan Funeral Directors for his professionalism. Many thanks to all who donated at the crematorium where a total of £750 was raised for CHAS and Chest Heart Stroke Scotland.

Margaret will be sorely missed by all who knew and loved her.

FORDE

When my husband **Iain** died I was greatly comforted by the response of so many people in Portmoak. I would like to express my thanks to everyone who attended Iain's funeral in Edinburgh, those who sent much appreciated condolences, and for the tremendous support given me by everyone since. *Susan FG Forde*

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com



Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10.30am each Sunday.

Our sermon series from January to March is 'Joseph: God Meant It For Good' and we'll be hosting the following services in March:

- 3 Mar:** **Genesis 48-50: Joseph... The hopeful believer** (Ross Simmons, Tayside Christian Fellowship)
- 10 Mar:** **Mission Sunday** (Sharon Dickens, 20schemes/Richard Gibb, LLC)
- 17 Mar:** **Spiritual Leadership** (Jim Crooks, Living Leadership)
- 24 Mar:** **TryPraying** (David Hill, TryPraying)
- 31 Mar:** **Easter Sunday & Communion (All-Age Service)** (Richard Gibb, LLC)

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome to join any of these. To know more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@lochlevenchurch.com

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross
www.kinrossgospelhall.info
Tel 07818 050785

Gospel Meeting Sundays 4pm.

Toddlers' Group Thurs 9.30-11am;

Explorers (Primary School) 6-7pm.

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All welcome.



Obituary

Iain Woodhurst Dougal Forde, FRIAS

10.11.38 - 7.12.24: by Susan, his wife of over 62 years

IAIN WD FORDE was an architect, an artist, a jazz musician and a writer in Scots. He was an Edinburgh man: born, brought up, educated, and practised architecture in Edinburgh.

He designed Causewayend, the house we built in Scotlandwell, when we came to live in this beautiful part. Later – being Scottish vernacular, as well as Scandinavian – it was included in the Scotlandwell Conservation Area as fitting in with the ‘fermtoun’, and he also had a hand in other Portmoak houses. He liked to construct on the smaller scale as well: from garden seats and tables through sawhorses and raised beds to climbing frames, sit-outeries and sheds – especially log ones. A keen gardener he worked hard to turn the former Wellside Motors car park into a place of trees, bushes and flowers, with a cage for vegetables, and supported Scotlandwell in Bloom.

Many of his paintings and sculptures were exhibited by the Scottish Society of Architect Artists, including some in Venice and Paris. Others are in the house and the garden. He played the pipes at school with the Cadet Corps and as a jazz drummer in Edinburgh bands from his schooldays, including with Mike Hart, founder of the Edinburgh Jazz Festival, and lastly in our son’s band.

He studied the Makars (the older authors in Scots, such as Henryson) at school – although speaking Scots was frowned on in those days. He listened to Scots on building sites and, feeling ‘robbed’ of his own language, started writing in a strong authentic Scots, to show the capability of a language with over 50,000 words (many languishing in the dictionaries) and its own grammar and spelling. Scots had continued in speech,





poetry and song but written Scots prose such as essays and novels was needed. From the 1980s when he published the first modern Scots novel *The Paix Machine* (sci-fi) he read, wrote and translated Scots, especially well-known works from authors who might have written more in Scots if it had still been the national language.

Twenty books later there were novels, translations, essays, children’s tales, cartoons (some printed in the *Newsletter*), ‘beginners’ books – and a display board on Historic Scotlandwell in the garden. Some books were original novels, in Scots only; some were exact translations of well-known classics like *Treasure Island*; others had Scots and English on opposite pages; the stories for children are in Gaelic, Scots and English and have audio CDs. He contributed regularly to *Lallans* magazine.

Iain loved Scotlandwell and Portmoak with its good neighbours, its Moss, its fine hills, loch, burns, and fresh air, which allowed him, and me, 20 very happy years here together.

Susan FG Forde





Fiona Valpy: A Conversation on Inspiring Women



Thursday 7 March


£2. Book a ticket in the library or scan our QR code
7pm - 8pm | Loch Leven Community Library

Join best-selling author Fiona Valpy as she discusses historical heroines who inspired her novels for International Women's Day.




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D-Day 80th Anniversary: Preparation and Planning

Wednesday 27 March

£10. Book a ticket in the library or scan our QR code
6pm - 7pm | Loch Leven Community Library



Join retired soldier Andy Middlemiss as he talks about the preparation and planning behind the Allies' amphibious invasion.




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SITUATIONS VACANT

GENERAL MANAGER/GOLF OPERATIONS MANAGER/CLUB SECRETARY (1 Post), Milnathort Golf Club

20-25 hours per week. Reports to management committee.

Key Responsibilities:

- To have executive responsibility for all aspects of administration and operations of the club, its course and its premises within the framework of the club's strategy, policies and approved budgets.
- To action all club committee directives in a timely, professional and effective manner
- To achieve high standards of performance from all key staff by adopting effective management and leadership techniques.
- To be the first point of contact for members and visitors and to promote the club internally and externally in a professional and friendly manner such that sales and marketing initiatives are achieved and the standing and reputation of the club is maintained at the highest level.
- To oversee all aspects of club accounting and financial controls, contributing to the achievement of financial goals.

Essential Skills:

- Good organisation, administrative and communication skills
- Excellent interpersonal and people management skills
- Business acumen and financial literacy
- Attention to detail and focus on quality of experience for both members and visitors
- An appreciation or understanding of golf and its traditions within a members club
- A "hands on" flexible attitude to all aspects of work and requirements and ability to work under pressure
- Good level of IT competency
- Good problem solving skills

Desirable Skills:

- Previous experience in the golf industry & knowledge of the rules of golf.
- Competency in social media.
- Experience with Quickbooks and financial administration.
- Experience with BRS members database.

Competitive salary and golf membership included. If applicant is a PGA professional there is an opportunity to provide golf lessons and space for a small shop onsite.

Please email your CV to office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk. Closing date 5 March.

HEALTH AND PROTECTION PRODUCTS ADMINISTRATOR, Anderson Smith Insurance Brokers

We are looking for a local, motivated, team orientated individual to join our fast growing and ambitious business. Due to increasing client demand for health and protection cover products (group private medical insurance, group life and employee assistance), Anderson Smith needs to employ an additional member of staff on our health and protection team.

Duties will include:

- Liaising with other staff and clients to gather information
- Preparing and submitting requests for quotes to suppliers
- Preparing received quotes for onward presentation to clients
- Booking received orders and distributing documentation to clients
- Other general administrative duties

For the right candidate, the role could expand in the fullness of

time to take on other commercial insurance-based duties.

The role is office based at 16 High Street, Kinross. Full training will be given. Previous experience in financial services or the finance team of a business would be useful but not essential. Familiarity with MS Office products (Word, Excel, Outlook) is very useful as would be similar experience with an accounting package or B2B quote engine. For those wanting to build a career in this industry, support with professional qualifications is available too.

This role could be part or full time. Part time would have to be a minimum of 15 hours per week. Normal office hours are Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm. Starting salary is dependent upon skills and experience. Please send your application (together with a CV) by email to recruitment@anderson-smith.co.uk or contact 01577 333177.

COFFEE MORNING

Carnbo SWI are having a coffee morning on **Saturday 16 March, 10am-12pm** at Carnbo Hall. There will be cake and candy, bottle stall and books and jigsaws for sale.

GLENFARG FOLK CLUB

The Club meets every Monday evening in the Gateside Memorial Hall

Doors open 7:30pm. Music starts at 8pm prompt.

LIGHT UP KINROSS

Friday 22 March: OVER 18s QUIZ NIGHT

MORE DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sat 18 May: FAMILY BEETLE DRIVE

Sat 26 Oct: KIDS TOY SALE (Books, toys and board games - all contributions welcome.)

Fri 29 Nov: SWITCH-ON CEREMONY 2024

(25th anniversary of LUK. Switch on at 6pm.)

Further information to follow -- check Facebook page or email mbs21@btinternet.com

MOBILE LIBRARY 13, 27 March

(Fortnightly, Wednesdays)

Kinnesswood (Opposite Shop)	09.30 – 10:00
Portmoak Hall	10:05 – 10:20
Scotlandwell (Leslie Road)	10:25 – 10:50
Levenmouth Farm	11:00 – 11:20
Hatchbank Rd (Gairneybank, Kinross)	11:40 – 12:00
Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:45
Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	15:00 – 15:30
Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:45 – 16:15

Contact us by phone on 01577 867205
or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

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

GRANTS FOR GOOD CAUSES



Kinross Community Council
Newsletter Limited (KCCNL),
Charity No. SC040913

All profits from the *Kinross Newsletter* are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are:

31 March and 30 September

More information is available on the kinrosscommunitycouncil.com website. Applications may be downloaded at www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/contact-us

P&K SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024

Term ends: Thursday 28 March 2024
Spring holiday: Friday 29 March 2024 - Friday 12 April 2024
In-Service day: Monday 15 April 2024
Term starts: Tuesday 16 April 2024
May Day holiday: Monday 6 May 2024
Term ends: Thursday 27 June 2024

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* Facebook Page for the latest information.

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
April	Friday 15 March	Saturday 30 March
May	Friday 12 April	Saturday 27 April

THE GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH

(COMUNN GAIDHLIG PHEAIRT)

We will hold the last cèilidh of the season at St Matthews Church, Tay St, Perth at 7.30pm on 15 March 2024. There will be the Mòd Gold medallists Steven MacIver and Rena Gertz as well as the amazing fiddle and piano duo of Stella Wilkie and Joan Blue.

Admission is £7/£5, children free –includes refreshments – so make sure to come along and practice your Gaelic!

KINROSS GARDEN GROUP

2023/24 Season

Thursday 14 March at 2pm

Kinross Parish Church.

Professor David Rankin from Kevock garden Plants

'The Rocky Road to Chelsea'

All welcome to join us.

MUSIC IN DOLLAR

Our next concert is the super Alba Challah on Saturday, 16 March 2024 at 7.30pm Gibson Hall, Dollar FK14 7DU, Pre-concert performance from 7.15pm.

Alba Challah are a diverse group of Scottish and international musicians, playing an intoxicating fusion of Klezmer, classical and world music styles. Featuring clarinet, violin, cello, accordion, bass and percussion, they explore a vibrant and uplifting sonic landscape.

Klezmer is an eastern European/Jewish instrumental musical tradition characterised by dance tunes, ritual melodies, and virtuosic improvisations. In recent times Klezmer is often a fusion with other styles. Their programme includes music from Moldova and Bulgaria especially.



Community Chats

Our team is coming to your community soon, to hear your views on rural transport needs and solutions.

These insights will inform Scottish and Local Government on potential support and next steps.



Tue 13 Feb & Tue 19 Mar
Breadalbane Community Library
11am-1pm and 3-6pm

Tue 20 Feb & Wed 20 Mar
Blairgowrie Library
11am-1pm and 3-5pm

Tue 27 Feb & Thu 21 Mar
Strathearn Community Library
11am-1pm and 3-6pm

Wed 28 Feb & Fri 22 Mar
Auchterarder Community Library
11am-1pm and 3-6pm

Tue 5 Mar & Fri 22 Mar
Loch Leven Community Library
11am-1pm and 3-6pm



Find more opportunities to chat at
ruraltransportfutures.scot



Please contact the team to arrange a visit or a meeting by mailing info@ruraltransportfutures.scot







Supported by Rural Perth & Kinross Community Led Local Development (RPK CLLD) Local Action Group (LAG) with funding from the Scottish Government Rural Community Led Local Development Collaboration Fund 2020/24, part of the Scottish Rural Development Programme.



Pupil Support Café

Every Thursday at Kinross High School

From 10.30am to 12.15pm

in the meeting room beside library.

Enter through school reception

All welcome

Selection of cakes plus either tea or coffee
- £1


Funds are used to buy new resources for the Pupil Support Faculty





From Dollar Academy to Police Academy


an interesting journey



talk by

Dr Gill Imery, QPM
Former Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Constabulary in Scotland

To be held at the Gibson Music Hall
Dollar Academy
On Friday 22nd March at 7.30pm



Tickets £5.00
in aid of Dollar Museum

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



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

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

ALL PROFITS GO TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES

**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

Loch Leven Babies and Toddlers
Masonic Hall, Kinross 9.30-11.30am

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers
Crook of Devon
Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Medical

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252
NHS 24	111
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219

Police, non-emergency 101

Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0845 600 8855

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline (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

March

Sun	3,16,31	Kinross & Ochil Walking Group - see club entry for walk details
Mon	4	Glenfarg Community Council meets
Mon	4	Carnbo Hall Talks: 'Kinross-shire, Then & Now, A Photo Journey' by Kevin Heneghan
Tues	5	U3A talk, Kinross Parish Church 2pm
Tues	5&22	Rural Transport Futures - Library 11am-1pm and 3-6pm
Tues	5	Kinross Climate Cafe meets, see club entry for details
Tues	5	Fossoway and District Community Council meets
Wed	6	Creative Writing Group, Library 7pm
Thurs	7	Historical Heroines Talk by Fiona Valpy, Library 7pm
Sat	9	Portmoak Film Society shows Icelandic horror-comedy 'Lamb'
Tues	12	Common Grounds Project Lunch, see club entry for details
Tues	12	World Glaucoma Day
Tues	12	Portmoak Community Council meets
Wed	13	Carnbo Hall Coffee and Chat 10-12
Thurs	14	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Thurs	14	Garden Group meets 2pm
Fri	15	Newsletter Deadline for April Issue
Fri	15	Classic Clapton at the Green Hotel
Sat	16	Coffee Morning Carnbo Hall 10-12
Sat/Sun	16&17	INSIDE OUT (exhibition by Perthshire Veteran Prisoners at St Paul's Church)
Mon	18	Andysmansclub – opening night, Campus 7pm
Fri	22	Light Up Kinross Quiz Night
Sat	23	Better Place to Live Fair
Sat	23	Comedy Night, Milnathort Town Hall
Sat	23	Sound & Vision, a concert by Tullis Russell Community Band
Tues	26	Kinross Community Council meets
Wed	27	D-Day planning talk by Andy Middlemiss, Library 6pm
Thurs	28	P&K School Term Ends

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