

# Kinross Newsletter

Founding editor, Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

ISSN 1757-4781

Issue No 531

Founded in 1977 by Kinross Community Council

Published by Kinross Newsletter Limited, Company No. SC374361

All profits given away to local good causes by The Kinross Community Council Newsletter, Charitable Company No. SC040913

www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter

June 2024

#### **DEADLINE**

for the July Issue
5pm,
Friday 14 June, 2024
for publication on
Saturday 29 June, 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:

#### **Kinross Newsletter**

c/o Ross McConnell Accountants 3 High Street Kinross KY13 8AW

#### **Editor**

Hannah Phillips......07591 228884

editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

#### **Advertising Manager**

Julia Fulton ......07936 151223

advertising@kinrossnewsletter.org

#### Treasurer

Ross McConnell

3 High Street

Kinross KY13 8AW......01577 865885

treasurer@kinrossnewsletter.org

#### **Subscriptions**

Ross McConnell (address as above)

subscriptions@kinrossnewsletter.org

#### **Distribution**

David Anderson ......07747 890375

distribution@kinrossnewsletter.org

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#### Editor's Page

Cover Photo: Kinross House Design: Lee Scammacca

#### **Letter From The Editor**

I HAD A LOVELY morning at the Kinross Farmers' Market last week. It was great to see so many people out and about enjoying the sunshine (which, as it turned out, was to be short-lived). There were so many lovely stalls selling great local produce and gifts and a great atmosphere as always.

Thanks to all who organise, entertain and help out in various ways on market days. It is appreciated by so many people and we are grateful for all the hard work that goes on behind the scenes to make it happen.

I can't remember a time when our diary (see p100) was so full since before the pandemic. June is an action-packed month with something for everyone, and my favourite, Pudding Club at the Portmoak Festival, is back for three nights. An updated programme of events for the festival can be found on p20.

Aside from the Portmoak Festival and Gala, there are

#### **About The Kinross Newsletter**

The *Kinross Newsletter* has been informing and supporting the community for over 45 years.

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

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

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

#### **Note to Contributors**

A great deal of the *Newsletter* comprises reports supplied by local clubs and other organisations. These reports are accepted in good faith and the *Newsletter* accepts no liability for any inaccuracies contained therein. Senders should ensure reports are factually accurate and do not contain material which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the *Newsletter*.

#### **Letters Policy**

Senders must supply their name and contact details. Letters should be truthful and not contain matter which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the *Newsletter*, which accepts no liability for any inaccuracies contained therein. The *Newsletter* does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on the letters or indeed other pages. All letters must contain the sender's address, although this may be withheld from publication on request.

#### Note to Readers: Advertising

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

#### **Abbreviations**

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council

CC: Community Council

Cllr: Councillor

CCIIr: Community Councillor

talks, films, concerts, school fairs, quiz nights, fun days, open gardens, art exhibitions, walks, car boot sales and everything else you can think of going on in Kinross-shire this month.

Let's hope the June weather is a bit less wet and unpredictable than it has been recently. This weekend we went from glorious sunshine (some of us were unable to resist the tempation to paddle in rivers) to torrential rain in one weekend.

The annual Loch Leven half-marathon was a great success. You can read all about it and see the photos on p80-81 in the report from Kinross Road Runners. Well done to everyone who took part and to all the helpers on the day!

I'm glad to see the return of the Repair Cafe in June, this time taking place in Milnathort Town Hall. Please do go along and see what it is all about if you missed the last one. It's a simple but fantastic idea and we are lucky to have one on our doorstep.

It is *Newsletter* policy to stay out of party politics but we do make an exception for elections. All candidates for the Westminster parliamentary seat are invited to make a statement outlining their position for the electorate; their statements will be printed in the July edition of the *Newsletter* 

Please remember to make sure you have suitable ID for voting in the election. You can read all about what you need to do on p16.

Hannah Phillips, Editor

# Cleish Village Hall

Scottish Charity SC007793



#### Cleish Village Hall now has a website:

#### www.cleishvillagehall.org

Information about the hall, its facilities, regular events and availability can be found on the site. Cleish Village Hall has hosted many community events over the years. It is also available to hire for private events.

#### It is an important part of our community.

The management committee, run by volunteers, is always seeking individuals to help and support the running of the hall and events.

If you are interested in getting involved, or want to find out more, please email the secretary on

#### cleishvillagehall@hotmail.com

If you wish to be added to an email list for information on forthcoming events, please contact us on the above address.



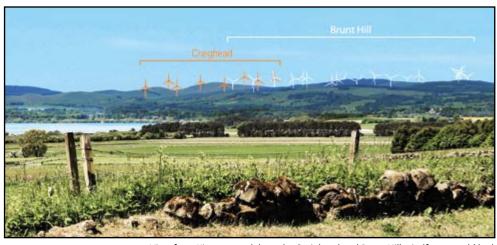




#### 'Have You Heard About The Turbines?'

I LIVE BESIDE the proposed wind farm sites at Brunt Hill and Craighead. When I first heard the rumours about developers revisiting sites previously refused planning consent for wind farm development I wasn't surprised or particularly concerned, given the climate crisis and need for clean energy. From the outset, I attended community consultations, engaged with the developers and tried to find out as much as I could about onshore wind farms generally and these proposals in particular. I have always been supportive of

wind farms in principle, but the height proposed seemed huge – up to 220m – I thought it was a typo. It wasn't.



View from Kinnesswood: how the Craighead and Brunt Hill windfarms could look

#### The Consultation

I PUT MY faith in the consultation process. Surely this would be a positive way to contribute and get some answers. On paper it was. The developers held the recommended number of meetings, set up websites and most importantly reduced the number of turbines on their proposals following consultation with local residents. It appears to be common practice to show as many turbines as possible in the initial layouts, which leaves plenty of scope to reduce the number in the final scheme. This proof of 'mitigation' is also a requirement of the Environmental Impact Assessment which forms part of the full planning application. The events I went to were poorly attended, despite the efforts of community councils to invite people along.

I asked why the turbines have to be so tall. I was told that this was the only viable size as the market is moving towards larger more efficient turbines. Interestingly other recent applications including the neighbouring Windburn site (to be submitted shortly) by a different developer, propose turbines below 150m. This avoids the need for red aviation lighting at night and times of poor visibility. More efficient turbines are more economical. This makes sense offshore, but surely not for lowland onshore schemes? The developer dismissed my query about lights as small and barely visible. The Scottish Reporter has recently rejected a scheme in Argyll and Bute largely because of the negative impact of red aviation lighting in a rural landscape with dark skies.

I was advised that visuals would be provided in the application. Some are, but more importantly some are not. The Balado night time view is presented at sunset against a red sky. Surely it would be more accurate if it could be taken against a dark sky? It is also worth noting that when the blades turn the lights will appear to blink and they will all blink at different times, which could be a nuisance to those further across the Loch Leven basin.

I asked about noise. I was aware that a report had just been published recommending that statutory guidelines relating to turbines was out of date and out of step with developments in turbine technology. I had also been advised that I should contact my local council and press for a planning condition that would offer some protection in the event that the 'whooshing' noise from the turbines became a nuisance. This is called 'amplitude modulation' and, unlike the base line humming noise of a working turbine, cannot be predicted. It occurs in certain weather conditions. A condition can be put in place requiring the developer to commission a further noise assessment and to ensure that the turbines are switched off in these specific conditions. A bit like shutting the stable door after the horse has bolted. In any case, the developer did not like my question and said he had not heard of this before.

I asked about connections to the grid – cabling and pylons. This is not included in any wind farm applications as it is down to

the national grid/energy providers to finalise, but yes most likely overhead cables and possibly additional pylons.

I asked about compensation or reduced energy bills This was dismissed as there is no requirement for any compensation and Brunt Hill are not offering incentives to those living closest to the development. Developers vary on their approach to this. Craighead have offered a small financial incentive. Elsewhere examples of community owned schemes seem so much more progressive. Smaller turbines, owned locally with greater benefits to local residents. Sadly, this is not on the table.

Promises of community benefits over the operational lifetime of the wind farm sound fabulous, however the reality is that they are a fraction of the profits made by the developers, often fall short of the predictions and are not a condition of planning. The developers, investors (largely overseas) and landowners (the Church of England Commissioners are the biggest landowner at Brunt Hill) arguably benefit most.

#### The Application

AND NOW THE first application is live. Eighteen turbines 180-200m tall, including aviation lighting, visible across the Loch Leven basin, yet when I ask, 'Have you heard about the turbines?' many people I ask are unaware of the application.

There are already wind farms in the Ochils. They are, however, much smaller in scale and sited to limit visual impact. If approved, these larger turbines would become the dominant feature, transforming the lowland Ochils into an industrialised landscape.

A precedent would be set that could lead to further applications closer to Kinross and Milnathort.

Some will argue that the benefits outweigh the impacts on our community and landscape. Others question why we need more turbines when we pay developers to turn off turbines when the grid is at capacity. There are many factors to consider.

Don't miss this opportunity to review the application and to submit comments and/or questions. Zoom in on the visuals as they recommend, otherwise they are too wide to give a realistic impression of scale. Ask yourself, is this really the right development in the right location?

The Brunt Hill application has been submitted directly to the government's Energy Consents Unit. PKC and various organisations will be consultees. They have an obligation to scrutinise the information provided, but are under a great deal of political pressure to approve new wind farms. Craighead will follow shortly. They will be considered 'cumulatively'.

Name & Address Supplied

[ED – see p7 for details on the application and how to comment.]

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#### Thanks



#### Thank You From Scotlandwell In Bloom

SCOTLANDWELL IN BLOOM had a very successful Plant and Bake Sale on Saturday 4 May — thank you to Lynne Carribine, our new proprietor of the Well Country Inn for allowing us to host the event.

Many thanks to those who baked, preserved, pickled, nurtured seedlings or who donated to the tombola—the donations were fantastic and very much appreciated. We had a great turnout which made the event so successful; thank you to everyone who came along and spent their hard earned cash! We raised the fantastic sum of £1,350.40 which will go towards plants for the village and our Well repairs. The atmosphere was warm and friendly and it was lovely to see to many folk enjoying coffee and cake, engaging with the new owner and catching up with friends and neighbours.

#### The Leven Class, Kinross High School

THANK YOU TO all the community who have supported the Leven Class in starting our Sensory Projects. We have started to develop our community links and look forward to working with you all in our projects to come. All your donations have been gratefully received and we look forward to using them. A special thank you to the Kinross and Lochgelly knitting Club, Men's Shed, Potager Garden and Kinross in Bloom for all their recent work with us.

#### **Ceilidh Success**

THE CEILIDH HELD in the Portmoak Village Hall on 11 May was a great success. Over 80 people of all ages danced to the music of the Orwell Ceilidh Band and enjoyed a buffet supper during the mid evening break. Thanks went to the committee and local people of Portmoak who supplied the delicious food and set up the whole evening. The Hall is run on an entirely voluntary basis



and needs this type of support as well as the almost £1500 funds that were raised. We hope to see everyone again next year if not before. The next event in the Hall is the Portmoak Festival from 2 June to 15 June and

we hope that you will find time to come along and enjoy the many events (programme on p 20).

#### **TRACKS**

TRACKS WOULD LIKE to say a huge thank you to all of the runners and organisers of Kinross Road Runners Loch Leven Half Marathon. Participants generously donated £726.50 as part of their event entries. The funds will be used to continue their mission to enhance rural access and the local environment of Kinross-shire and Glenfarg.



#### **Kinross Cycling club**

KINROSS CYCLING CLUB would like to thank the local community for their patience with them and their event. The event was a great success and raised over £6,700 for CHAS — they rounded it up to £7,500. They made further donations of over £1,000 to other local good causes including Broke Not Broken, KLEO, The Kinross-shire Fund, Dunning Primary School (who hosted the Dunning Feed station) and SSPCA. So in total they raised over £8,500 for good causes.

The event was hosted at Loch Leven Community Campus where the riders registered and then returned for a post-event feed, being catered for by the school cooks who provided an excellent service. They would also like to thank their event sponsors Bandrum Nursing Home with whose generous sponsorship they were able to make further donations.

#### Congratulations!



HUGE CONGRATULATIONS TO SCOTT BEVERIDGE, from all his family and friends. Scott started his journey climbing Munros feeling (in his words) overweight and very unmotivated about life. He soon became addicted to the beautiful views and the way it helped him physically and mentally.

Three years and four months later and 282 moun-

tains climbed he finally summited his last Munro in Glencoe called Stob na Broige (Buachaille Etive Mor). It's been a life-changing experience and he's loved every minute of it.

Mum (Jenny) is so proud of your achievement! You are an inspiration and a true star.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO MIA** who has been selected for two major championships with her beautiful dog, **Zip**. Mia competed as a member of Agility Team Scotland at the World Agility Open in the Netherlands in May and will compete with the YKC GB Agility team in the Junior Open Agility World Championship in July.

Mia has recently achieved a silver medallist at the 2023 U15 Small Individual Junior Agility World Championships, and bronze medallist in the team event, which is an amazing achievement.

Kinross High School wishes Mia and Zip all the best for the championships.





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# **BRUNT HILL APPLICATION SUBMITTED**



Visualisation from Loch Leven Castle

**ONE OF THE MUCH**-discussed windfarm applications, that for Brunt Hill Wind Farm has now been submitted to the Scottish Government's Energy Consents Unit (ECU) for determination by Scottish Ministers. The proposed site is located approximately 5km northwest of Kinross and 3km north of Carnbo.

It consists of up to 18-turbines, with a total generating capacity of up to 129.6MW. The project website can be viewed at https://brunthillinfo.co.uk/.

Ten of the proposed turbines have a ground to blade tip height up to 200 metres and 8 have a ground to blade tip height of up to 185m. There will also be a battery energy storage system (BESS) and associated infrastructure.

Developers are seeking permission to operate the turbines for 35 years, after which the site would be decommissioned, and the turbines dismantled and removed.

The report lists the following summary of benefits:

- Reduced carbon emissions
- Predicted to deliver total emissions savings of 193,635 tonnes of greenhouse gases per year and 6,777,235 tonnes over its 35-year operational lifetime.
- During operation, development is expected to directly and indirectly support approximately 48 jobs in Perth and Kinross, and approximately 74 jobs in Scotland.
- Committed to annual community funding of £5,000 per MW during the operational life of the Proposed Development. Based on an installed capacity of 129.6MW, the total community funding would be around £648,000 per year, which would equate to £22.68 million for a 35year lifetime.
- Anticipated to provide enough electricity to power the equivalent of 109,705 households in Scotland each year.

Many local residents have expressed concerns about how the development will look, and the range of its visibility. The report confirms, 'There would be significant visual effects for residents at Balado, Cleish, Kinnesswood and moderate but not significant visuals effects for those at Carnbo, Crook of Devon, Powmill, Kin-

ross/Milnathort and Findo Gask. There would also be a moderate but significant effect for those visiting Loch Leven.'

The turbines are of such a height that some of the blade tips will need to be illuminated at night to warn air traffic of their presence.

The Brunt Hill planning statement says, 'As the turbines are of a height greater than 150m to blade tip, they require aviation lighting to comply with Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) requirements. The Applicant provided a reduced lighting scheme design that fulfils the requirements for flight safety whilst minimising environmental effects and obtained approval from the CAA. In summary, this includes a single 2000 candela steady red light mounted on the nacelle of 6 of the 18 turbines, around the boundary of the Site'.

The statement quotes the Scottish Parliament National Planning Framework 4 (NPF4) Policy 11 on Renewable Energy — which indicates that where impacts are localised and/or appropriate design migration has been applied, they will generally be considered to be acceptable. This includes 'significant landscape and visual impacts, recognising that such impacts are to be expected for some forms of renewable energy. Where impacts are localised and/or appropriate design mitigation has been applied, they will generally be considered to be acceptable'.

The documents relating to Brunt Hill are not available on the PKC planning portal since this application, due to its size, was made to the Scottish Government. Consultation with the Energy Consents Unit is open until 28 June (24/00716/ECU36).

To view the documents and, if wished, make a representation, visit <a href="https://www.energyconsents.scot/">https://www.energyconsents.scot/</a>

Craighead windfarm developers plan to submit their planning application to PKC in early June. There is a third application which is still at scoping stage for Windburn Farm. It is for 15 turbines on the Clacks/Kinross border.

 See over to read about the new Renewables Sustainability Group, set up by local CCs to 'pool scarce resources and project a strong combined voice on future renewable energy developments'.



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#### LOCAL CCs CREATE WIND FARM GROUP

ONSHORE WIND FARM developments are always controversial and usually provoke strong views on both sides of the 'for and against' debate. Our Community Councils play an important role in representing the views of their communities on planning applications and this will very much be the case in respect of the emerging windfarm proposals, currently, in the Ochils.

Should proposals be approved, Community Councils will continue to play a key role in representing their communities, particularly in holding developers to account in meeting any conditions that they are required to meet. Typically, they are also heavily involved in optimising any community benefit fund, which most developers make available, and exploring opportunities for community shared ownership. This involves the management of

relationships with developers, advisors and requires significant effort, taking into account specialised financial, commercial, legal and technical due diligence – stretching the capabilities of most Community Councils.

That's why our local Community Councils\* have come together to form a joint body to pool scarce resources and project a strong combined voice on future renewable energy developments that impact their communities. The body, The Renewables Sustainability Group, will operate on an independent and neutral basis – neither for nor against any individual development.

This is important as it leaves individual Community Councils to represent their communities, as required, on any planning applications. In short, The Renewables Sustainability Group will be set up to ensure that our com-

munities are well prepared to make the most of any community benefit fund that emerge.

This work is in its infancy, but it's clear that the Community Councils seek to be a force for good and deliver long term strategic benefit on both a very local basis and across their wider catchment area — with priorities only determined after a process of community engagement. They are also determined to keep their communities updated on a regular basis through articles like this, typically on a quarterly basis and engage, constructively, with other community bodies. If anyone has any suggestions for the Renewables Sustainability Group, please contact your local CC.

\*The Community Councils are: Cleish & Blairadam, Earn, Fossoway & District, Glenfarg, Kinross, Milnathort & Orwell, Muckhart, and Portmoak.

# **OPEN GARDENS for MARIE CURIE**



THE KINROSS MARIE CURIE Fundraising Group are planning an Open Gardens weekend June 29-30 from 12-4pm each day. There will be a wonderful variety of 12 lovely gardens to visit between Milnathort and Kinross.

These include private gardens, the Potag-

er community garden in Bowton Road, and the allotments behind Caulder's garden centre.

The weekend ticket and map is £10pp and will be available on Saturday 29 June from Orwell Church Hall, Ba Hill,

Milnathort and on Sunday 30 June from St Paul's Church Hall, the Muirs, Kinross.

Refreshments will be available at both venues/donation only and a sale of plants on Saturday at the Potager Garden, Kinross. Children are free with adult supervision. Sorry, no dogs allowed.

Tickets can also be purchased in advance by contacting Marg Meade 07907 192097.

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# NEW BIKE STORAGE FOR PARK & RIDE

**PKC ARE CURRENTLY IN** the process of developing the design for a sustainable transport hub at Kinross Park and Ride, incorporating an improved bus shelter with an increased capacity of secure bicycle parking.

Cllr Cuthbert spoke to the Project Officer for Road Safety at PKC who told him, 'we anticipate consulting with stakeholders on the proposed hub in June with a view to then obtaining planning permission before installing the new facility thereafter.'

Other local councillors were equally positive about the plans. Cllr Freshwater commented, 'I gather they were looking at the possibility of using the system that was in Glasgow with the app-based booking system for the bikes, back in November. It is good that it is progressing.

Cllr Robertson added, 'The secure bike storage containers were vandalised when installed at the Kinross Park & Ride. It is important the new storage units are robust.'

#### **ALTERED IMAGES**

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# REPAIR CAFE BACK FOR JUNE

BACK IN APRIL, Jim Fairlie MSP opened the local repair cafe. At the first cafe 16 items were repaired and 22kg saved from waste, estimated to reduce local emissions by 94.5kg of carbon dioxide. Thanks to all who participated and supported that event. On Saturday 29 June there will be another repair cafe at Milnathort Town Hall, between 10am and 2pm.

A Repair cafe is a free community event, where people bring everyday items to get them repaired under the supervision of experienced volunteer repairers. The idea is that participants will learn repair skills by taking part in or watching a repair process. The repairs facilitated are not complex and will not take business away from local professional repairers.

There will be a pop-up climate café while you wait, which offers refreshments and a friendly chat.

The Repair Cafe is free, but if you require a new part it will need to be paid for. Donations are collected for hall hire and running costs.

Volunteer Repairers will offer the following type of repairs:

- Textiles and hand darning
- Bike repair & maintenance advice
- Laptop repairs (basic software and hardware solutions)
- Small electronic items that run on batteries (radios)
- Small household items (until 12pm)
- Small electric items



Unfortunately, jewellery and wood items repairers will not be available on this occasion. Please come along and register your item(s) for repair and sign a waiver form. The item will then get assessed by the repair volunteer. Not every item can be repaired. Items are weighed to allow organisers to monitor the amount of waste saved, which is reported back to funders.

There will be two demonstrations on the day:

- Replacing a squash racket grip at 10am
- Simple pottery repair at lunch time.
   There is also a Swap Shop an opportunity

ing for an Electrician Repairer! Thank you to all who participated and supported the last event. We would also like to thank the Community Investment Fund and the Green Living Fund for their financial support.'

A spokesperson said, 'We are also still look-

to exchange good quality and clean unwanted item(s) for a different item of clothing. Just bring your item of clothing (in good condition) to exchange for something or simply make a small donation. This month there will be light clothes for summer, and a selection of maternity clothes and children's shoes.

# **EXPLORERS EXPLAINED!**



Marshalling at the Loch Leven Half Marathon.

**EXPLORER SCOUTS IS THE** fifth section of The Scout Association for 14-18 year olds. It is aimed at allowing Explorers to discover the world on their own terms and make the most of what they have, wherever and whoever they are.

In Kinross, the explorer scouts are an adventurous group of 25 Explorers who meet 8-10pm on Thursdays in the Millbridge Hall. They plan and take part in a wide range of activities, including running an assault course, cooking on open fires, survival, and traditional scouting skills. This helps build leadership and independence which is useful when taking part in more adventurous and smashing activities such as camping. To help achieve this they work together with our volunteer adult leaders who are on hand to share their skills and keep everyone safe.

Our awesome leaders encourage Explorers to challenge themselves to do more and try more (hence the awards, activity and staged badges) and believe in dreaming big, finding their place in the world, and making memories to last a lifetime.

Over the next few months, they will be ramping up their community presence and fundraising efforts because, in Summer 2025, 15 members of the group will be going on an international Scout Camp to the International Scouting Headquarters in Kandersteg in



Switzerland! They are planning lots of fun, exciting activities so that you can be involved to help them prepare for this exciting journey and enriching life-experience.

Explorer Andrew Scott told us, 'In true Scouting form, our fundraising will involve physical elements (e.g. setting up and taking down Kinross Market stalls), skills (e.g. delivering craft workshops at the Highland Show), and community events (e.g. ceilidh and pudding night... NOW we've got your attention!).

We can't wait to be ambassadors for Kinross and for Scotland, so watch this space for all the details about forthcoming fundraising events and how you can get involved!' If you are interested in joining whether as a participant or volunteer to an Explorer group or another section of the Scouts, visit <a href="https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers">www.scouts.org.uk/explorers</a> or <a href="https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers">www.scouts.org.uk/groups</a> and for local information, contact <a href="https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers@hotmail.com">local information</a>, contact <a href="https://www.scouts.org.uk/explorers">local information</a>, contact <a hre

412 Days to Kanderstag!

# HARMONY PROJECT IN TUNE



THE HARMONY Project, the intergenerational music making and storytelling project run by Perth Theatre and Concert Hall, is now in its third year.

This year P5s from Kinross Primary School worked alongside Kinross Day Centre to write a song inspired by the stories of participants from the day care centre. Drama and Music artists Lisa and Jen ran storytelling sessions in the centre, one of which the children from the school joined them for.

The school then had a trip to Perth Concert Hall where they recorded their song 'The Loch Ness Monster'. The next day the children performed their song at the school, and members of the Kinross Day Centre joined them for it.

One of the Harmony Artists told the *Newsletter*, 'My highlights were the final sharing and seeing how proud the pupils were to share their performance and song. Or watching all the primary school pupils sat with the day centre participants having lovely conversations and getting to know one another.'



#### **GROWBIZ SUMMER SUPPORT**

**ARE YOU SELF-EMPLOYED** or a small business owner in a rural area? Are you thinking of setting up your own business or social enterprise? Here's how GrowBiz can help **YOU**.

**1-1 ADVICE:** Whether you're looking for someone to help you make a funding application, create a climate action plan, or improve your budgeting, marketing or other business skills, we have a team member who can help. Email *connect@growbiz.co.uk* to request an informal chat.

**MENTORING:** Our award-winning business mentoring programme trains volunteer mentors to support those who need a confidence boost, a listening ear, or some help with personal development. If you're interested in giving back by becoming a mentor, or receiving support by becoming a mentee, visit www.growbiz.co.uk/mentoring

**EVENTS:** GrowBiz's online learning sessions are based around the subjects our clients need support with, such as social media, boosting productivity and sustainability. Our networking events are a confidential space to share challenges and experiences with other business owners and be motivated by inspirational speakers.

**SPECIALISED SUPPORT:** GrowBiz also offers specialised support to various sectors at *www.reds.scot* 

Find out about GrowBiz's services at www.growbiz.co.uk



# The Millbridge Halls

#### Your local halls are available for you!





# The Millbridge Halls are available for individuals, groups or organisations to hire.

The halls, in the centre of Kinross with adjacent car parking, can be hired for regular or one-off use. They are ideal for birthday parties, community events, table-top sales or weekly classes. Superfast fibre broadband WiFi is available in most of the building.

#### Rates for Regular Use\*

Large Hall	£14.50 p.h.
Medium Hall	£12.00 p.h.
Octagonal Room	£10.00 p.h.
Café	£10.00 p.h.
Kitchen	£5.00 p.h.**

"one-off rates also available
""waived if booked with a hall







The Large Hall is marked out for badminton or short tennis and is a great venue for children's parties.

The Medium Hall lends itself to many activities and has a door opening into the kitchen.

The Café is a pleasant, relaxing room with a large serving hatch through to the adjoining kitchen.

The Kitchen has everything you need with lots of worktop space, a cooker, microwave and a fridge

The Garden is a large secure grassy area to the side of the halls, accessed from the large hall.





#### How to Book

Online - go to <a href="https://millbridgehall.org">https://millbridgehall.org</a>, download and complete the booking form, then email it to <a href="mailto:bookings@millbridgehall.org">bookings@millbridgehall.org</a>.

By phone - ring 07528 069 372 to discuss your event or regular session.



Address: Old Causeway, Kinross KY13 8DW

# THREE EVENTS FOR KYTHE!

#### KYTHE Awards Evening 30 May

THROUGHOUT THE YEAR, young people challenge themselves to complete nationally recognised Youth Awards in areas such as art, woodwork and graphic design. KYTHE supports the young people achieve the awards, and we are delighted to recognise their progress and achievements.



#### Car Boot Sale, 8 June, 11am-2pm

BACK FOR ONE Saturday only, the famous KYTHE Car Boot Sale!

We are hosting a car boot sale on 8 June (11am-2pm) in the car park at the KYTHE Hub (next to Loch Leven Health Centre). This is the place to be, whether you're looking to declutter and sell some items or snag a bargain.

Last time we were delighted to have members of the local community there, along with a couple of small businesses. In keeping with the idea of a car boot sale, we are keen to keep spaces open for individuals, but would still like some small businesses there. If anyone would like to book a space, email fundraising@kythe.org. uk with your interest and what you would like to sell on the day. The cost is £10 donation per space (3 spaces max per person).



#### KYTHE Live 15 June: 6.30-9.30pm (doors 6pm), Milnathort Town Hall

KYTHE COMPOSES HAS been a new workshop at KYTHE funded by the Pear Tree Trust. This workshop enabled young people aged 11-19 to compose their own songs, rather than cover existing songs. It has been challenging as they explored methods, means of rhymes, reasons for writing songs, with a professional musician supporting them!

The young people of different ages and abilities have together formed bands to perform their songs. Come to Milnathort Town Hall on Saturday 15 June (6.30pm – 10pm, doors open 6pm) to hear their new skills, talents and songs!

There will also be an opportunity to support the young entrepreneurs @KYTHE programme to buy some baked goods and more exciting products, as well as KYTHE's infamous Jack's Bar tuck shop!

Keep an eye on the website and social media for ticket details. www.kythe.org.uk

#### HIGH STREET SEWING

Clothing and Curtain alterations and repairs
(1-2 week turnaround)
Available hours:
Monday 0900-1230 & 1330-1700

Tuesday 0900-1230 Thursday 0900-1230 & 1330-1700 Friday 0900-1230 Saturday 0900-1230

Location - behind Loch Leven Laundry and Baillies LINETTE MANN - 07732 902419



# NEW SEASON FOR ARTS @ST PAUL'S

THE NEW SEASON'S programme of exhibitions was launched in April and May with two 'Taster' events displaying the work of nine artists and two makers at each event. The wide range of art and craft work included some stunning paintings, creative photography, ceramics, homewares, unique soaps and skin products and a variety of prints and cards. In spite of competing events in the town both exhibitions enjoyed an encouraging start to the season.

Looking ahead, exhibitions will be held fortnightly in the St Paul's meeting room. There will be two in June then a break in July before recommencing at the end of August through to the first week of December. The organisers have reached out to bring to Kinross some of the area's finest artists and makers, resulting in an impressive range of talents and skills on display. Each event will involve different artists and makers.

The meeting room at St Paul's is a delightful and dog friendly venue and we welcome everyone to come and browse, to enjoy the displays and meet

the artists and makers who are always pleased to talk about their work. You can pick up a flier with all the details at various venues around the town and at the exhibitions.



**8/9 June** Exhibiting artists are Kathryn Kirkwood from Milnathort and Josephine Smith from Falkland accompanied by Composite Photographer Julie Close from Scotlandwell. On Saturday 8 June Frankie Newlands from Kinnesswood will display and sell her upcycled, upholstered and vintage pieces and on Sunday 9 June Deb-

bie Stuart from Auchtermuchty will be there with her Wooly Wonders handmade custom fit socks which have been made on an antique knitting machine.

**22/23 June** Artists Richard Ibbotson from Glenfarg and Greg Drumm from Milnathort will exhibit alongside Len Cumming who has recently moved to Kinross from Shetland and creates individual mosaics. Gill Skene completes the quartet of talent with her ever popular jewellery.

So, when you see the banner and notices displayed at St Paul's on The Muirs please pop in to see what is on offer. You will always be assured of a warm welcome!







# Parent Carers Coffee and Chat Friday 14th June 10:00 - 12:00 The Green Hatel. I The Muirs, Kinross RY13 8AS Booking essential by phone or email 01738 567076 or carershubadmin@pkays.org.uk

# **CARERS WEEK**

CARERS WEEK IS AN annual awareness campaign to celebrate and recognise the vital contribution made by the UK's 5.7 million carers, and runs from 10-16 June, celebrating and saying thank you to our unpaid carers.

The week is designed to make caring more visible and this year's theme is "putting carers on the map", aiming to make sure that the voices of unpaid carers are heard by politicians, employers, service providers, educational establishments, journalists and throughout our communities.

Being held in Kinross, a coffee and chat event on Friday 14 June 10am-12pm at the Green Hotel aims to bring parent carers together over a cuppa, to offer peer support to each other. Carers centre staff will be in attendance and all parent car-

ers are welcome, whether this is your first time or you've joined us before.

Booking is essential as spaces are limited at this event. Phone us at the Carers Centre on 01738 567076 or email us at carershubadmin@pkavs.org.uk to book your space.

#### **SUNFLOWERS 2024**

**FRUIX FIELDS** is back for another season! With a second crop of sunflowers newly sown, they're expected to bloom from early to mid-August.

We will keep you posted on ticket details in the next *Newsletter*, so you can experience the joy of picking these beautiful flowers. Check out @ Fruix Fields on Facebook.

# Superhero Walk and Funday Saturday 29th June



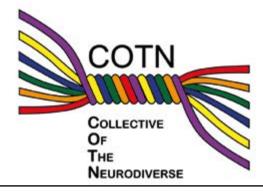
Millbridge Hall, Kinross 10.30am-17.30pm

Come along and support The Stephen Lyon Organisation.



- Tea and coffee
  - · Cake Stall
  - Kids crafts
  - · Dog show
  - Kids games
    - Tombola
      - · Raffle
  - Facepainting
- Some special SUPER visitors And so much more.





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)

# **GET VOTER I.D. BY JULY!**

THE GENERAL ELECTION WILL BE HELD on 4 July 2024. Whereas voting used to be a simple matter of going to your polling station, card in hand, being given a ballot paper and placing your X against your preferred candidate's name, the law has now changed.

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

Documents such as your passport and drivers' licence don't even have to be currently valid, just so long as the photo is still a recognisable likeness of yourself.

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

https://www.electoralcommission.org. uk/voting-and-elections/voter-id/applying-a-voter-authority-certificate

Those who plan to use a postal vote must do so via: https://www.gov.uk/apply-postal-vote#content. Only walk in voters require ID to cast their vote (this includes proxy voters). Postal voters do not need ID. Any current postal voters do not need to take any further action.

If you can't apply online, contact the Electoral Registration Office in Perth to receive

Remember, you now need photo ID to vote in the next UK Parliament elections

the appropriate form.

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

#### **ACCEPTED FORMS OF PHOTO I.D.**

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

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

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

A Blue Badge

Scottish National Entitlement Card for concessionary travel (including a 60+, disabled or under 22s bus pass)
Older Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government
Disabled Person's Bus Pass funded by the UK Government
Oyster 60+ Card funded by the UK Government
Freedom Pass

60 and Over Welsh Concessionary Travel Card Disabled Person's Welsh Concessionary Travel Card Senior SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

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

War Disablement SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

60+ SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Half Fare SmartPass issued in Northern Ireland

Proof of age

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

**Biometric immigration document** 

Ministry of Defence Form 90 (Defence Identity Card)

National identity card issued by an EEA state

**Electoral Identity Card issued in Northern Ireland** 

**Voter Authority Certificate** 

**Anonymous Elector's Document** 

# It's The KPS School Fayre!

THE KINROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL Summer Fayre takes place on Saturday 15 June and will be a fun afternoon for the whole community! It runs from 12-2.30pm with stalls and activities for all interests, and all money raised goes directly towards funding activities for children at Kinross Primary, so your pennies and pounds really do make a difference in providing a huge range of opportunities for all year groups across the school.

Organisers want to make it a fun and welcoming event for the whole community. Many of the games and activities will be free and they are hugely grateful for the generosity of parents, carers, and local businesses. These include:

- BBQ food items kindly supplied and cooked the team at Allans of Auchterarder, and BBQs kindly donated by the brilliant team at Gutters 2 Glory and the fantastic folk at Kinross Rugby Club.
- A delicious cake for the 'guess the weight of the cake' supplied by the brilliant baking talents of Mr Chris Wilson.
- Home Baking stall, donations gratefully accepted on the day of the Fayre drop off at school anytime from 10am.

- Local community heroes (unless otherwise occupied!) from our fantastic fire and police teams, and a thank you to Gary & Fiona Morton of Morton's Motors for bringing history to life with their WW2 memorabilia and costumes.
- Our wonderful community! All the donations of toys, chocolates, books, bric-a-brac and wine that people have generously donated so far are so appreciated; if there are any more items you'd like to give in, please pop them into School Reception or get in touch via kinrossprimaryparentcouncil@ gmail.com to drop off with any of the team.

A spokesperson said, 'We simply can't run the Fayre without help on the day, and hugely appreciate any time volunteers can spare to help run stalls.

Stalls include: free games to play, home baking, cuddly toy stall, chocolate tombola, toys, games, books, bouncy castles, snacks, drinks, face-painting and a raffle. Please do come along and help us raise funds to enrich the educational experiences of the children throughout our community, we hope to see you there!'

# **HAPPY BIRTHDAY, SOCIAL MUMS!**

THE SOCIAL MUM SOCIETY is one year old this month! The Society, brainchild of Kinross resident Hannah McLachlan, aims to put on social events throughout the year where local mums can connect,

make friends, let their hair down a bit and have some much-needed 'me' time.

Whether you're a mum looking to unwind, get active or just enjoy some company and a night off, they've got something for everyone. They also hope to raise awareness and some funds for charities for parents' mental health.

Here's what's coming up. Join them for a fun-filled calendar of events!

- **21 June Garden Gathering:** Meet up with fellow mums for a relaxing drink at our local beer garden.
- **5 July** Summer Stroll: Enjoy a nice summer evening walk and get out and about with us.
- **19 July Twilight Picnic:** Unwind from the week with a picnic, great conversation, and delicious food and drink.
- **9 Aug** Garden Gathering: Another chance to connect over a drink at our favourite beer garden.
- **21 Sept October Fest:** Join our Oktoberfest party night filled with beer, games, and festive fun!
- **2 Nov Quiz Night:** Test your knowledge and have fun at our classic quiz night.

**Follow them** on social media for updates and further details on these meet-ups.

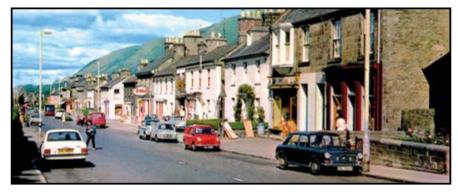
Facebook The Social Mum Society (Kinross)
Instagram @socialmumsocietykinross

# **Dollar Shops Through The Ages**

**DOLLAR MUSEUM'S NEW** exhibition for 2024 is 'Dollar Shops'. Above is a colourful view of Bridge Street in the 1970s. Observant readers will see many differences between then and now, not least the loss of Stewarts' Garage with its petrol pumps.

The exhibition looks at the multitude of shops that have existed in Dollar over the years. Some have had numerous owners, like The Deli, shown left as it was in the early 1900s. It was always a grocery store. Other shops have remained a long time, with very different uses. Muckersie's, on the right side of the colour photo above, was for 100 years a stationers, bookshop and print-





ers. It was started by a relative of the author of Bradshaw's Guide in the nineteenth century. Since then, it has been a bathroom fitting shop and is now Bridge Street Bar.

Other shops have disappeared. A map in the exhibition shows that there were over 40 shops in the 1950s. In the early 19th century shops were clustered in the Old Town, Hillfoot Road being called Traders' Brae. Gradually, commerce moved to the New Town. The last shop to close in the Old Town was The Priory, a sad loss to those living nearby.

All of Dollar's shops and some of the people who worked in them were recorded in our Millennium Project in 1999-2000. These photos will be available as a searchable database in the exhibition.

The museum would be very pleased if visitors would bring their own memories and photos to add to the exhibition. They hope to have some walks associated with the exhibition and reminiscing sessions. Opening times: Saturdays 11-1 and 2-4.30, Sundays 2-4.30. More details on the website at *dollarmuseum.org.uk*.

#### PRIVATE CARER

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Registered Carer

Over 25 years' experience, covering all aspects of personal care and medication administration.

Also covering food, shopping and household tasks.

£20 hourly rate, fully insured with own car.

Call Ann on 07779 091023

# Celebrant Ceremonies by Elaine Independent Celebrant Call or message Elaine on 07545 138436 www.celebrantceremoniesbyelaine.co.uk End of Life Services and Ceremonies Love and Commitment Ceremonies Heartfelt

Naming and Re-naming Ceremonies

Personal





# Meet local artists & makers SPRING/SUMMER 2024 SHOWS

27 & 28 April 11 & 12 May 25 & 26 May 8 & 9 June 22 & 23 June

10 am - 4 pm Sat & Sun St Paul's, The Muirs, Kinross Free entry & dog friendly!



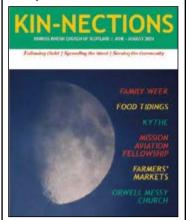
Scan the QR code for more info or visit: www.artsatstpauls.com





#### **NEW KIN-NECTIONS**

THE SUMMER ISSUE of Kin-nections, the free magazine of Kinross Parish Church, is out now. Find it at the church on Sundays, the church office (rear door, Mon & Fri 10am-12noon), Church Centre entrance hall, Kinross Library and at cafes in Kinross.



An underlying theme is God's awesome creation and our responsibility for the environment we cherish. This is connected with the theme of this year's Family Week (29 July - 2 August) which will 'blast off into space on Starship Discovery'. The full Family Week programme is on the back cover. Morning sessions and most of the afternoon and evening events are free to attend (donations welcome).

# **UGANDA UPDATE**



Ruth Jack and family in Uganda.

**RUTH JACK,** MAF's Uganda Country Director, visited Kinross Parish Church with her family before taking up her post in Uganda. That was two years ago and the family is now back in Scotland for 'home assignment' for two months.

Ruth will join the congregation

on Sunday 16 June, contributing to the 10.30am morning worship service.

This will be followed by a soup & sandwich lunch at around 12 noon where the congregation will be able to chat informally with Ruth about her work. All are welcome.

#### TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC!

STEPPING STONES is run by Kinross Parish Church for toddlers and babies, along with their parents and carers, on a Tuesday morning at 10am term-time.

Over 40 children have been attending and Kathleen Weir, one of the organisers, says:

'This makes for a very busy and happy time and great fun is had by all. We are very grateful to all our volunteers, whether it is helping with the session or tidying up at the end.

We have our endof-term Teddy Bears' Picnic on Tuesday 18 June at 10am, hopefully outside in the church garden, weather permitting!'



#### **CAMERON BROWN ARCHITECTS**

RIBA & RIAS Chartered Architect in Kinross-shire www.cameronbrownarchitects.co.uk 01577 333777







- Home Extensions, Renovations & Alterations
- New Build Developments
- Conservation & Listed Building Projects
- Commercial and Residential Projects
- Planning & Building Warrant Applications
- Contract Administration





#### Portmoak festival

	Sat 1st	Sun 2nd	Mon 3rd	Tues 4th	Wed 5th	Thurs 6th	Fri 7th	
Morning		BIRDSONG WALK WITH SCOTT PATERSON 8am	MOSAIC WORKSHOP WITH KATY GALBRAITH 10am-3pm BOOKING REQ	PORTMOAK BABIES & TODDLERS Doodle & Splat <b>9.30-11.30</b> am	BIRDSONG WALK with SCOTT PATERSON 8am		PORTMOAK BABIES & TODDLERS Messy Play 9.30-11.30am	Morning
Afternoon	PORTMOAK COMMUNITY GALA 2-10pm		EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS GAELIC CONVERSATION 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS AND CRAFTS 2-4pm	EXHIBITION CREAM TEAS AND CRAFTS 2-4pm		Afternoon
Evening	PORTMOAK COMMUNITY GALA 2-10pm	FAMILY FILM NIGHT 6.30pm			MUSIC NIGHT - TOLL 8pm Doors Open 6pm	CHILDREN'S & COMMUNITY CONCERT 7-8.30pm		Evening
	Sat 8th	Sun 9th	Mon 10th	Tues 11th	Wed 12th	Thurs 13th	Fri 14th	
Morning	PICKLEBALL TRY OUT SESSION 10am-12pm		WEAVING WORKSHOP WITH NORMA 10am-3pm BOOKING REQ	PORTMOAK BABIES & TODDLERS 9.30-11.30am		BADMINTON TRY-OUT SESSION 10am	PORTMOAK BABIES & TODDLERS 9.30-11.30am	Morning
Afternoon		TUNES IN THE ORCHARD with Vicky & Sean 2-4pm BYOB	EXHIBITION 2-4pm					Afternoon
Evening			PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION <b>6-8pm</b>	PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION 6-8pm QUIZ NIGHT WELL INN	PUDDING CLUB & EXHIBITION 6-8pm			Evening

#### Sun 16th

JAZZ/MUSIC NIGHT Dave Batchelor & Friends 8-10.30pm TICKET ONLY

# THE EXHIBITION WILL BE OPEN BY ARRANGEMENT WHEN EVENTS ARE ON

prtmkfestival@gmail.com facebook:~ portmoak festival

**BYOB** 

## **PORTMOAK FESTIVAL UPDATE**

**THERE HAVE BEEN** a few small changes to the programme as volunteers have been shaping things up over the last week or two. The ever popular Dave Batchelor and Friends Jazz Night will now be on Sunday 16 June from 8-10.30pm, tickets on sale from Brian in Kinnesswood Shop or from Dave B himself.

We have a bird theme flapping about the programme this year, especially in the Art Exhibition.

Families can start the Festival with a Sunday morning birdsong walk on 2 June, and end the day with our Family Film Night, in collaboration with Portmoak Film Society, who will be showing *Migration* at 6.30pm, an animated story about the Mallard family who confront the dilemma of whether to remain in the comfort of their pond or embark on a migration adventure like other ducks.

This is truly a family film that is appealing to all audiences and even pokes fun at

grandparents. Tickets at the door: £5/£2. Children must be accompanied by an adult at both events. We also hope there will be a Children's Concert in the Hall on Thursday 6 June 6.30pm-8pm.

A bheil Gàidhlig agaibh? How is your Gaelic? Not so long ago there were 14,000 Gaelic speakers in Perth and Kinross and the local landscape is still full of it. We were surprised to find Portmoak has a good handful of Gaelic learners and on Tuesday 4 June there will be a table at the Cream Teas where you can learn a few Gaelic bird names with your *sgonaichean*, or try out any Gaelic you may have in a friendly environment.

To work off those puddings and scones we have the birdsong walk on Wednesday 5 June, setting out from the entrance to The Moss, as well as badminton and pickle ball sessions to try out the following week.

Bookings for Weaving and the Mosaic

Workshop are filling up and numbers are limited. Use Portmoak Festival to direct message or leave a message on the Facebook page. Those who can't visit the art exhibition at the times mentioned please contact us. We will do our best to open up.

An additional event is 'tunes in the park' with Vicky, Sean and friends. It will be in the Community Orchard and you will have a chance to hear some of their tunes from the Shetland Folk Festival. If it rains it will be in the hall. There will be a collection for the local Woodland Group.

We are still more than happy to hear via our Facebook page from those who would be able to help with moving furniture, manning the hall, selling raffle tickets etc.

All funds raised during the festival are shared out to benefit local organisations – those who have benefited recently include local Paths Group, Under 5s, In Bloom groups and Cubs.





E: info@pizzavia.co.uk





T: 07591 104 652

# Pensions Guidance Lindsay Ross Ballantyne The UK's state pension is one of the worst in the developed

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 <u>people of all ages</u> 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: <u>lindsay63@hotmail.co.uk</u>

Visit: www.lbpensionsguidance.co.uk



# **SARAH RANKIN COOKS**



# **PICKLING**

You Will Need

300ml vinegar (red wine/ white wine/cider/chardonnay all work) 3 tbsp caster sugar 1 star anise 1 tsp mustard seeds 1 tsp coriander seeds 1 tsp fennel seeds

Warm everything in a pan until the sugar is dissolved, cool and add your veg. Leave to steep for a good half hour. You can add a little water to take down the acidity if you like.

Decant into sterilized, airtight jars and use within a couple of weeks. MY COOKBOOK Kith has been out for a month and now and the response has been fantastic! I am overwhelmed by the support I've received. Thank you so very much to everyone who has bought a copy, especially those buying it locally - which is a wonderful way to support our local businesses - at Wintons and Loch Leven's Larder. It is available to buy online, but I'm sure proper good old-fashioned bookshops would love your custom too.

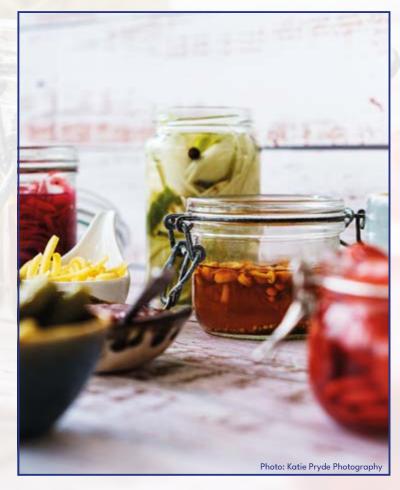
I'm going to be all around the country this summer cooking and chatting about *Kith* and the process of writing a book at various book festivals, food shows and other events. My website www. sarahrankincooks.com has all the details, and you'll find more info on my social media channels @ sarahrankincooks as well.

Most of the recipes in *Kith* are simple and the 'Things of Beauty' chapters show how tiny additions to dishes can make a huge difference.

The lift that well-placed acidity brings is a taste sensation on almost any

dish. The warming, spicy, tomato flavour of shakshuka is transformed by throwing over a few pickled red onions. They cut through the spice and the richness of the eggs with a gorgeously zingy bite.

Similarly, shop-bought smoked salmon can be brought to restaurant level with a dollop of sour cream mixed with a spoonful of capers and a little of their brine, and a little chopped dill. Add to that some ribbons of pickled cucumber and finely sliced fennel and you've gone full chef mode.



HERE'S A QUICK pickle recipe that you can add to a whole host of tasty little morsels to bring a bright acidity to whatever you are serving it with.

A white pickle will work excellently

with sliced onion, cucumber, fennel, neep (trust me), daikon, white turnip and carrot.

Alternatively, using red wine vinegar will give a pinkish lift to shallots, rad-

ish, raddichio and red onions. To get a really vibrant pink on your onions, drop in the whole onion peel while it steeps and fish it out before you decant into sterilised jars.





# IN PRAISE OF WOOL

IN EARLIER NEWSLETTERS I wrote about the devastating impact fast fashion has on the planet, especially clothing that is made from oil-based fibres such as polyester and acrylics. I made a plea to use natural fibres as much as possible. One in particular has nearly magical properties.

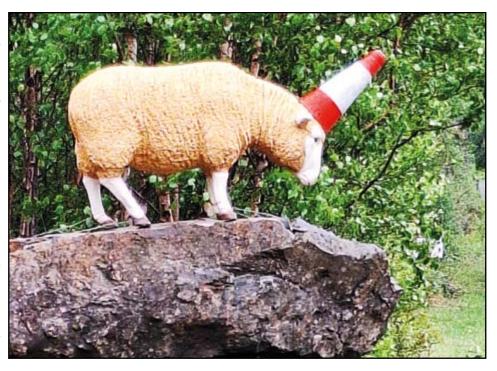
Which fibre is extremely strong, fire-retardant, keeps you cool in summer and warm in winter and is breathing? You'd probably guess it comes from those fluffy white balls we see all around us in the Scottish landscape: sheep; about to be shorn around this time.

Wool makes sustainable clothing, rugs and carpets and can be an alternative to down in bedding. It will break down in the environment but during its life as a garment, it will hold 50% of its weight in carbon. All the more reason to mend your precious woollies! Wool, even wool that would not be suitable for garments, could be used for insulation.

Early sheep were kept for their meat and milk. Wool was not really a commodity and sheep moulted naturally. You can still see that now and then – a sheep looking very scraggy, with clumps of wool hanging off it. Once our ancestors began to realise that wool could be used for garments and cover, they began to breed sheep that would not naturally lose their wool but needed to be clipped or go through a process of rooing (plucking off the wool by hand).

There are now over one billion sheep in the world, and about a thousand breeds. Each has its own characteristics; some produce wool that is coarse and more suitable for rugs, others produce the finest wool, suitable for baby clothes. Spinners talk about fleeces in terms of 'crimp' and 'staple length', and most spinners try to experience spinning wool from different breeds to compare.





Probably before people started to spin wool, they discovered another, very useful property of wool: felting. Anyone washing their woollen jumper too hot will know what I mean. The legend is that shoes were lined with wool to keep warm; the friction of the feet caused the wool to felt, and the first perfect insole was born. Felt is still used by Mongolian tribes to make their yurts – as it is warm, waterproof and mobile.

Scotland has its own share of interesting, rare breeds such as the seaweed-eating sheep of North Ronaldsay, Boreray sheep and Soay sheep – interesting for both their meat as well as their wool.

In 1955, the average price paid to farmers was £14 per kg. The price it fetched in 2022 was on average 72 pence per kg. Clipping a sheep cost between £1.20 and £1.60. Rearing sheep for wool makes a loss. However, sheep need to be clipped for their own welfare, so farmers are looking to once again breed sheep that naturally moult.

It is very sad that a wonderful resource like wool is so under-utilised. We could do so much more with it than eat the meat. Sheep can be part of the Green Revolution.

Trudy Duffy

#### The Newsletter on Facebook

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- · reminders of some local events
- · occasional breaking news

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# THE LONGEST DAY

Thursday 6 June is the 80th anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy, marking the beginning of the end of the Nazi occupation of mainland Europe. In the final instalment of his account of the Allies finest hour, Andy Middlemiss explains the significance of this historical event.

**FINALLY – AND AT LAST,** after many articles – we come to D Day itself: 6 June 1944. It is 80 years ago this month.

The invasion of northern France in June 1944 was the most significant victory of the Western Allies in the Second World War. American, British and Canadian forces established a foothold on the shores of Normandy and, after a protracted and costly campaign to reinforce their gains, broke out into the French interior, and began a headlong advance. The German Army suffered a catastrophe greater than that of Stalingrad, the defeat in North Africa, or even the massive Soviet summer offensive of 1944.

The Battle of Normandy, which lasted from 6 June 1944 to late August 1944, was the opening campaign, resulting in the eventual Allied liberation of Western Europe from Nazi Germany's control. Codenamed Operation Overlord, the battle began on 6 June 1944, also known as D-Day, when some 156,000 American, British and Canadian forces landed on five beaches, along a 50-mile stretch of heavily fortified coastline of France's Normandy region. The invasion was one of the largest amphibious military assaults in history, and required extensive planning as previous articles have showed.

General Montgomery's strategy in the weeks after D-Day focused on taking Caen in the east of the lodgement area, around which the bulk of the German armour was concentrated, and facilitating the build-up and breakout of American forces in the west. But, success in getting and staying ashore was tempered by an inability to capture ground inland. The Normandy



campaign became a costly slogging match, against a tenacious and often more experienced enemy, who had the advantage of terrain well-suited to defence.

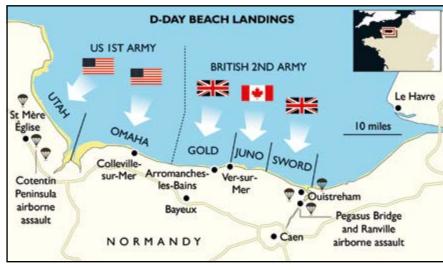
As attacks inevitably bogged down, the Allies relied increasingly on their artillery and air support. For its part, the German High Command was never able to gather sufficient resources for a concentrated counter-offensive. Instead, armoured divisions were fed into the line piecemeal to shore up depleted infantry formations. It was a battle of attrition, which the Allies, with their vast superiority in men and material, were bound to win.

The Allied plan for a broad, phased advance was overtaken by events, and the fi-

nal breakout was dramatic. Hitler's refusal to allow his commanders freedom to give up ground, and insistence on reinforcing failure, gave the Allies a more complete victory than they could have hoped for, as enemy units were sucked in to the maelstrom and destroyed.

Most of the divisions committed to the defence of France were either wiped out or reduced to remnants. Some 400,000 German troops were lost. Allied numbers and material support clearly had an impact, but it was significant that the fighting forces had defeated even the most fanatical German formations in the field. The battle for Normandy was an impressive feat of arms, as well as an exposition of Allied logistical and industrial muscle.

The Allied advance in north-west Europe would slow dramatically that autumn as German resistance stiffened on the borders of the Reich. The war would not be over by Christmas. But D-Day had opened another major front, where the bulk of America's rapidly expanding army could at last be brought to bear. It led to the liberation of France, denying Germany any further exploitation of that country's economic and manpower resources. The U-boat ports, V-weapon sites and a large section of Germany's air defence network were captured or rendered useless. And it convinced the German High Command other than a few ardent Nazi generals – that total defeat was now inevitable.



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#### **VICTORY IN NORMANDY**

BY THE END OF August 1944, the Allies had reached the River Seine, Paris was liberated and the Germans had been removed from north-western France, effectively concluding the Battle of Normandy. The Allied forces then prepared to enter Germany, where they would meet up with Soviet troops moving in from the East.

The Normandy invasion began to turn the tide against the Nazis. A significant psychological blow, it also prevented Hitler from sending troops from France to build up his Eastern Front against the advancing Soviets. The following spring, on May 8, 1945, the Allies formally accepted the unconditional surrender of Nazi Germany. Hitler had committed suicide a week earlier, on April 30.

Readers may like to hear testimonies from some of those who took part:

Robert Ashby, Glider Pilot Regiment, took part in the operation to take Pegasus Bridge and Ranville early on D-day. The operation would help limit any German counter-attack.

'There below us, like a badly-shaped question mark, was the mouth of the River Orne and neighbouring canal, exactly as I expected to find them. Further down, was the blinking red light of the lead-in beacon, positioned by the paratroops to mark our LZ – landing zone.

'Our gliding approach required us to half-circle the beacon, and before we got there, I began putting on flap, as we were very much too high. I seemed to sense, rather than see, the ground coming up, and at the right moment levelled off, and put her down. Once touched, she stayed on her wheels and came to a stop undamaged.

'We had expected that all hell would break loose, when we landed, but it did not. In fact, when, after a very brief pause to catch our breath, we tumbled out, we were in mortal dread not of the enemy, but of other gliders. They were landing all over the place, some with spot-lights on, which was a dead give-away, others approaching from the wrong direction, and many crashing into posts or other gliders.

'The first thing we did in Normandy was to get out the large Thermos flasks and have a mug of tea.'

Lance Corporal Leslie Withers, now 98, landed at SWORD beach after crossing the Channel on an American cargo ship, which sailed from the London docks.

'We had no idea why we were getting on this ship, until the officer got us together, to tell us we were part of the invasion force to free Europe. We were quite apprehensive. As we were going down the Thames, people started coming out to wish us well. When we passed the Ford factory in Dagenham, thousands of women were waving, and some were crying. Our ship was among a huge flotilla of ships, as far as the eye could see. The organisation was terrific.

'The most frightening thing was getting off the cargo ship on to the landing craft. We had to climb down netting with packs on our backs, carrying our rifles, and jump at the right time, so as not to fall between the ships.

Ken Peppercorn almost didn't make it on to Gold beach. He fell off the ramp of his landing craft into the sea.

'I went under. I was loaded up with all the equipment – hand grenades in my pockets, magazines in my pouches, and everything else I could carry.'

'It was quite a mess, but you just had to keep going. We were under fire, but I scrambled up the dunes and found a shell crater to shelter in. I was so hungry that the first thing I did was get my rations out, and make porridge.'

Ken was 22 years old. Within a week of landing in Normandy, he had been badly wounded in the leg by shrapnel, and taken prisoner by the Germans. Nearly all the troops in his company were dead, among 12,000 young men killed and injured in an operation to capture the town of Caen.

'I just kept saying to myself, 'You're going to get back home, one day'.

Heinrich Runder, a German soldier, recalled his feeling on seeing the invading forces as being one of 'pure fear'. He said:

'A vast number of ships. Absolutely vast. I can tell you that my throat went dry, painfully dry, and my hands began to shake. I wasn't the only man to be affected that way. I could feel the blasts, which made my ears ring and my nose bleed.'

Victor Hyams, 44th Royal Tank Regiment – now 99, said,

'I can't forget the Bocage area of Normandy- that was a deadly place, because of the undergrowth, and very high hedges which lined the road, and which even a tank found it impossible to get through.

'We advanced, and everything happened in a short period. I was the co-driver and was responsible for the Browning machine gun. I was looking through my telescope, and saw armoured piercing shells coming towards us — they are white hot streaks and look terrifying.

As I turned my periscope, I saw many of the other tanks being hit and brewing up.'

Spare a thought for all those, on both sides and French civilians, killed in action in Normandy 80 years ago that summer of 1944, and the many badly wounded, and what effect it would have on their families in that amazing campaign.

Come to the Normandy 80 talk at Kinross Library on Thursday 6 June at 7pm. Exactly 80 years on.

For our tomorrow they gave their today.

**Andy Middlemiss BEM DL** 

### THE FORGOTTEN DUNKIRK



General Rommel beside General Fortune at St Valery (pic: Imperial War Museum)

THIS MONTH ALSO sees the anniversary of an event that profoundly marked the beginning of the war.

As the 330,000 men of the British Expeditionary Force lined the beaches at Dunkirk, the men of the 51st Highland Division were ordered to hold up the German advance at all costs, so that as many as possible of their comrades on the beach could return home to fight.

Following ten days of fierce battle, during which they suffered terrible losses and were cut off from retreat, the survivors of the 51st were forced to surrender and spent the war in labour camps. Here SUSAN FORDE tells their tragic story.

AS THE BRITISH ARMY was forced to retreat, the 51st Highland Division – mainly Black Watch, Seaforths, Argylls – were ordered to stand and defend to the end the perimeter of Dunkirk, against overwhelming odds, to allow the evacuation of around 331,000 soldiers. This they did.

During the 10-day battle 20,000 were killed and the remaining 10,000 were forced back to St Valery-en-Caux where they were trapped by high cliffs behind them and the full weight of Panzer divisions in front. No ships could get near to take them off, there was no longer any ammunition, and two days later, on 12 June 1940, surrender was unavoidable. Nearly all were captured and marched off to Stalag 344, in occupied and destroyed Poland. Those who survived the forced labour camps (only officers went to POW camps) were not released until May 1945.

This was all kept hidden so that the morale boosting 'miracle' of Dunkirk would not be undercut by the disaster of the 51st Division's sacrifice only 10 days later. Relatives did not get news for years, some

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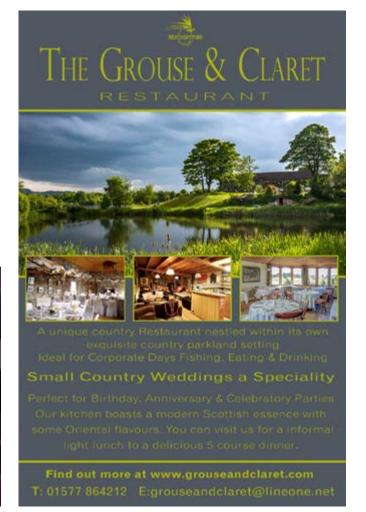
not until the war ended; the lives of many of the survivors were shortened; and the men whose actions had made Dunkirk possible were ignored. Every Highland village lost men, and yet little was made of St Valery – apart from those immediately connected – for the next 80 years.

During their long imprisonment the 51st Division, with many pipers, produced much music, including the Reel of the 51st Division and The Heroes of St Valery, written by Pipe Major Donal MacLean (who died in 1964 aged only 56). In 2020, three Scottish Armed Forces charities organised a tribute on 12 June, and pipers (and other players) all over the world — suitably distanced because of Covid — brought the memory of these men, mostly long dead, to mind.

Every year since 1940 much attention is rightly given to the courage of those involved in the Dunkirk rescue, including many who perished on the 'little' boats. Such commemoration should also be paid, every year, perhaps by playing 'their tune', to the men who fought on, to guaranteed disaster, with no rescue, in order that so many could be saved at Dunkirk – the heroes of St Valery-en-Caux.

Remember THE HEROES OF ST VALERY-EN-CAUX: The 51st Highland Division 12 June 1940.

Susan Forde



#### LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

#### Millbridge Hall

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

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

#### **CATCH Loch Leven**

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

#### The Potager Garden

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

#### **Broke not Broken**

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

#### KLEC

(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 Loch Leven**

We are always out on the lookout for volunteers to help at our reserve, this could be from working in the café, shop or visitor centre. If you're interested, please get in touch on <code>lochleven@rspb.org.uk</code>.

#### Kinross (Marshall) Museum

The Museum Trust is looking for volunteers. If you would like to know more contact the Museum on 01577 867153 or email: information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk.

#### **Swansacre Playgroup**

A long established charity playgroup for children aged 2-5 years, we need volunteers to help support us with play sessions. For more information, please email swansacre@gmail.com.

#### **Kinross Heart Start**

Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators. Contact Pamela Hunter on 01577 862419.

#### **Light Up Kinross**

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

#### **Common Grounds**

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

#### Seamab

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

#### **SSAFA**

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

#### **Kinross-shire Day Centre**

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

#### **Milnathort Town Hall Committee**

We are looking for volunteers. For more information please contact us at *milnathorttownhall1@gmail.com*.

#### **Volunteering with Aberlour!**

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to support Aberlour, Scotland's Children's Charity. Visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer.

#### **SPARKS**

SPARKs allows adults of all ages who have support needs or disabilities to meet together with their carers. For more information call 01577 867216/867218 or 07769 243282/07896 280843.

#### **Scotland's Gardens**

Do you love gardens? Might you be interested in meeting local garden owners, helping to support local gardens that currently open for charity, plus those that are considering it? If so, and you would like to know more, please ring Lizzie on 01577 862900.

#### **Duke of Edinburgh**

The Kinross-shire Duke of Edinburgh Open Group has a wide range of adult volunteering opportunities available. Contact us at dofekinrossshire@gmail.com.

#### **Interested in Guiding?**

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

#### **Friends of CHAS Kinross**

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

#### **Guide Dogs Kinross**

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

#### **1st Kinross Cubs**

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

#### **Kinross in Bloom**

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

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







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# Councillor Dave Cuthbert

#### Kinross-shire Committee and Active Travel

I MENTIONED LAST month that the Kinrossshire Committee (KC), had commissioned an Active Travel Masterplan, which would look at ways to improve the infrastructure



in Kinross-shire to make active travel easier, thereby encouraging more walking, cycling, and wheeling. The draft report came to the Kinross-shire Committee on the 16th May and was generally very well received. The deadline on producing this report is very tight, due to the funding requirements. So, I am hoping that it can be finalised in the next few weeks. Once finalised, it will be made available for all to see.

#### **Kinross-shire Community Transport Group**

THIS GROUP WAS set up with the purpose of discussing public transport issues in Kinross-shire, thereby improving services. The last meeting of the group was held in October 2022. Since then, there has been a re-tendering exercise carried out by the Council on their bus services, which led to the Glenfarg Community Transport Group being awarded the contract for a school run and the number 55 bus-route (Kinross to Glenfarg). Since then, the group have made several enhancements to the route and the passenger numbers have increased dramatically – well done Glenfarg Community Transport Group.

The flipside to this is that the number 202 bus-route was awarded to Stagecoach (Kinross to Tillycoultry). Stagecoach appears to have been struggling to deliver this service and work is ongoing to improve how the 202-service works.

There is to be a meeting of the Kinross-shire Community Transport Group in the Loch Leven Community Campus on Thursday 27 June at 7:30pm, where these issues and others relating to Public Transport will be discussed. This will be a public meeting, so, feel free to come along.

#### **Planning and Healthcare Facilities**

I SIT ON THE Council's Planning Committee where I and other members have been expressing concerns about large developments being recommended for consent, without further consultation with the Health and Social Care Partnership. We were told that the NHS had been consulted when the Local Development Plan was being drafted and there was no statutory requirement to consult for each application. This came to a head when an application for 110 houses in Bridge of Earn came before the committee. The doctors' surgery in Bridge of Earn was shut down between the Local Development Plan consultation period and this application coming forward. I understand that some Bridge of Earn residents now come to the Health Centre in Kinross.

I am pleased to say that the planning department are now consulting with the Health and Social Care Partnership before major applications are brought to the committee for a decision.

#### **Pressures on the Road Safety Team**

ONE OF THE BIGGEST issues in my mailbox is road safety. A week doesn't go by without me receiving at least one complaint about the speed of traffic, safety of a stretch of road, dangers of bad parking, missing dropped kerbs, you name it. These issues are reported, and officers maintain a list of the outstanding jobs. In recent years, despite me obtaining funding for additional road safety staff, it has become harder and harder to get this list down. This is due to Perth and Kinross having a lot of new developments and a growing population. Recently, I was told that there were three new pressures on the Road Safety team, which they were going to have to deal with as priorities.

Rollout of 20mph speed limits: The Scottish Government have decided that "appropriate roads in built-up areas will have a safer speed limit of 20mph by 2025". Which sounds innocuous, until you realise that this means that the Road Safety Team must look at all the roads in Perth and Kinross to work out if they are "appropriate" for 20mph and to then prepare Traffic Regulation Orders (TRO) or Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTRO) before the end of 2024 for all the roads deemed to be "appropriate" and there are a lot of these in Perth and Kinross.

Parking on Pavement Ban: I applaud the fact that the Scottish

Government have introduced new legislation making it illegal to park on pavements. This came into force in December last year. However, before the legislation can be enforced in Perth and Kinross, the Council has decided that it needs to identify sections of road where this might cause problems. A consultancy firm has been employed to help identify these sections, but the work to introduce mitigation measures like double yellow lines, wider pavements and the like will have to be done by the Road Safety team.

Impact of the Cross Tay Link Road: The Cross Tay Link Road (CTLR) is the biggest infrastructure project that Perth and Kinross have ever undertaken. It involves a bridge across the Tay, just North of the Inveralmond Industrial Estate which links to a road which will take traffic from the A9 across to the A93 and A94. Because of the anticipated increases in traffic, the Road Safety team are having to introduce mitigation measures to handle the anticipated additional traffic on the currently quiet villages along the route.

I have spoken against the CTLR at Council as I do not believe the anticipated benefits outweigh the £150,000,000 cost of this project, which will lead to heavy interest and capital repayment costs going forward. These costs will put pressure on the Council's already tight finances.

Inevitably, these three new pressures are going to hold up many of the outstanding road safety jobs in Kinross-shire!

#### **Blairingone Primary School**

FOSSOWAY DEVELOPMENT TRUST are attempting to carry out a Community Asset Transfer (CAT) of this property, so that Blairingone can have a facility they can call their own. This CAT has been held up for some considerable time whilst the Council attempt to get a valuation done by the District Valuer. The valuation was requested months ago and the latest I have heard is that the Council is considering making a formal complaint over the length of time it is taking.

#### Wind Farms In The Ochils

APPLICATIONS ARE BEING submitted for two large wind farms in the Ochils. These will incorporate wind turbines, some of which are 200m high to the blade tip, so they will inevitably be visible from most of Kinross-shire. Views vary on these proposals from those who are totally opposed to them to those who welcome them. As these proposals will come to the Planning Committee, I will not comment here. However, one thing I will comment on is that the formation of the Kinross-shire Committee has brought the six Community Councils covering the area closer together. They have decided to form a group which will share any potential community benefits across the shire. I welcome this as there is strength in numbers and it may be that the overall benefits can be increased through negotiation. I should say that by joining this group, no community council is expressing an opinion on the wind farms. It is merely a pragmatic approach on how to deal with any community benefits should the Scottish Government grant permission, through the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division (DPEA) or the Energy Consents Unit (ECU).

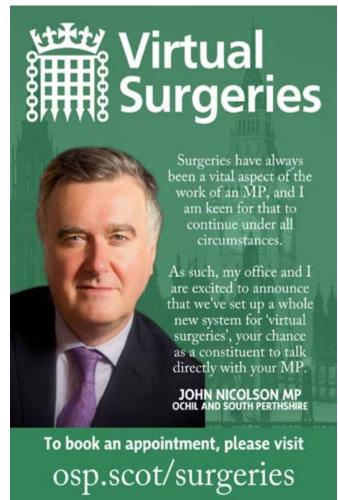
#### **ALDI Application**

THE APPLICATION TO build a supermarket in Milnathort submitted by ALDI was refused by officers under delegated powers. I will not comment on this decision as I could end up sitting on the Local Review Body should ALDI appeal. All I will say at this stage is that I think that Kinross-shire needs a discount supermarket.

#### **British Car Auction (BCA) site**

THE FORMER BCA site at the bottom of Kinross High Street has been acquired for development and the developer has expressed an interest in developing a retail outlet including a discount supermarket in this location. Again, I will not comment on this concept, however I can report that this development requires that the South Kinross flood defences need to be in place before it can be built. The process for these flood defences is complex and has gone through numerous hoops. The current position is that the proposals put together by the Council have been objected to by two groups. The Council is now negotiating with these groups, and should they find a mutually satisfactory solution, then the project will go to the Scottish Government for approval and final budget sign-off. Should a solution not be found then there will need to be a public hearing to decide the outcome. This of course would delay the outcome.









#### Play Park Upgrades in Kinross-shire

DAVIES PARK IN Kinross and Well Green Park in Scotlandwell are in the process of getting upgrades. However, they have hit a delay because all 32 Councils in Scotland are looking to upgrade play parks at the same time. In essence, the Scottish Government introduced money to finance play park upgrades, which whilst this was a welcome initiative, it does mean that the companies who traditionally do this work have been inundated with new work, which is causing both a time delay and a price pressure on these works. Officers are now exploring other ways to get these play park improvements done.

#### **Apology**

With reference to an article on page 13 in the May *Newsletter* a quoted comment was inserted in my name. My comment was based on my understanding of the situation but not on any established facts. I understand that the accident is being investigated appropriately and I apologise if the quoted comment caused any offence.

**Councillor Dave Cuthbert** 

# Councillor Richard Watters

IT WAS EDUCATIONAL to visit the Cireco Recycling plant outside Dunfermline recently. Cireco is responsible for processing PKC waste from the new grey bins. The use of AI, robots, super strength magnets, and much more 'clever technology' is utilised to sort out the



waste, allowing the materials to be filtered back into the circular economy.

One of the key points regarding PKC waste was the reduced contamination in the bins. In the year before we started the grey bin service, the contamination rate in the blue bin was 18.7% (i.e., 18.7% of the material in the blue bin should not have been in there). The improved contamination rate for the first 5 months of the blue bin was 2.5% and for the grey bin was 10.6%. As we are now collecting soft plastics and aluminium foil, there is less material going in the green bin. The amount of non-recyclable waste reduced by 7.5% in Jan-Mar 2024 when compared to Jan-Mar 2023.

Because the paper and card are now collected separately from the cans, plastics, and cartons, the quality of the material is much better, which means it is more valuable. We still pay for the transport and processing of the recycling, but some of this is offset by the income we receive for the sale of the materials. Initial rough estimates show a potential saving of £500,000 a year, subject to levels of contamination in the waste stream and market prices for the recyclates.

These savings wouldn't be possible without residents and commercial customers ensuring their waste is correctly recycled. This is early days but good news for the environment and the council's finances. This was funded from £2.72m funding received from the Scottish Government via Zero Waste Scotland's Recycling Improvement Fund, although £400k was not needed.

The recent Climate Change and Sustainability Committee approved the Draft Mobility Strategy and associated Action Plan. The Mobility Strategy is a local transport strategy that will set out Perth and Kinross Council's vision for managing and developing the transport and active travel network over the next 15 years. It considers all modes of transport for the movement of people and goods across Perth and Kinross's rural and urban settings. The Strategy will consider the impact on transport networks and people's travel patterns, digital services, housing, inclusion, poverty, health, climate adaptation, economic growth, air quality, and placemaking.

The Consultation Draft of the Mobility Strategy is an incredibly important step in the process as we seek to transform how people move around Perth and Kinross in the future. The decisions made at the end of this process will change the area as a whole, which is why it is very important that our residents take the time to tell us about how they currently move around and what their hopes and ambitions are for their community in relation to transport and active travel.

The Draft Strategy and Action Plan will undergo a period of

public consultation of at least eight weeks using the Council's Consultation Hub platform.

In addition to this, the Draft Active Travel master plan for Kinross-shire and Glenfarg was presented to the Kinross-shire committee, highlighting some of the interventions needed to deliver a more joined-up and safer Kinross-shire and Glenfarg for walking, cycling, wheeling, and scootering. The next challenge is how to finance the works and ensure the actions are delivered to benefit the whole area.

**Councillor Richard Watters** 

#### Councillor Neil Freshwater

#### **New Pavilion Celebrations At KGV**

I was grateful to be invited to the KGV and Kinross Rugby Club gala dinner last Saturday which was also an occasion to celebrate the opening of the extended social and changing facilities at the KGV pavilion. It



was a great achievement for the KGV management committee under Andy Williams to raise the funding to extend the facilities and to get the project completed in what seemed a relatively short space of time. The evening was a great reminder of the social benefits that rugby – and indeed many other sports – bring to Kinross-shire and it was great so speak to past and present rugby club presidents as well as meet representatives of other sports and community groups who will make full use of the facilities. A very enjoyable evening and thank you to everyone involved.

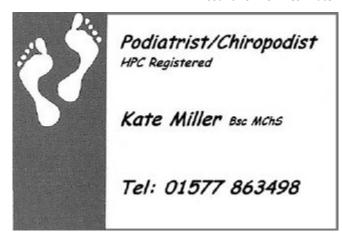
#### **Roads Department Pressures**

As mentioned often, road safety is one of the issues at the top of readers' minds. At last week's Kinross-shire Commitee, the PKC road safety team gave a very helpful update. Currently there are a list of around 1,000 road safety projects across PKC, and about a hundred of which are in Kinross-shire alone. As within many sectors, the roads team are struggling to recruit candidates - despite best efforts - to fill vacancies in the team who oversee these improvements. However, the committee was grateful to hear of some of the creative efforts that are being done to try and fill these openings. Added pressures on top of this are new national legislation including the roll out of 20mph as the default for all unclassified (e.g. residential area) roads and also the implementation of the pavement parking ban. All of these add to the pressure, so it is important that the projects that are most important can be prioritised.

#### **Grants And Funding Within Kinross-Shire**

Part of the funding that got the KGV project (see above) over the line was a public grant awarded via the Kinross-shire Committee. I was reminded this week about the number of sources of funding which are available for projects throughout Perth & Kinross, both connected to the council and a number of private trusts and foundations. For anyone looking to secure funding for such a project, there is a helpful guide on the PKC website which lists multiple funding sources and can be found at <a href="https://www.pkc.gov.uk/pkgrantsdirect">https://www.pkc.gov.uk/pkgrantsdirect</a>.

**Councillor Neil Freshwater** 



# Liz Smith, MSP

NEXT WEEK MARKS the 80th anniversary of the Normandy Landings on the 6 June 1944. As readers will know, this was a momentous moment in British history, eventually culminating in the fall of the Nazi regime less than a year on.



The operation began with airborne landings to secure key strategic positions across Normandy which was followed by the largest seaborne invasion in history. Troops predominately came from the British Empire, The United States of America, and Canada, across five beaches codenamed Gold, Juno, Omaha, Sword and Utah.

The operation was pioneering and truly a first of its kind, combining ground, sea and air power, on an enormous scale to pull off a daring amphibious assault into Nazi-occupied Europe. Previous attempts at landing in France during the conflict had ended in disaster and it is only by removing hindsight this event can be truly appreciated as the overwhelming success it was. The result was uncertain, untested, and with thousands of lives on the line.

But this outcome was by no means inevitable. Important and tragic lessons were learned about the difficulty of amphibious assaults over the years of world conflict. D-Day required comprehensive planning, innovative deception and extensive training, and it required a full national effort. That is why so many remnants of this event remain to this day and Scotland was central to D-Day.

In the Ochil hills at Sheriffmuir, within half an hour of Kinross-shire, and visible from the road, there are inconspicuous ruins that look like bunkers stretching around one hundred metres across the hillside. This structure was built during the war to act as a mock Atlantic Wall which infantry and tanks used to prepare breaching tactics ahead of the amphibious assault. Despite being a site of great historical significance, and only one of five known across the UK, it remains largely unknown, and you can clearly observe the impacts of heaving shelling upon the structure from the exercises. These locations were top secret, and it was reported that the men contracted to build it were transported there in covered vans to ensure they unaware of where construction was taking place. Similarly, the area around Blackford and Greenloaning were designated 'military sensitive sites' meaning taking photographs of the local landscape was against the law.

Then there is the human aspect. Scots in their thousands took part in the battle and included regiments like the Blackwatch comprised of personnel from Perthshire, Kinross-shire, wider Tayside and Fife. For those who lost their lives in the battle and subsequent operations, those who returned home with unimaginable physical and psychological trauma, and their families, we send out eternal gratitude.

Unfortunately, very few of these veterans are still with us today but it is a responsibility on us all to ensure their stories are not lost to time and are shared with younger generations. Not only did it mark the beginning of the end of the Nazi-occupation of Europe, but the front lines following the offensive on the western front led to the borders which became the dividing line of the Iron Curtain and the beginning of the Cold War age — making this event one of the most consequential historical events of the twentieth century.

In this spirit it is crucial that we commemorate this event and that is why I lodged a motion in Holyrood to mark our recognition in the nation's parliament. I look forward to the events taking place this week to memorialise this very important anniversary.

Liz Smith, MSP

#### THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

All profits returned to the community

#### Jim Fairlie, MSP

AS MANY OF you will know, I launched the first Farmers' Market in Perth back in 1996 when I was a sheep farmer. My recent visit to the Kinross Farmers' Market brought back many fond memories of the early days of that exciting venture, meeting up



with old acquaintances as well as meeting many new ones. The Kinross Farmers' Market was buzzing with all ages sampling the wares

It is great to see folk out enjoying the wonderful local produce and crafts that Farmers' Markets have to offer, and the Kinross Market did not disappoint. The sheer variety of quality local food was incredible, from Hunter's excellent butchery, Strathearn Cheese, vegan haggis pakoras, and local honey to name but a few. The craft produce was equally impressive, including handmade soaps, posh candles and original products from talented artists and crafts people. At the time of writing this, I am already very much looking forward to the Kinross Spring Market on 25 May.

I must send a big shout out to Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation (KLEO) which is run by a small group of volunteers. They do a brilliant job organising events throughout Kinross-shire and supporting local businesses, which is key to creating the vibrant community spirit manifest around Kinross-shire. Their website is well worth a look at for upcoming events: https://www.kleo.org.uk/kinross-farmers-market/producers/

The importance of provenance cannot be overstated. That is why I champion local, sustainable produce, which I believe is the keynote of communities.

Continuing about sustainability, I also had a recent visit to Agri Plastics Recycling Ltd in Glenfarg with Councillor Richard Watters. This is a fantastic facility that is now producing products from waste that would end up in landfill. Instead, Agri Plastics is recycling the large volume of waste, mainly from agriculture, to create high-quality products, including bins, signs/signage, fencing materials, furniture, garden benches and much more.

The work going on at Agri Plastics is certainly contributing to a greener environment, producing quality products while reducing environmental impact, so it is a win-win situation.

As I have been talking to constituents around Kinross-shire about the issues they are concerned with, environmental concern was once of the priorities frequently mentioned. Although the Scottish Government's Bute House agreement with the Green Party has ended, I assured my constituents that I am still absolutely committed to working right across the chamber with all parties to progress these priorities across my constituency.

On this subject, the Scottish Government's Community Energy Generation Growth Fund, just published as I write, is a fund to help community groups across Scotland set up renewable energy generation projects and has now opened for applications.

The £1.5 million Community Energy Generation Growth Fund will support local communities installing wind turbines and solar panels or developing other types of renewable energy generation, such as hydro, to meet local needs.

Community groups will also be able to earn money from their projects by allowing them to sell excess energy generated. This defining fund will help Scotland's communities to benefit enormously from the powerhouse of energy Scotland creates. The creation of locally owned energy projects will reduce energy costs and the revenue generated will help drive Scotland's transition to net zero.

More information about the Community Energy Generation Growth (CEGG) Fund and details on how to apply can be found via this link: https://localenergy.scot/funding/community-energy-generation-growth-fund/

Jim Fairlie, MSP

#### John Nicolson, MP

JOHN SWINNEY IS the new leader of the SNP and, by the time you read this, will have become Scotland's First Minister. I've known John a long time. He's a fine man and outstanding public servant. There's already a mood of optimism in the air, and everyone hopes he will lead our country with the qualities he's shown throughout his career.



But a few words on Humza Yousaf, the outgoing First Minister. His departure was gracious. And as he spoke, I remembered the pride across Scotland and cross-party when he was elected just over a year ago as the first Muslim head of government in any northern European country. After his election there was almost universal admiration for the calm way he handled the immense stress of having his in-laws stranded in Gaza as Israel's bombing campaign began.

I don't know Humza well. But in my dealings with him I've always found him a courteous and thoughtful man: slow to anger and with a warmth more evident in person than in the media. His resignation statement reminded me of Neil Kinnock's — another politician perhaps more impressive in person than over the airwaves where, in Neil's case, an over fondness for the spoken word was easy to mimic and ridicule. Both resigned thanking providence for their many blessings, in particular their devoted partners and loving families.

John Swinney wrestled with the decision to put his name forward. He said he knew that balancing family obligations with the role would be tough. And he took some days to think it through. The job is a privilege, of course. The FM gets to meet some extraordinary people and act as the public face of Scotland abroad. But there are relentless pressures too. FMs lose all privacy. Their every move is recorded, analysed, and debated. Their motives are forever questioned. People who've never met them sometimes decry a caricature of the person rather than the man or women themselves. And while the rough and tumble of political debate is fine, the abuse on social media and in some parts of the press is not. The racism endured by Humza Yousaf was shameful. The misogyny directed at Nicola Sturgeon was mind boggling. Indeed the homophobic abuse directed at Mhairi Black, a young politician often seen as a potential First Minister is cited by her as one of the main reasons she is standing down as an MP.

The other day on LBC I was asked whether I thought the abuse of politicians had gone too far and should be restricted by law. Yes, was my answer to the first question and no to the second. Of course there are restrictions in Parliament. 'Guttersnipe' and 'stoolpigeon' are both forbidden as insults. Fair enough. But the 'Times' greeted John Swinney's candidacy by publishing a grotesque Peter Brookes cartoon of SNP leaders hanging with their necks in nooses. Veteran journalist Andrew Neil called it "brilliant".

John Swinney will need all his characteristic charm, good humour, and calm judgement. And he will need the support of his close-knit family and wide circle of friends. I wish him well.

John Nicolson, MP

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# **Police Box**

#### **Recent Incidents**

Vandalism occurred at Burleigh Castle, Milnathort sometime on 4 May whereby a door was damaged, and a fire extinguisher set off.

#### Rogue Traders - Who Should I Call?

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

- Contact the police immediately on 999
  - ...if I see something suspicious in my area, or want more advice about bogus callers?
- Contact the police on 101. Try and take a note of vehicle details or registration numbers, and descriptions of anyone suspicious
  - ....if I want to contact the police anonymously?
- Contact the independent charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111. You can visit www.crimestoppers-uk.org
  - ...to find out more about home safety services?
- When circumstances allow, contact your local council for more information. Depending on your circumstances, you may qualify for a free security alarm.

#### Police Scotland - Local Community

**Telephone 101 for non-emergencies** 

Community Officer for Kinross-shire: PI Lesley Macdonald.
Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire): Sgt Mark Craig.
Community Inspector for Perth South (Strathearn, Strathallan, Almond & Earn, Kinross-shire): PI Craig Stephen.

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

Twitter: @KinrossPc or twitter.com/policescotland
Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland
Website: www.scotland.police.uk

## Community Watch

**Receive email alerts** about criminal incidents in your area, crime prevention advice, flood alerts and much more by signing up to Perth and Kinross Community Watch. Visit this website for more details: www.pkcommunitywatch.co.uk

#### **Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111**

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

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



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# Kinross Hub June Calendar

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

Wed 5	10am-12noon	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847
Thu 6	10am-12.30pm	Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for
		foodbank referrals. 07518 913107
	1pm-3pm	Mindspace - Info on supporting mental wellbeing. 07928 859628 or 01738 631657
Wed 12	10am-12noon	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847
	1.30pm-3.30pm	CATH help with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc
		07955 333163
Thu 13	10am-12noon	VOICEABILITY for free advocacy regarding benefits access and supporting
		people to be heard in decisions about their health, care & wellbeing
		07918 560891
	1pm-3.30pm	PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help for those who have
		CANCELLED for June. Email HCCEmploymentSupport@pkc.gov.uk
		spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities. 07788 389659
Wed 19	10am-12noon	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847
	12.30pm-2.30pm	Broke not Broken - to offer advice, connections to support and also for
		foodbank referrals. 07518 913107
Thu 20	2pm-4pm	Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting / Signposting
		07775 701630
Wed 26	10am-12noon	Drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847
	1.30pm-3.30pm	CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc
		07955 333163 / 07339 858987
Thu 27	10am-12.30pm	PKC Skills & Employment - support & advice re CVs, Job search, support
		after redundancy etc. 07867 351268
	2pm–4pm	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.

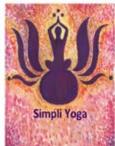
If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

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 <code>southsocprescribers@pkc.gov.uk</code>

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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# **CAMPING MEMORIES**

#### **WINNING WAYS**

by Jo Middlemiss

I HAVE JUST RETURNED from a hilarious trip to Ireland with many girl cousins on a girls' trip to a tiny place near Limerick, called Adare. Go if you can – it's gorgeous. And this trip triggered many memories of family holidays to Ireland when I was a child. I think my love/hate relationship with holidays stems from here.

I love adventure and I love to see a new place. It's just the business of getting organised for the holiday that bugs me. I have to trace it back to my Dad. I am one of seven, and the annual holiday was an operation that required military planning to the nth degree. Due to lack of funds, the holiday was usually some kind of camping debacle, or my parents would take a house in St Andrews, Nairn, or Girvan, and off we would go. There was one holiday when the only car was a VW Beetle, so fitting us all in was no mean feat! Each child was allowed a plastic carrier bag of stuff, and that was all. My father drove, my mother sat in the front with the baby, four kids sat in the back seat and my sister Mags and I were squeezed into the funny wee, carpet covered, boot space, which all past owners of Beetles will know and love. There was a dog called Lucky in there somewhere too. I don't know how we ever walked again. Of course there wasn't a safety belt in sight.

Once we went camping to Ireland. That was a holiday, which I'll never forget. By this time the family had grown, and we had risen enough in the world to have two cars. I think the new car must have been one of the first VW Caravanettes. It was a sort of early camping van. Its registration was 64 CUR. How we loved that old bus. Then there were the incredibly thick, borrowed tents, which my father was so pleased with. We even had our own latrine tent, with a beastly bucket, which we were supposed to perform in. Some lucky brother was on 'pooh' duty every morning. Thus began my life long love affair with constipation!

My sister Mary had reached the dizzy age of sixteen, and was being taught the joys of shaving her arm pits and legs, with all of the rest of us peering into the tent giggling and laughing. She doesn't like camping any better than I do. Anyway, God rescued us in the form of a huge storm. A kindly farmer had lent us his field, which was sitting on a cliff top. Next stop America. And that is where our tents tried to go in the night. The latrine tent might have succeeded, because we never saw that again. My mother put her foot down, and we moved into the local church hall, and spent the rest of our holiday based on wooden floorboards, with a flushing toilet. Don't talk about 5 star luxuries to me because I know what it is. All things are relative. With that many people in the team, everyone really does have to play their part, and my Dad had a system for that too. Every one was allocated jobs on

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a rota basis, and points were awarded for conscientiousness and efficiency. The lavatory was dismissed as 'The dodger's retreat', for he had no time for people who did not pull their weight. The reward at the end of the week was a Club biscuit. How's that for spoiling? We loved it.

Getting back was just as tiresome. My father had us all line up like a chain gang getting everything unloaded, and back into its place. 'A place for everything and everything in its place.' Do I live up to that maxim? Well you would have to ask other people about that, but I think not. The memories are happy though, and I'm amazed now at how little we questioned anything that was happening. We just swung along with the plan. There were always lots of competitions running: putting, cards, remembering poetry, telling the funniest jokes. It never entered our heads not to take part.

My recent Ireland trip triggered the memories, however, we slept in beautiful beds, ate delicious food and laughed a lot. More memories, but no tents, outdoor lavatories or club biscuits! Bliss.

Jo Middlemiss MBE

#### LADY RACHEL MACROBERT

A YEAR AGO THE Newsletter published my article about one of my female heroes, Lady Rachel MacRobert. I was very pleased to see her hit the headlines again – she was the subject of a recent episode of BBC R4's Great Lives and features about her were printed in the *Daily Mail* and other papers.

Against the culture of her time she was an absolute polymath: she travelled widely, reared her three young fatherless children and



ran the MacRobert organisations (which included breeding a herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle).

She was generous beyond most people's imagination. Hearing her described as 'charmingly volcanic'

I was, once again, reminded of her tremendous courage and stoicism in the face of disastrous personal loss.

All three of her sons died in flying incidents, the latter two in wartime RAF service. Her response was to write a cheque for £25,000 to buy the RAF a Stirling bomber, to be called *MacRobert's Reply*. I have had the great good fortune to stay in her old home Douneside House in Tarland, which is now a lovely little boutique hotel. You can feel close to her there.



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# **Community Council News**

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

# Fossoway Community Council News from the May Meeting

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

**Present** at the meeting on 7 May were CCllrs S Bruce-Jones, A Carter, A Cheape, T Lamb, G Pye and N Marchant, Assoc CCllr C Farguhar; Cllrs D Cuthbert and R Watters and 12 MoP.

**Apologies:** Cllrs N Freshwater and W Robertson.

#### **Community Police Report:**

The Police have given their apologies. From 2 April 2024 there have been approximately 31 calls to the Police from the Fossoway area and no crimes recorded on Police systems. There have been two crimes of note: on 16 April racially aggravated conduct, a youth was responsible and on 24 April possession of a Class B drug was detected. A 22 year old man was charged and remanded for committing a number of housebreakings in the Kinross areas during October 2023.

A local MoP reported that on 5 May, two Seamab residents absconded – local residents are supposed to be notified when this happens, but they weren't. [Also see AOCB]

#### **Matters Arising:**

#### Windfarms

CCIIr Bruce-Jones attended the "Wind Farms in the Ochils" debate on 15 April – however the discussion was mostly about strategy for opposing wind farms in general rather than the current applications. A full report of the proceedings is in the May Kinross Newsletter.

CCllr Bruce-Jones had a very useful consultation with Planning Aid Scotland; one of their experts who had previously worked on a wind farm application in Ayrshire, has given us advice on how best to frame our responses to the upcoming applications. In all cases we should keep our response to consideration of planning matters which are material considerations as defined by Annex A of Planning Management Procedures. These will focus on Landscape and Visual Impact as the Ochils are a Local Landscape Area; peat destruction and environmental impact; loss of amenity in particular for local residents; access during construction and operation; biodiversity; flicker; noise and most importantly cumulative impact. Although Policy 11 of NPF4 is likely to be the key determinant the current PKC LDP3 is relevant and will also be considered.

Brunt Hill is a Section 36 application to be determined by Scottish Ministers and as we are not statutory consultees will need to respond directly to the Energy Consents Unit. We will also submit our opinions to PKC as they are Statutory Consultees and if the Council object the application will have to go to public review.

Craighead will submit their application in the first two weeks of June. We will ask for notification from the developers when they are submitting and for a copy of application so that we do not have to wait for validation by PKC and for its publication on the Planning Portal. As this is a Major Development and will be determined by PKC we will have a statutory right to respond. Cllr Watters has asked the Scottish Government's Energy Consent Unit how they intend to handle the three even though

Consent Unit how they intend to handle the three even though they are by different routes. Unfortunately he didn't get a very convincing answer!

CCIIr Marchant asked the CIIrs what the CC needs to do about getting time to review things since we're not having a meeting in July, people will be on holiday, etc. CIIr Cuthbert replied

that we can ask for an extension – however we don't know how soon after submission the 'clock starts'. What about the Section 36 application? As PKC is a statutory consultee it will be discussed at Planning Committee, will we be allowed to speak at that? Cllr Cuthbert thinks we will, but the length of time allowed for MoPs to comment may be changing.

The CCs Sustainability Group has now signed a Memorandum of Understanding and has agreed that they will only deal with the Community Benefit element and will engage with all developers to ensure best outcomes for residents should any or all applications succeed. Community benefit will only arise once production starts, however we will look for some level of compensation for residents affected during the construction phase.

CCIIr Bruce-Jones noted that the economics of domestic solar panels is very good now, so everyone ought to consider installing them. There was a discussion about whether the payments were ending, but it was thought not.

#### **Community Development Trust**

The Trust's next meeting is on 14 May in Moubray Village Hall, Powmill from 7 to 9pm. Non-members are welcome to attend. Cllr Cuthbert noted that the CAT on Blairingone School will be discussed on 16 May at the Kinross shire Committee.

Road Safety in FDCC area including A977 mitigation measures Cllr Cuthbert reported that the Roads teams are very busy with several new measures: country-wide roll-out of 20mph limits on urban roads, ban on pavement parking, mitigation measures required from the impact of the Tay Crossing road, etc., which may be why they are not responding to things very quickly.

**A977 Mitigation** – **Past, Present & Future:** The CC has reviewed all correspondence and discussions relating to this over the years. The CC will request PKC's Roads Department to assess the impact of the measures that have been completed and bring this to the August meeting of the Kinross shire Committee.

**Drum Crossroads:** CCIIr Bruce-Jones has collated local opinion about the new signalisation at and sent a summary to PKC – most people think that the traffic hasn't slowed. However the main reason for the measures is to make the A977 less attractive to traffic. PKC have sent us the latest speed readings which show a small decrease. These were shared with MoP. Another concern has been the quick change in the lights making it extremely dangerous now for horse riders, who as road users are not permitted to use footpaths, to cross the A977. There are still some things to sort out once the speed



#### Community Council News

limits have been changed, and another survey will be done. We still have some money in the A977 mitigation budget and we need to look across the whole area to decide what to spend it on – this can be done as part of creating Local Place Plans.

**Community Speed Watch:** The equipment is purchased and four volunteers are trained, but more volunteers are welcome to sign up – to avoid any problems with neighbours, volunteers would normally operate outside their own locality. PKC have confirmed that the CC's Public Liability Insurance for volunteers will cover Fossoway residents volunteering in other CC areas and vice versa. A Liability Declaration has been signed.

**Road Improvement Projects in Ward & Kinross-shire:** A revised list of priorities for currently agreed and potential future road safety improvements has been submitted to PKC.

Fossoway area transport – 202 bus service & Community Bus The 202 service is still late or not arriving – and seems to be getting worse. However the Glenfarg Community Transport group are about to put a proposal to PKC to take over the service – the service will use a smaller bus (16 people) and may take minor deviations to pick up people on request.

CCIIr Lamb is also speaking to the developers of Whinstone Quarry about co-operating with the service to cover their site, both for staff and visitors, and in the longer term their support for a community outings bus.

#### **Crook Moss Travellers Site**

CCIIr Farquhar was due to meet with Tracey Ramsay (PKC's Traveller Liaison Officer) on 19 April but this didn't happen and now will be Friday 10 May. Tracey is setting up a Gypsy Traveller's Working Group, but although this is a good idea it's been talked about for a long time and we need action now. CCIIr Farquhar is intending to make contact with the travellers locally (CCIIr Cheape will accompany her) to try and move things along.

#### **Update of CC Website**

Unfortunately, PKC are not able to fund the update of the CC website. The CC will seek alternative funding.

Matters arising with no update since last meeting: Power capacity in Fossoway District.

#### **New Business**

#### **Dog Barking In Drum**

A MoP had raised a concern regarding continuous dog barking in Drum. The CC had responded making the MoP aware of the PKC website for reporting this https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/15300/Barking-dogs

#### **Request for CC Associate Members**

The CC is seeking additional associate members. Currently we have a very full agenda of topics including road safety; what next for the A977 mitigation plans; wind farm developments; community transport and we are about to start working with the Fossoway Community Development Trust on development of a Local Place Plan for input into LDP3, so we are looking for individuals to join us. If you are interested, please contact us on fossoway.cc@gmail.com.

#### **King's Portrait**

We've received one – it will be offered to all the Community Halls.

#### Consultations

#### **PKC**

The Planning Users' Forum requested CCs to provide views on the usefulness and frequency of future meetings. CCllr Marchant has replied that these meetings are extremely useful and should be regular events.

#### **Scottish Government**

**Masterplan Consent Area regulations:** proposed regulations on the procedures to prepare Masterplan Consent Areas, which will have expanded powers allowing planning authorities to

take a place leadership role. **Closes 22 May 2024** – the CC will not respond as this is for a level above us.

Meeting our 30 by 30 biodiversity commitment on terrestrial and freshwater sites: seeks views on the legislative proposals to support the implementation of 30 by 30 (protect 30% of our land for nature by 2030.) The aim is to create flexibility around designated sites and increase proactive management of important areas for biodiversity. Closes on 24 May 2024. The CC will attempt to respond to this.

**Draft Bioenergy Policy Statement:** signals what the Scottish Government see as the short, medium and long term role for bioenergy in helping to deliver the transition to net zero by 2045. **Closes on 12 June 2024**.

# **Community Council Business Meetings Attended**

CCIIr Bruce-Jones – 15 April: Wind Farms in Ochils; 18 April: CCs Sustainability Group; 20 April: Kinross Repair Café; 28 April: Crook of Devon Small Business event.

**CCIIr Lamb** – 11 and 23 April: meeting with Glenfarg community transport; 25 April: meeting with the Whinstone Quarry developers; 28 April: Muckhart Transport meeting with Glenfarg.

**CCIIr Marchant** – 28 April: Crook of Devon Small Business event; 29 April: meeting with owner of Country Fabrics; 30 April: meeting with Chair of Muckhart CC to share experiences of working with CDT.

#### **PKC Business**

#### **Councillors' Reports**

**Dave Cuthbert:** Has been analysing the progress of planning applications that have been turned down. There have been 93 applications so far this year, 10 were refused, of which seven were appealed and only two of the appeals were upheld. He wonders if the appeal overrules are not properly reflecting local interest.

**Richard Watters:** Has visited the recycling processing plant. PKC's contamination rate has dropped from 20% to 6%, so the product is better quality hence PKC get more money for it. Additionally landfill rubbish volumes have dropped also saving money for PKC. MoPs asked why some places in the CC area don't get brown bins? Cllr Watters agreed to look into that.

PKC are conducting a trial of a new machine to fix potholes. CCllr Pye commented that if it's the same machine that Fife have been using the fixes don't last very long.

The Mobility Strategy will be out for consultation shortly.

#### **Planning Matters**

CCIIr Marchant met with the owner of Country Fabrics who is considering relocating their business. Concept drawings for their proposed new store will be available as part of their 40



year celebration on 12 May from 10am to 12pm. CCllr Marchant advised them that she could not give planning advice but that the owner could ask for time before a CC meeting to share their plans with the residents, however the CC would not comment. CCllr Marchant also recommended that they contact Planning Aid Scotland – they offer free planning advice.

#### Alleged Non-Compliance with Condition 12 of 07/02537/FUL.

The results of the case officer's investigation are as follows. It was brought to the attention of the Planning Authority that Condition 12 on planning permission 07/02537/FUL had not been complied with. This condition states that 'The site shall be served by the existing private access which shall be provided with intervisible passing places at approximately 100m centres. The access shall be provided with a bitumenously bound surface to the satisfaction of the Planning Authority'. Information provided by the developer appears to show passing places in situ. Even if these have not been provided with a bitumenously bound surface, this requirement arguably goes beyond what is necessary in road safety terms and the

be in the public interest. We will not be investigating any further queries about the passing places at this private road. It's for the owners of the road to provide more or better passing places if they wish, but the 2007 planning permission won't be used as a means of securing them.

Council does not consider any further enforcement action to

CCIIr Pye has inspected the site, and although there are a small number of passing places along the track, they are not intervisible and are not constructed in a very substantial manner. Additionally the consent also included requirements to improve the visibility splay and construct passing places along the U223 neither of which has been implemented.

However this response from the Enforcement Team raises the issue that there seems little point in the Planners, possibly at the request of local residents and indeed this CC, imposing conditions on an application if they can be simply overturned by the Enforcement Team. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to investigate this issue.

23/01619/FLL Formation of access track, erection of stables, etc., at Easter Muirhead Farm, Blairingone, Dollar.

CCIIr Pye had been contacted about this application which is pending decision, and has received seven objections including one from this CC. A neighbour had noticed a delivery of road constructing material to the site and contacted PKC Planning in case the application had been approved without them knowing – they were told that a decision was imminent, but it wasn't going to Committee. This seemed at odds with the number of objections and raises the concern that the rule that any application receiving a CC objection must go to Committee was not being followed. CIIr Watters suggested that the only

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other explanation was that the Planners intended to refuse the application with delegated powers. Cllr Cuthbert agreed to investigate.

#### **Scottish Water Response to Applications**

While reviewing the above application CCIIr Pye noted that, as seems to be the usual procedure, Scottish Water's response to the application was that they had no infrastructure on the site and that the nearest mains water was 1.5km. It turns out that the property would indeed be supplied by Scottish Water through a private pipe that they neither own nor maintain, which is well known by local residents to be woefully undersized. It seems rather disingenuous of Scottish Water to allow the application to continue in this case. We have previously seen similar responses to sewage connections where applications have been approved and then Scottish Water is unable to provide capacity. It seems reasonable that Scottish Water should give an accurate answer at application time rather than simply saying that they will provide an answer when connection is requested.

#### **Planning Applications**

24/00566/FLL Extension to dwelling house at 18 Mill Gardens, Powmill, Dollar, no CC comment.

23/01224/FLL Erection of 29 dwelling houses and associated works (phase 1: allocated site H53) at Land 80 metres north west of Huize Baahock, Powmill, Dollar.

The applicant has submitted revised landscaping and drainage proposals. The CC has already submitted a neutral comment and although we have been asked if we would like to make any further comments this doesn't appear to be necessary.

#### **Planning Decisions**

24/00366/FLL Erection of replacement garage with studio/gym, office and storage space at Acer House, Drum, Kinross. The application was approved; the CC had made no comment

#### Correspondence

Almost 100% of correspondence that the CC receives is via email, is verbal or via social media and the CC responds in like. Therefore, the CC is proposing to stop producing a paper copy listing all correspondence. All correspondence will now be held digitally. PKC support this decision.

#### **AOCB**

**Seamab School:** Local residents attended a meeting held by the builders of the new school. It's planned that the new building will be constructed alongside the old, and local residents are concerned that the security of the old and new sites will be compromised – the local residents do not want the current building to be occupied during the construction.

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The announcement of that meeting was at very short notice, and the CC was not invited at all. The CC will write to the school and request a meeting to raise this issue. There are no predictions of the number of vehicle movements planned, and the access road and bridge is already in a very poor state with cracks in it.

The next meeting of Fossoway and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 4 June at 7.30pm in Carnbo Village Hall.

# Milnathort and Orwell Community Council News from the May Meeting

**Present** at the meeting on 9 May were CCIIrs N Bingham, A Wanless, K Heneghan, A Macrae CIIrs D Cuthbert, R Watters, W Robertson and 7 MoP.

**Apologies**: L Watson (MPS), PC B Samson, Cllr N Freshwater, CCllr P Britton).

#### **Police Matters**

From 11 April 2024 (last meeting) there have been approximately 30 calls to police from the Milnathort area and six crimes recorded on police systems which were all for speeding offences.

#### Crimes Of Note (since last meeting 11/04/2024)

21/04/24 Theft Kayak, Burleigh Sands, Under enquiry 05/05/24 Vandalism, Burleigh Castle, Under enquiry

#### **Kinross-shire Community Speedwatch**

After the previous community council meeting, we held a further training session. There are now a total of 4 trained and vetted volunteers, however, we've not been able to hold a speedwatch session yet due to volunteers' availability, hence why we need more vetted volunteers. We are in the process of arranging an information and training session with Portmoak CC, to be held locally, if you wish to come along to find out more then please get in touch via email: <code>speedwatch.ks@qmail.com</code>

#### Actions from previous meeting

Replacement gate from Lathro park to South Street – The procurement for the replacement gate at the South Street entrance is still ongoing, however PKC will not progress until the path etc are adopted by PKC from the developer, Persimmons.

The replacement bridge is now complete and open. Thanks to Cllr Watters, the PKC team and Persimmon for completing this work.

#### Correspondences

#### **Boundary commission**

The boundary commission are reviewing the Scottish Parliament constituency boundaries, and South Perth and Kinross-shire is impacted by the review. To review and comment on the changes visit the website: <a href="https://consult.boundaries.scot/">https://consult.boundaries.scot/</a>

#### Roads

#### **North Street Pavement**

The curb stones outside Light up my Heart are loose and unstable underfoot. Neill raised this with PKC a week or so back and by the meeting had still not been fixed. Neill will follow up with PKC to get a status update.

#### **Core Paths Update**

The evenings are now lighter, and the weather is improving. This means the Core Path infilling jobs can be organised in the coming weeks.

The waymarking of many of the Core Paths will be done next week

Now that the vegetation is growing, after a late start, we'll start flailing and cutting back branches this month.

#### **Planning**

#### **Applications**

24/00421/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of vehicle access at 30 Manse Road, Milnathort 24/00452/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse and installation of air source heat pump at The Granary, 2 Arlary Steadings Milnathort Decisions

22/01004/FLL Erection of a retail unit (Class 1), formation of parking areas, landscaping, and associated works (LDP site E21) Auld Mart Business Park Kingfisher House Orwell Road Milnathort for Aldi Stores Limited, refused

#### Large Planning Applications Aldi Supermarket

As can be seen from our Facebook page and in the above planning section the planning application for the Aldi development at Auld Mart has been refused. There have been numerous questions on social media about the decision, PKC councillors Cuthbert and Watters, present, could not comment on the decision as Aldi are still able to appeal the decision.

It was asked by an audience member that KCC did not make any comment on the Aldi application, and questioned whether this was due to the location being outwith their area and whether MOCC would therefore not be able to comment on the BCA application. Also, if they did would it also be neutral. Neill responded that MOCC and any member of the public can comment on any planning application whether in their local area or not. As there has not been any application for Loch Leven Gateway (BCA site), then MOCC cannot comment on the stance we would take until an application has been made. It was also discussed that the Loch Leven Gateway application will probably wait for the conclusion of the Aldi appeal before they submit as they made a comment at a previous MOCC meeting that they would not submit until the outcome of the Aldi application was known.

Cllr Watters also added that the flood defence work planned for the area around the Loch Leven Gateway site although fully funded has been delayed while a couple of planning objections are being worked through to ensure the flood defence work can start as soon as possible.

#### Windfarms

Brunt Hill Windfarm have submitted a Section 36 application for Brunt Hill Wind Farm that to the Energy Consents Unit (ECU) on 8 May 2024 (ECU Reference: ECU00004654).

https://www.energyconsents.scot/ApplicationDetails.aspx?cr=ECU00004654

The application is for a total of 18 turbines where 10 are of 200m to blade tip and 8 are of 185m to blade tip.

The Craighead windfarm development are planning to submit their planning application to PKC in early June.

#### **Sustainability Group**

We'd previously mentioned that MOCC were instrumental in setting up the Sustainability group, primarily focussed on how to manage any future community benefit to the area from Windfarms or other large developments i.e. solar farms etc. The group consists of 8 CCs from the whole Kinross-shire area and bordering to the North and West.

A member of the audience asked how the money would be spent or who would decide.

Neill responded that it was early days yet to make any decisions on that, but there would be a process to get suggestions from locals i.e. by consultation.

There is an article from the group in June's *Kinross Newsletter* with more detail.

#### **Comments And Questions from the floor**

A member of the audience asked if the signage at the entrance to Church Street can be improved to indicate it is a one-way street? There have been several incidents of people travelling the wrong way down it or turning around at the

Cllr Robertson will ask PKC if they can do something.

Additionally, the audience member asked about signage with regards the white H-bar markings on the road, as several times cars have been parked on the H-bar restricting vehicles from passing and proceeding down Church Street.

The MOCC would like to remind residents that there are a number of H-bars painted on narrow roads around Milnathort. Vehicles should not be parked on the H-bar as this causes a nuisance for the residents and other vehicle users. The police will have to be called to ask for vehicles to be moved if an obstruction is being caused.

#### **Councillors' Reports**

Cllr Robertson: PKC are reviewing how to enforce the new Parking on pavement rules, with regards exceptions and specifically areas like the High Street where the road and pavement are one.

It is now the season for giant hogweed to grow and be present in our rural areas, I will be asking local landowners to help spray them to help kill and keep them back.

Cllr Watters suggested to contact the PKC Biodiversity team as they are responsible to carrying out activities like this and would be more than happy to help visit local areas to help combat the growth of the giant hogweed plants.

Kinross has a growing population, and we have no cottage hospital, as a community we should have a think about what provision we would like in our local community that should be included in future Local Development Plans.

Thanks to the PKC litter team that were out on the A91, they did a magnificent job but it is a shame that they need to endanger their lives and do this in the first place.

Cllr Watters: Earlier today Richard walked around the Lathro Meadows with Kevin and the PKC officers. Interestingly it appears that the feature gate on South Street has been removed from latest development plans. This is not correct as it was included on earlier plans, so this will need to be investigated as to why this has happened. Previous changes to plans were nothing to do with the gate.

Persimmon are happy to look at creating a new path from the new bridge to the Milnathort side of the Meadows.

A member of the audience asked whether anything could be done to remove the broken Persimmon signs that have broken and are in the North Queich. Allan will forward a photo taken earlier in the day to Richard so that he can share with Persimmon.

For the path to be adopted by PKC, the issue with the whin dust topping on the path blowing away to expose the hard large type 1 stones needs to be resolved, so that PKC are not then responsible for having to maintain the path.

The introduction of the grey recycling bins has been a great success. Richard along with other PKC councillors and officers visited the recycling process plant in Fife to see the operation. It uses AI software, robotic arms, and super strong magnets to sort the waste. It is a very impressive site and the manager and line workers commented that although the site manages waste for a number of local authorities they always know when they are handling PKC waste as it is much cleaner and less contaminated that other areas.

PKC contamination is only 6%, this is great news and thanks to the PKC staff and all residents who helped achieve this low figure, if we can continue to meet this level or improve on it, it only benefits PKC. The purer the plastic and other recycle materials are, the more money PKC receives back from as less processing is required, so far PKC has received up to £20,000.

Another great achievement is that the general waste bins have reduced by approximately 7% (initial estimate) in weight and is way better than was originally envisioned. This also helps keep down cost as each tonne of waste sent to landfill costs PKC f150.

The recycling company are always looking at how they can improve the recycling of materials and hoping to add new machines to their modular recycle line. They could possibly include multi-material packaging like blister packs.

By the end of 2025 we will no longer be sending waste to landfill, we will instead be sending it to the energy from waste BinnEco park, this will be used to create green hydrogen to then full the bin lorries and large council vehicles, to help with support the circular economy.

PKC have got a pothole-filling machine on loan for a 6-week trial. This vehicle reduces the cost and time to fix potholes, and other council areas purchased a number of these vehicles after similar successful trials.

Cllr Cuthbert: The Kinross-shire Local Committee is scheduled for next week. It is hoped to discuss the report from the Active Travel consultation, the draft report is at 160 pages, and Arup and PKC officials will be at the KLC to present the findings and answer any questions. The KLC agenda will be finalised and published shortly.

The Road Safety team will be present to explain why improvements have been delayed due to higher priorities with regards 20mph rollout etc.

#### **Any Other Matters**

#### **Malcolm Thomson CC Vice Chair**

After many years of sitting on the community council, Malcolm has decided to step down. The MOCC past and present would like to express our thanks to Malcolm for his many years of service on the CC as a community councillor, the CC chair and most recently as our vice-chair. A big thank you to Malcolm for all his effort and commitment over the years.

#### **Kinross-shire Committee**

After the previous MOCC meeting, Cllr Watters requested PKC road safety visit Milnathort to access the junction of New, South and Stirling Road to assess whether anything can be done to increase the safety of this junction for residents. There has been some push back to this visit being held, however, the MOCC will raise this topic at the upcoming Kinross-shire Local Committee, to emphasis the increased concern by residents on the dangerous driving by some approaching this junction. Cllr Robertson asked what he MOCC wanted to be done/

achieved by the visit?

The MOCC responded that the objective of the visit would be to understand what options there may be, if we don't ask the question then certainly nothing will be done to improve the situation.

#### War Memorial

6 June will be the 80th anniversary of the D-day landings. Neill has asked PKC to clean the war memorial, specifically the moss high up on the monument, before the anniversary if possible.

#### **Camping at Burleigh Sands**

Visitor Rangers are now in place to patrol areas, including Burleigh Sands, to combat inconsiderate behaviour.

Milnathort Primary School will have their Summer Fayre on Saturday 8 June.

The next meeting of Milnathort Community Council will be on Thursday 13 June 2024, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town

# Kinross Community Council News from the April Meeting

**Present** at the meeting on 23 April were CCIIrs L McKay, B West, S Wells, W Freeman, E Leslie, C Willsher, and K Spain (assistance dog, Zola), CIIr D Cuthbert, 6 MoP and minute taker Mrs C Aird.

**Apologies:** CCllrs P Chan, T Stewart, Cllrs R Watters, N Freshwater and W Robertson, PC B Samson.

CCllr L Mckay advised that CCllr M Wilson had resigned from the CC. She thanked him for his work in relation to the CC and everyone wished him well for the future.

#### **Police Scotland Report**

PC Samson and his colleagues were unable to attend the meeting but had submitted a report covering the period from the last meeting in March 2024. It was noted that there have been approximately 77 calls to police from the Kinross area with 20 crimes being recorded on police systems within this period. Five of these crimes were for theft by shoplifting and other ones for road traffic offences detailed below:

10/04/2024 Take and drive away a vehicle (Section 178 RTA 1988) (Lathro Park, Kinross) 1 x charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

15/04/2024 Assault & Vandalism (Bowton Road and Mill Street, Kinross) 1 x charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal

On 31/03/2024 local officers from Kinross were on mobile patrol on Ochil View, Kinross when they had cause to stop a vehicle, the driver of which was found to be in charge of a vehicle with alcohol in their system over the prescribed limit. The driver was arrested and charged for the relevant offence. A report has been submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 01/04/2024 roads policing officers were on mobile patrol on The Muirs, Kinross where they had cause to stop a vehicle. The vehicle was found to have no insurance, no MOT and the driver driving with an incorrect licence. The driver was charged for the relevant offences and a report submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 13/04/2024 a vehicle collided with the bollards on High Street, Kinross and the driver was issued a ticket for careless driving.

#### **KGV Playing Field, Muirs, Kinross**

CCIIr McKay welcomed Mr Andy Williams, Chair of KGV PMG and representatives from Kinross Astro (KAS) and asked Mr Williams to update the meeting on the current situation.

Mr Williams advised that KAS had submitted a planning application to PKC to use part of the land at KGV but that KGV PMG had not been notified either by KAS or by PKC Planning Committee as a neighbour. KGV PMG had rejected the proposal as it was deemed to be against the objectives of the KGV. The PMG had requested to attend the planning committee to explain their reasoning but this was refused as they had missed the deadline for requesting such attendance. PMG also wrote to the Planning Committee detailing their reasons for objecting and had been advised that their letter would be read out at the meeting but it was not. As such, it was presumed by PKC that PMG agreed with the application. Mr Williams advised that PMG had met with KAS to discuss alternative options including on 5 December 2023 at the Management Committee OGM where no other options were suggested for discussion.

On 4 March, Mr Williams received a telephone call advising that a worker was digging up land at KGV. It was discovered that this worker was a contractor appointed by KAS to carry out the work. At this point, the contractor was requested to cease and desist but the request was denied.

Over the last ten days work has been undertaken to repair the land to its previous condition and Mr Williams confirmed that

the KGV grounds were held by Scottish Fields and Trust with PKC being the landlord. The meeting were also advised that, to date, the costs to KGV run into several thousand pounds.

CCIIr C Willsher advised that it was noted on the planning application, KAS claimed to own the land, which they do not, and this had been brought to the attention of PKC.

KAS confirmed that they did not own the land in question but are tenants of KGV and stated that Scottish Fields and Trust were not involved with KGV. The current application is the fourth such one over a period of seven years, all had been identical, with the exception of the issue of the trees. It was noted that the third application had been withdrawn. The current application met criteria which had been suggested by PKC, where it was suggested to close both ends of the area and the lack of public access was not deemed to be an issue. PKC recommended approval of this application.

A Kinross-shire Civic Trust representative advised that Greenspace were unhappy with the area being closed off (3rd application) and wanted the gates unlocked (4th application) to continue public access.

CCIIr W Freeman advised that KCC had received an email earlier that afternoon from the Senior Estates Surveyor at PKC giving their perspective of the situation which was sent to KGV on 18 April 2024 in which they 'acknowledge that the Management Committee is within its rights to address this encroachment upon its leased area. However, given that Kinross Astro's proposed alterations stand to benefit the hockey pitch and its users, and that they align with the stated Objects of the Management Committee, the Council strongly recommends that the Management Committee reconsiders its objection to the alterations, providing Kinross Astro guaranteed continued public access over the strip whenever they or other sports clubs are not using the hockey pitch. If your objection stems from a concern that dog walking activity would be relocated from the strip to the other side of the hockey pitch, would additional signage and dog waste bins offset your concerns? I am aware that Kinross Astro have committed to the development of the pitch, that they have secured planning permission, and that they believe the proposal is essential for the progress of the sport in Kinross.'

Also in the letter is a suggestion that it would be beneficial for a meeting to be arranged with all parties to discuss the workings of the lease (due to expire on 31 August 2045) to try and ensure a successful occupation for both parties going forward. In response to a question from CCllr Mckay as to whether KGV PMG and KAS would find it helpful to meet with PKC, Mr Williams did not feel it would be helpful as the matter has been discussed at every Management Committee meeting and KAS had had a number of opportunities to bring alternative discussions to the table, while KAS did think it would be helpful.

#### **HELP WANTED**

#### Kinnesswood Male or female – Mon-Fri

Gentleman needs assistance with dressing, breakfast and evening meal.

Experience of care helpful.

Times and payment to be agreed.

Please contact Jenny on 07866 053990.

At this point, CCIIr Willsher asked to withdraw his comment that KAS were owners of the land, and this was noted. He apologised for misinterpreting the way this information appeared on the online version of the application form.

The Kinross-shire Civic Trust representative confirmed that PKC Estates were happy for the development to go ahead as long as public access was maintained unless there was a hockey match on the pitch. For clarification, CCIIr Mckay asked if the gates were locked permanently and this was confirmed by KAS who advised that it was clear in the application that they intended to remove the public access, although this was not one of the criteria suggested by PKC. The reasoning behind removing the access was to avoid damage to the pitch and they explained that currently, the players warm up in the car park, which gets mud on the astro pitch and causes damage over time. Current costs to replace the pitch stand at around £200,000. They confirmed that another reason for removing public access was to avoid dog walkers leaving dog mess on the land and there are ample other areas in the town for dog walkers. CCIIr K Spain commented that this was only suitable for those who did not have disabilities such as hers, and she felt the removal of the public access was a denial to the community.

KAS feel that they are improving the facility by undertaking this work as anyone can use the pitch, membership has increased and all ages are using it from anywhere. In response to this statement, the representative from Kinross-shire Civic Trust advised that the deeds say that access is for the benefit of the people of Kinross, dog walkers and the elderly. They also commented that when the first artificial pitch was laid in 1999/2000, there was to be a buffer zone between the pitch and the houses on the boundary of the land. With the current application, this will be removed and it was noted that the three main houses which would be affected by this all submitted objections.

CCIIr Willsher asked if there was any other area on the land which could meet the requirements of KAS and the meeting were advised that it was preferred to have had the hardstanding area on the east side but they had previously been told that would affect the run off to the rugby pitch. At this point, Mr Williams advised that a number of alternatives were offered by KGV but all had been declined. Land on the north side, whilst noting that not as much land would be available, was offered but this was refused by KAS.

There was then a long discussion around presentations of all applications to KGV MPG noting that the first application was in 2017. In response to a question from CCllr Willsher with regard to the presentation, it was confirmed that this had been to Rugby Club representatives and not KGV MPG.

It was agreed that an impasse had been reached and while



KCC had offered to be independent chairs of a meeting, with or without representatives from PKC, it was agreed that KGV MPG and KAS would go away to review plans and look at alternative options.

CCIIr Mckay thanked Mr Williams and KAS for attending the meeting. Both left the meeting at this point.

#### **Matters Arising**

Portrait of HM King Charles III – it was confirmed that this had now been ordered and a discussion would be held on where to hang the portrait in due course.

#### **Kinross Town Centre**

A member of the public raised a concern regarding the number of holes in the pavements and asked what could be done about this. It was also noted that the town was looking 'dirty' and it was agreed that Cllr D Cuthbert would ask the road sweeper to attend ASAP. Cllr Cuthbert also advised that he had not had a response from PKC re the rubbish in Mill Street.

#### **Davies Park**

Concern was raised about the amount of dog mess in the park.

#### Wall at Rowlands Pharmacy

It was noted that a bus had damaged the wall at the pharmacy and CCIIr Mckay had reported this to PKC to be advised that it was not their wall and as such, the matter should be discussed with Greens. It was noted that PKC were waiting on an insurance payment before repairing.

#### **Replacement of Bollards at Opticians**

CCIIr McKay enquired as to when the bollards would be replaced and CIIr Cuthbert was unable to confirm a date for this. It was suggested that a wall would be a better option.

#### **Overhanging Hedges in High Street**

CCIIr Willsher advised that he had submitted a request to PKC for householders to be reminded of their responsibilities in respect of overhanging hedges and had had an acknowledgement from PKC to his request.

#### BCA Site

A member of the public asked if the work at the site was going ahead. Those present were advised that the flood defence systems need to be in progress before any work on the site can commence. Objections to the flood defence proposals are open until 26 April.

Cllr Cuthbert advised that Scottish Government need to see these plans and agree revised finance calculations. LSPIM, the developer of the BCA site, has issued a revised timetable based on PKC starting flood defence works August 2025 – April 2026 leading to Loch Leven Gateway Construction April 2025 – August 2026, with a target opening of the development in May/June 2026.

CCIIr Mckay advised that she had contacted the developers for an update but was advised that they were awaiting a decision by PKC regarding the Aldi application in Milnathort, which had now been refused, so they will progress with their plans.

#### Car Park Signage in Town

CCIIr S Wells advised that she had been contacted by retailers about the poor signage in the town.

#### **KCC Website**

CCIIr Freeman advised that a working group needs to be set up and access to the website was required. It was agreed that CCIIr E Leslie would contact the editor of the *Newsletter* for this

#### Millbridge Hall, Kinross

CCIIr Mckay introduced Fiona Eastop, Trustee of Millbridge Hall (https://www.millbridgehall.org/), who had asked to attend the meeting to update the members on the hall and to obtain advice/guidance on how to increase usage. Fiona gave some background information on how the hall came about and its funding streams. Use of the hall had been going well but

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post-Covid a number of users had not returned, a number of trustees had passed away resulting in other trustees fulfilling a number of roles which impacted on their home life, and increased fuel bills/cost of living crisis was not helping. Fiona advised that the hall needed upgrading and the trustees were also looking to convert to charitable status to open up other funding options.

The trustees had held an open evening earlier in the month to gain more information on what users of the hall would like to see/what improvements could be made etc and a number of suggestions were made. Fiona advised that funds had been set aside by Kinross-shire Action Partnership but a scoping exercise and feasibility study were required to be completed. Fiona advised that initially the Trustees were looking for more volunteers to run the Hall as well as ways to maximise its use. It was agreed that Fiona would send information on the hall, including hire rates, occupation capacity etc into the KCC inbox and it would be advertised on the Facebook pages available to KCC.

In response to a question from Fiona to those present regarding thoughts on what needed to happen, suggestions for clubs etc for children/teens were required and it was agreed that the Hall could maximise its bookings with CCllr West commenting that the Masonic Hall itself was having to turn organisations away as they did not have the capacity to accept all interested bookings. CCllr Leslie also suggested having a stall at the next Farmers' Market.

In response to a question regarding being able to speak to someone/getting advice from PKC, Cllr Cuthbert confirmed that it would be useful to contact Tracy Armstrong, and it was agreed that CCllr Wells would sit in on meetings where she could, to ensure that there was a link back to KCC.

CCIIr Leslie also suggested contacting 'Roller Beats' who were always looking for alternative venues for their roller disco events.

CCIIr Mckay thanked Fiona for attending the meeting and asked her to stay connected with KCC.

#### **Reports from PKC Councillors**

Cllr Cuthbert advised that he had joined the PKC Learning and Families Executive sub-committee which deals with Education Scotland reports into primary and secondary school performance, commenting that early learning and primary schools in the area received good marks. However, the first three secondary schools on the list only received 'satisfactory' marks and one was graded as 'weak' in two quality indicators. Cllr Cuthbert has requested a discussion/workshop to work through the self-evaluation process and following a paper to the committee which had completed by the schools regarding quality indicators, he had requested an explanation of how the schools intend to improve scoring.

#### **Reports From CC Representatives**

**CCIIr Leslie** raised the issue of fences around the drop off/pick up area at the primary school to act as a buffer to improve the safety of the children.

**CCIIr Wells** commented that Old Cleish Road seemed to being used as an unofficial HGV park and CIIr Cuthbert advised that the path down the old railway had been blocked (planning permission refused). He has therefore asked the PKC Paths Officer to get involved but due to their workload this had not progressed yet.

**CCIIr Leslie** also raised the issue of cars parking on pavements at the tennis courts and down Station Road, and when staff have approached parents, they have been met with a level of abuse which is not appropriate. CCIIr Leslie is to contact PC B Samson to ask his colleagues to patrol the area.

Cllr Cuthbert also advised that double yellow lines were coming (a top priority) and that the zig zags were to be extended.

CCIIr Mckay expressed her disappointment that the Davies Park work had been delayed; CIIr Cuthbert advised that the tender process had commenced w/c 10 April.

CCIIr Mckay also raised an issue with blocked drains and was advised by CIIr Cuthbert that the teams are working their way around the town. She also advised that she had recently completed the Speedwatch training and had found the process very interesting. She advised that if a driver were caught speeding, they would receive a letter from Police Scotland.

#### **AOCB**

In response to a question from CCIIr Mckay, a member of the public confirmed that they continued to raise the issue of HGVs using Gallowhill Road.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Tuesday 25 June 2024 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome to attend.

# Portmoak Community Council News from the April Meeting

**Present** at the meeting on 9 April were Cllrs W Robertson, CCllrs A Miller, D Morris, A Davison, S McGregor and 1 MoP. **Apologies**: Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater, R Watters; CCllrs K Donaldson, D Paterson.

#### **Matters Arising**

#### **Kinross-shire Committee Update:**

Difficulty with accessing social care in Kinross-shire: a number of locals had raised this issue to Cllr W Robertson. KLC was addressed by Jacqui Pepper, (Chief Officer – P&K, Health & Social Care Scotland), who explained the problems with getting necessary staff required to provide care. They are trying to bring in people from other countries that are considered to provide adequately qualified staff to work in UK. Cllr W Robertson hoped the raise to the minimum wage may increase people's willingness to choose caring as a profession.

#### **Road Safety Action Update:**

**Speedwatch:** a social media page is due to go live soon. Allan Macrae of Milnathort & Orwell CC had updated A Miller. MOCC are co-ordinating with Police for Speedwatch training. It is suggested that as volunteers are trained and a core of people who have undertaken the vetting procedure increases, they will be able to take that forward. A Macrae was willing to have a chat with anyone who is interested, MOCC would put out a link to the Kinross-shire Facebook page and people who are interested can have a look and respond directly. This would help interested parties go straight to the point of entry. Portmoak CC are happy to act as a hub but the project needs to be taken forward by members of the community, with devolved responsibility to individuals. Training can be done in an afternoon or an evening. Individuals are encouraged to register. MOCC have done training and can now provide training to other interested members of the public.

PCC would like to thank PKC and W Robertson that there is now warning signage on the New Gullet Bridge (along from gliding club). The bridge parapet is still broken from the collision prior to Christmas, and awaits repair.

Wester Balgedie VAS sign for 30mph speed limit had finally been installed on approach from Pittendreich side. PCC would like to thank PKC Roads for implementing this.

#### **Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path**

There was unfortunately little positive movement to report on this item. A Miller is to meet with a representative of the Woodland Trust. The upper section of the path from Portmoak Hall to Church has in principle been subject to approval by the two relevant landowners Woodland Trust and The Church of Scotland. At the last PCC meeting, a feasibility study was discussed. The Woodland Trust intimated they may

be able to help with this process, and further discussions would be required. Further approaches to the landowner of the southern section continues to be challenging with no response or further communication to the Chair. Cllr D Morris reiterated the necessity of PKC to consider all means, including the possibility of compulsory purchase powers so that PCC can get some traction with the acquisition of the land for the southern section from Portmoak Church to Scotlandwell.

A parallel issue is that the existing roadside footpath is too rutted and narrow and has long since stopped being fit for purpose. Cllr W Robertson reported he had asked PKC to address widening by verge maintenance of the existing path from Portmoak Church to Scotlandwell, in addition to the separate path section from Scotlandwell to Kinneston Farm. Cllr W Robertson confirmed he would raise this request again with PKC.

#### Play Facilities at Scotlandwell Green

Tree felling (of diseased trees) has commenced. Speaking to the PKC team involved in the upgrade, tenders for the work have been submitted and once a contractor is selected, work can commence. The ground is incredibly wet because of the recent weather which may cause delays. PKC officers have been helpful and speedy to respond on this project. It was however noted that the Portmoak Gala had to relocate to avoid damage to the new turf/grass within the park.

Portmoak Church – the future for the church and car park The project has moved on since the last meeting. Kinnesswood Development Trust are handling the project for the acquisition of the car park for community use and facilities. There are however specific processes to follow. The option to purchase has currently been requested for the carpark only. While retention of the church for Community use would be a preference, it is necessary to consider the intended purpose, future potential uses, costs, maintenance and how it could affect existing community assets. Without any defined or firm feasibility plan or proposal, acquisition of the church for the community is not a currently considered to be viable. Responses to requests for information on the likely purchase price of the car park have not yet been received. Without knowing the funding requirements, it is deemed difficult to start fundraising. It is understood the Church of Scotland are not planning to sell the land or carpark until 2027. There appear to be events planned at the church for 2025. PCC and KDT would be keen to understand in more detail what the Church's intentions and programme are.

#### **Sustainability Group meeting**

No update at this point. Secretary to pick up with the group which involves other adjacent CCs around the matter of planning applications for windfarms.

#### **Police Reports**

A Davidson reported incidences of sheep worrying in Portmoak. Again, PCC encourage locals to keep dogs on leads around sheep in fields. The Chair had seen reports of prowlers in gardens in Kinnesswood. They have been seen on CCTV and video doorbells. Following recent police advice, PCC encourage people to lock gates, sheds and house doors and windows and be vigilant.

#### **Planning**

#### **New Applications**

224/00398/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and installation of replacement windows, Park House Main Street, Kinnesswood, no comment.

24/00393/IPL Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) Land 330 metres north west of 5 Kinneston Cottages, Leslie Glenrothes. Chair had reviewed the plans. It was an isolated

building, within land boundary of an existing house. Access appears to be a temporary access. Visibility lines do not seem to suggest an intrusion on the landscape. In principle application, no comment.

#### **Planning Decisions**

**Progress with Developments:** Westfield Community Liaison Committee. As Cllr Donaldson was the PCC normal representative to WCLC, and was not in attendance, the update report was held over to the next meeting.

#### **Westfield Paths Feasibility Study**

Tactrans meeting at end of March. Neither the Chair or Vice-Chair had received any information at time of meeting. Cllr D Morris to catch the meeting co-ordinators — Arup this week. A Miller and D Morris had tried to access meeting but had not been able to. As Chair of Tracks, Cllr W Robertson had attended a meeting with Arup. Arup said there were no plans identified for Kinross-shire and would welcome input from all areas of Kinross-shire concerning barriers to active travel e.g. the roundabout at Sainsburys in Kinross. Any thoughts on this can be emailed to Portmoak CC and will be forwarded on. All members of the community are encouraged to highlight obstructions in your area that could be easily eliminated to help walking and cycling. These should be issued to Secretary@ Portmoak.org

# Path Adjoining Top of Cobbles-Back Dykes to Michael Bruce Way.

Cllr D Morris has written a report that is with the Secretary. During recent months of extremely poor weather, the path has turned into a stream and requires a drain to contain the surface water and rebuild the path on top of this. This has been estimated at circa £10k to do the required remedial work. Request from Paths Group for PCC agreement to contribute £1,500 to this project. There were concerns among PCC members that the remedial action may be ineffective. Cllr D Morris had walked the path and the stream has created a gully that makes the path difficult to walk. The landowner is involved in the discussion. There is some work going on between the Paths group and the Woodland group to complete wildflower planting.

#### **Treasurer CC Accounts:**

Portmoak CC Account: £ 829.29 Michael Bruce Way Account: £1683.71

Suggestion to stop using Zoom and instead use Microsoft teams which is free up to about 90 users. Secretary will look into this. Platform is very similar and may save some costs to PCC.

#### **Councillors' Reports:**

**Clir W Robertson:** the path link from Lochend to LLHT, via Levenmouth road, has been completed. The Chair thanked Clir W Robertson for his persistence on this project and overcoming the difficulties that had arisen. On PKC: he explained that as part of a cost saving exercise a large number of eligible PKC employees have taken retirement. This was expected to impact the pool of expertise that is available in the short term, which may cause some delays in actioning or progressing projects.

#### **Matters Notified to the Secretary:**

Onshore windfarms in our hill landscapes: Public debate, 15 April 24, at Kinross Campus in evening

*Big Place Conversation*: from 2023 PKC consultation. Initial collated results and comments were now available.

**Scotlandwell footpath** between Wellside Park and The Green, in need of repair. The Chair would raise and try to progress this within the context of the Green play facilities upgrade.

Proposed Auchtermuchty, Strathmiglo, Gateside and Dunshalt Local Place Plan for comment. Secretary to recirculate to PCC members.

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**Kinross Road Runners Half Marathon**, road closures from 08450hrs – Sunday 12 May 2024 Chair & Secretary had been in contact with Ann Malcolm of KRR. KRR had been appreciative of the PCC communications sent in to 2023. Secretary to recirculate info. for 2024.

#### **AOB**

Cllr A Davidson highlighted a problem in Glenlomond with a semi-derelict building which had become unsafe during recent storms and was now deemed unsafe. There had been plans by owner to demolish and create a new building, but these had been rejected by PKC planning. Glenlomond community were keen to have the rebuild progressed. PCC suggested that if a building is structurally unsafe the owner needs to make it safe, and not accessible. If the community feel it is unsafe the landowner needs to demonstrate it is safe and cannot be accessed.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held on Tuesday 11 June via Zoom at 7.30pm.

# Glenfarg Community Council News from the May meeting

**Present** at the meeting held on 6 May were CCllrs Fraser, Pilmer, Christie, Murray, Ponton, Macleod, Smart, Cllr Watters. VHC Chair Macpherson and eight MoP.

**Apologies**: Cllrs Robertson, Cuthbert and Freshwater, PC Samson.

#### **Police Report**

In PC Samson's absence CCIIr Pilmer advised on the following since the beginning of March:

14 calls and two crimes reported namely Balvaird Castle and a residence at Eden Crescent, Glenfarg, both ongoing.

#### **Action Points**

CCllr Pilmer reported that:

WTW Planning matters in respect of his Action Point to contact PKC Planning for a point of order now need not happen because a PKC letter dated Tuesday 5 March 2024 inviting members of the public, who had objected to the WTW upgrade application, could attend an PKC Planning Committee (PC) meeting to voice their concerns regarding their objections. This PKC PC meeting did take place with members of the public and CCllr Fraser attending and stating their objections. The Planning Application was approved albeit with e.g. amendments, requests, orders for future actions.

Sandbags for Flooding in the village. Additional sandbags are now stored at the main entrance to the Village Hall Schoolhouse ground located at and adjacent to Greenbank Road. With thanks to the RRT, Bridge of Earn.

Microgrant for Cycling group's mobile phone request had been accepted and approved after further consideration.

Duncrievie Road fault and Hayfield Road adjoining to Deuglie road condition topics being carried on by PKC Cllr Watters.

#### Meetings - Virtual and Public

CCIIr Pilmer stated: 1. that he had attended a Lochelbank Windfarm Panel Meeting in early April and that three groups within the Glenfarg area would be beneficiaries of funding.

- 2. that he had received four letters of correspondence and dealt with as follows:
- i) HGV traffic through Glenfarg and that the Binn Group, via an Operations Director, had reiterated confirmation about their business activities for HGV traffic to use the Gateside A Class road route and not Glenfarg village's B Class road route.
- ii) Member of the public complaint about vehicle parking in relation to a local farm's business activities and Village Hall parking ingress and egress. The Secretary had written

to both parties and their replies were: from the local business farm managers with their utmost apologies, that a Traffic Management Plan is to be instigated for future large events and that people would be notified to use the local public/community bus services. The VHC, via the Chair W. Macpherson, stated that they would investigate the matter of a safety mirror to aid ingress and egress from the VH car park. CCIIr Pilmer to contact the member of the public by email letter and to reaffirm by letter to the VHC Chair.

iii) Member of the public complaint about the speed of vehicles at the southbound entrance to the village and that several speed suggestions were offered. CCllr Pilmer contacted Cllr Robertson and that instigated a further letter to PKC Traffic Management. PKC Traffic Management replied that a blanket 20mph limit will be instigated as part of a National Plan. Nonetheless, a discussion took place about relocating and or adding an additional VAS sign at the south bound approach. It was decided that an additional VAS be requested adjacent to the initial 30mph position and that the existing 30mph VAS remain and be amended to 20mph in due time. CCllr Ponton reiterated matters of speed restriction from previous GCC meetings. CCllr Pilmer to contact PKC Traffic Management about the VAS signs and to contact the member of the public by letter to affirm PKC actions.

iv) Member of the public had contacted the GCC with regard to a fallen tree stump in the River Farg, adjacent to the Village Green, that may lead to a risk of flooding to neighbouring properties. CCllr Pilmer reported that the matter was with PKC to attend, and that the member of the public had been notified.

v) Member of the public raising concern by email letter about horse access on the private road leading to the WTW and the blind corner conflicting with increased traffic and a supposed vehicle recognition system.

3. CCIIr Pilmer reported that he had attended a local Sustainability Group (SG) meeting chaired by Milnathort CC in April in relation to the proposed Carnbo Windfarm. Of those CC's represented, he had signed a joint CC Memorandum of Understanding, as did all the CCs, that are likely to be affected by the proposed development. It was noted further that Clackmannanshire CC, although not in PKC Kinross-shire catchment area, had been permitted to join the SG. A Chair and Secretary positions were discussed for the group. Meeting dates proposed and notification of the next meeting to be made known in the coming months.

CCIIr Pilmer reported that the stored gazebos c/o a local farm was still to be reviewed and following that action point a decision will be made as to what to do with the items. It was noted that an offer for them to be used by a third party was declined

CCIIr Fraser stated that he had attended a Development Planning meeting for the Local Development Plan – Active Partnership. The meeting was taken up, overall, about a topic of the Millbridge Hall. No further information was presented. CCIIr Ponton reported that she had received a number of emailed letters raising concern about business activities and vehicles in Greenbank Road. It was noted that the residencies belong to PKC and that complaints of: noise associated with business activities on vehicles out with normal business hours, indiscriminate parking, rubbish, use of a mechanised 4-wheel quad bike on public roads, stored material are all to be raised with PKC Housing.

Scottish Water Glenfarg Water Treatment Works upgrade Liaison Group (LG) meeting and Traffic Management Plan. CCllr Fraser gave an update about the LG meeting of 19 March 2024.

Members of the public stated that there had been several Traffic

Management additional amendments to the original document that was part of the initial planning application. A discussion took place concerning the planned access route via the private road and the protection and access of the old bridge. Also, the rock face on the blind corner was raised as a matter of serious concern in consideration of vulnerable road users: walkers, horse riders, cyclists and perceived conflict with vehicles and their speed. A discussion took place about how best this could be managed. An alleged traffic recognition system was mentioned however, there was no evidence of this system being a documented fact. It was recommended that the matter about the rock face, on the blind corner, be raised with Scottish Water and what was the safest option for all the road's users.

Passing places, verges and the delay of the Large Air Curtain module were discussed.

The landowner of the Glendy land and fields bordering the public and private road confirmed that no one from Scottish Water had contacted him regarding a possible public path in his field bordering the C Class public road.

CCIIr Fraser stated that he had noted the concerns of the discussion and would be taking the concerns to the next joint Scottish Water and GCC Liaison group meeting on 15 May. A report would be issued in due time after the meeting.

Cllr Watters reiterated that a Traffic Management Plan was a condition of the Planning Application and Building Warrant. He added further that the associated work's activities would be monitored and that it was essential that matters were considered, acted upon, amended as works progress.

#### **Flooding Issues**

CCIIr Christie reported that some work carried out revealed that at least 80% drainage efficiency was being achieved in the Greenbank area and that more favourable drier weather would be required for PKC to carry out further remedial work. Members of the public raised points in relation to a culvert and sump having been cleared and that further work is still necessary particularly at the junction of Marinden Park and Main Street. This is an ongoing matter, and a future report will be made available in due time with further work now a necessity.

CCIIr Pilmer reiterated on extra sandbags being delivered by the Bridge of Earn based Rapid Response Team and that they are now stored at the entrance gate to the Schoolhouse, Greenbank Road.

CCIIr Pilmer was asked to raise the matter of the blocked drain causing water to flood over from the Hilton Hill Road and Church Brae and Private Road access junction.

#### Village Inn Update

In the absence of representatives of the Village Inn group and certain VH Trustees persons CCIIr Fraser reported that the newly formed development group were working together to facilitate an action plan to realise a new extension (as confirmed by the VHT Chair Macpherson who was present at the meeting). Matters noted were architect drawings, costs of fees and funding options nonetheless, any news that would benefit the community will be released as it is made known. It was stated further that the VH will be open for the Euro Football games and that a future Pub in the Park event was planned – all with a licensed facility.

#### Glenfarg Community Transport Group

CCIIr Smart reported that the GCTG is continuing to be going from strength to strength and recently had a public usage of circa 947 passenger journeys in a week amounting to a 700% increase in passenger movements. Drivers number 20 with a mixture of permanents with volunteers. The public social partnership with PKC and others is a worthy route to ensure that public transport is available timeously and to this end there has been a discussion about extending the scheme to

Fossoway as a next vision. CCIIr Smart reported further that a discussion with the Errol area of Perthshire had taken place. A future presentation in Perth is planned to a group. Funding is always prevalent, and sources are being sought continuously as is an Active & Sustainable Travel plan.

#### **Planning**

24/00215/FLL Erection of dwellinghouse and outbuilding Land 40 Metres North Of The Slate House, Newfargie, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

24/00300/FLL Formation of storage yard and siting of welfare/ office units at Land 200 Metres South West Of Allison Fencing Ltd, East Fordel Farm, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

24/00378/FLL Extension to dwelling house and erection of garage at Hawthorn Cottage, Drunzie, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

24/00435/FLL Erection of dwellinghouse and access (in principle) at Land 40 Metres North West Of The Old Manse, Greenbank Road, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

24/00441/FLL Replacement extension to dwellinghouse and formation of balcony at 2 Candy Farm Cottage, Glenfarg awaiting decision.

23/02043/FLL Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of raised patio at Ochil Cottage, Main Street, Glenfarg, refused.

24/00144/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse and formation of raised terrace at New Fargie House, Newfargie, Glenfarg approved.

24/00565/FLL Erection of agricultural storage building at East Fordel Farm, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

24/00245/FLL Part change of use of agricultural building to provide horse stables and welfare facilities (in retrospect) at Land 400 Metres South Of Brampton House, Glenfarg approved.

23/01876/FFL Change of use of building to dwellinghouse and associated works, Land 15 Metres South East Of Woodbine Cottage, Duncrievie, approved.

23/01353/FLL Upgrade works comprising redevelopment of filter beds, erection of ancilliary buildings, plant, installation of bridge, alterations and extension to access roads, retaining walls, steps, land engineering and associated works at Glenfarg Water Treatment Works, The Reservoir, Glenfarg, approved.

#### Finance Report

CCIIr Murray reported the Treasurer's Report 06/05/24 Action points (completed from previous report/meeting): All newsletter advertising invoices were sent out. -

Micro Grants paid. PKC Insurance paid. Paid for retention of website and URL.

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). Complete form for the Binn Skips Wind Farm Micro-grant Fund. Apply for Micro-grant to cover Christmas Lights. Need to chase unpaid newsletter invoices, have asked Philip Ponton to do this. Produce a new micro grant application form.

Account Movement 4 March 2024 to 6 May 2024

#### **Treasurer Account:**

Balance 06/05/24: £480.35

Money In: £0

Money Out: £95

Newsletter Account

 Balance 06/05/24:
 £4872.31

 Money In:
 £700

 Money Out:
 £970.07

Advertising revenue for the village Newsletter has raised 50% therefore the other advertisers are required to pay up on

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receipt of an invoice. It is hoped that more advertisers will come forward because advertising assists with the financial upkeep of the Village's Newsletter.

Binn Wind farm. Microgrant form to be amended to include the applicant's details for on line banking transfers.

A discussion took place regarding the funding of the Christmas lights and that it is an expenditure that is becoming costly year on year. Need to reaffirm what account e.g. microgrant/how other communities fund their lights.

A request for a microgrant regarding the maintenance of the Village Hall's double doors located at the rear of the property was agreed on the evening and to be paid.

#### **AOCB**

#### **KC III Portrait**

CCIIr Pilmer presented Mr Macpherson, Chair of the Village Hall Trustees, with a portrait of the present Monarch. This portrait is a UK Government initiative to have a portrait of KC III displayed in Government, Council buildings, other public village halls etc.

#### Newsletter

CCIIr Fraser reported that the Glenfarg Newsletter's position of Editor remains unfilled. It is an essential matter of urgency for the post to be filled therefore, the post is to be readvertised. It was discussed further that should the post not be filled, then as an option to be considered, there are businesses that would be able to take on this task. Nonetheless, advertise the post again with a letter of encouragement.

#### Defibrillator

CCIIr Fraser reported that the village's defibrillator's batteries are to be replaced. This was agreed that the batteries required to be acquired via a Microgrant. CCIIr Smart stated that there should be more (another two) defibrillators made available to the public. This will be looked at. It was noted further that there is no defibrillator at the Scottish Water Treatment works for workers/residents. A member of the public stated that this omission requires to be rectified and could the matter be taken up with Scottish Water asap? CCIr Fraser agreed to raise the topic at 15 May's GCC and SW liaison group meeting.

CCIIr Fraser raised the point about training in the use of a defibrillator by the First Responder team from Fife once again. This was accepted as a vital action point and CCIIr Smart (A GP) offered to assist with a training event.

#### **Speedwatch**

CCIIr Ponton reported that the Speedwatch campaign would be commencing and that the Glenfarg area was still looking for volunteers. The group isn't about policing, however, letters would be sent out to those persons noted for speeding. More volunteers required therefore; a further letter is to be made public encouraging people to come forward.

#### **Road Repairs and Waste**

Cllr Watters reported on a new Pothole repair machine on trial known as the Tarminator. Apparently, it can cut out the damaged area of road surface and repair it on one visit.

He reported further about the success rate of the PKC residents use of grey wheelie bins and the plastic going into that route for disposal. It appears that the PKC residents are good at sorting out their waste and ensuring the cleanliness of it. PKC has benefited from a payback scheme for good condition waste.

The next meeting of Glenfarg CC will be held on Monday 1 July 2024.

## Cleish & Blairadam Community Council News from the April meeting

**Present** at the meeting held on 22 April were F Principe-Gillespie, M Traylor, Cs MacLaren, S Gordon, Cllr W Robertson **Apologies**: F Whalley, Cllrs N Freshwater, R Watters, D Cuthbert and PC Samson

#### **Crime Prevention & Police Report**

#### **Vandalism of Road Signs**

The police are aware of road signs in Cleish being vandalised and have shared the information with other officers in the Kinross area to bring to their attention during routine patrols. 20/03/24 – Vandalism (Bus Stop, Benarty Road) – subject to a live investigation.

Cllr W. Robertson agreed to contact the Justice Department to see about getting offenders to remove the graffiti as part of their community pay-back orders.

#### Correspondence

Concerns were raised to community councillors by two separate residents regarding speeding vehicles travelling through the Lochran settlement. This concern has been raised with PKC in the past, and the suggestion was made that Lochran should be designated as a settlement and have a 40mph speed limit on that section of the road, however it is understood that PKC is resistant to this idea due to the cost of installing the necessary signage.

Reports were also received of multiple instances of speeding through Gairney Bridge, with cars and vans witnessed travelling above 60mph past the vehicle activated speed signage at the start of the 40mph zone!

On-going concerns expressed about speeding in Keltybridge, with vehicles regularly seen travelling in excess of the 20mph speed limit.

#### **Broadband Update, Blairadam Area**

The final phase to connect the remaining 13 properties in the Blairadam area is progressing well, with six of the remaining properties already connected. Openreach has committed to complete the remaining work by September this year. When this work is complete Cleish and Blairadam will be one of the best-connected rural areas in Scotland!

#### Drainage, Cleish

At the previous CC meeting a drainage issue was 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 has still not been resolved.

#### Keltybridge

The gully at the foot of the Dullomuir Farm Road has been repaired by PKC, and now drains correctly. A problem remains in relation to drainage water rising up from below the road at this junction, however this problem is on a private road — although the water does then flow onto and across the public road at times.

#### **Financial Update**

Financial balance is £494.51

#### Planning

Under the new guidance, an objection by the CC automatically refers an application to the Planning Committee; otherwise, it requires 6 objections from separate households to refer an application.

#### **Awaiting Decision**

24/00513/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse, 4 Middleton Park Keltybridge, Kelty.

24/00248/PNA Erection of an agricultural storage building, Ardgairney Farm, Kinross.

24/00130/PNA Erection of an agricultural building, Land 140 Metres South East Of Bonny Brae, Cleish, Kinross..

#### **Approved**

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

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

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

#### Keltybridge

It was noted that the conditions of planning consent for Numbers 29 and 31 Keltybridge have not yet been fulfilled. Specifically in relation to the restoration and re-wilding of the area of land to the north of 31 Keltybridge where a condition was included in the planning consent.

The CC agreed to again write to PKC Planning Enforcement to request that they investigate why the developer has not complied with the conditions in the planning consent.

#### **Windfarm Related**

It became apparent at the CC meeting that many of the discussions around the impact of the proposed windfarms have not included details on how these windfarms will be connected to the National Grid to enable them to export the power to be generated. The CC will monitor this and share any information which is available regarding proposed routes of any interconnection power lines.

#### **Tree Felling at Nivingston House**

A number of residents of Cleish area have raised concerns to the CC about the amount of tree felling which has been occurring at Nivingston House. The CC agreed to raise these concerns with PKC, and to investigate any appropriate action given the significance of this building within the landscape, the proximity to a conservation area.

#### **Planning Enforcement**

Several concerns were raised in relation to the enforcement of planning decisions, and in particular the lack of enforcement of the planning violations at Blairforge which appears to be leading to the unconstrained growth of a settlement where there are increasing numbers of structures without planning consent.

In addition, concerns were raised about the perceived lack of equal treatment of residents by P&K Planning Enforcement. The commonly held view being that Planning Enforcement discriminate against lawful settlements by aggressively pursuing 'soft' targets for planning violations while allowing more 'difficult' cases like Blairforge to go unchallenged. Such an approach makes a mockery of the planning process in Perth and Kinross where individuals are apparently able to ignore planning regulations with impunity.

Cllr W Robertson has referred the P&K Planning Enforcement Service to the Council's Scrutiny Committee.

#### **Local Place Plan**

As noted in previous CC meetings, 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.

The Cleish and Blairadam CC plan to canvass 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

#### **Village Updates**

#### Cleich

Concerns were raised about the condition of the road at the junction of the B996 & B9097 where the kerbs at the edge of the road are displaced, and the white line Give Way markings at the junction are almost completely missing, making it very difficult for traffic to judge where the Give Way line is in darkness.

There is an on-going problem in relation to the lack of visibility at the motorway exits at Junction 5 of the M90 as these meet the B9097. The construction of the pedestrian fencing on the motorway overpass obscures any traffic approaching from the right on both the southbound and northbound exits from the M90. This means that traffic at these exit junctions needs to edge out into the B9097 to be able to see approaching traffic from the right, and as a result there have been several near misses at these junctions.

A question was raised about the future of the carpark in Cleish, as this is a vital resource for the village, however it is owned by Cleish church which is expected to be part of a sales process in early course. The CC will contact the Church of Scotland to ensure that the community's interest in the car park is known and considered in any disposal of the church and associated land.

#### Keltybridge

Keltybridge is seeing continued problems with vehicles parking on the pavements and causing a safety concern where pedestrians (particularly those with prams or baby buggies) are being forced onto the road because the pavement is obstructed.

This problem is particularly concerning in relation to access to the Tabernacle Hall driveway, as this is where the village's defibrillator is located, and vehicles parked on the opposite side of the road can inhibit vehicular access to the Tabernacle Hall.

Cllr Robertson suggested that the CC investigates the possibility of having double yellow lines added to parts of the road through Keltybridge to help prevent this dangerous and inconsiderate parking.

After 22 years of service Margaret Traylor announced her intention to step down from the Community Council and was warmly thanked for her dedicated service to the community over the years!

The CC will look at co-opting a new member to take on the role of Treasurer.

#### **Wind Farm Community Benefits Survey Results**

There are good examples from around Scotland where groups of CCs have come together to collaborate and to negotiate a better deal for the community, and the Cleish & Blairadam CC would like to explore this option.

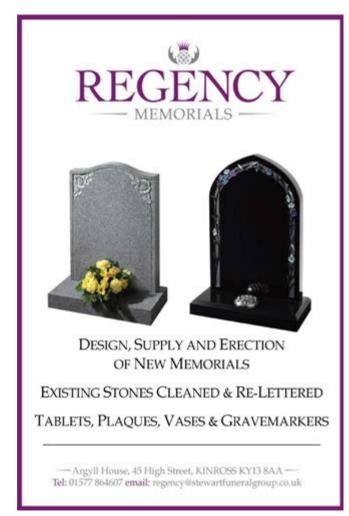
The CC recently surveyed all the households in the Cleish & Blairadam area to determine the local resident's attitudes to wind power in general, and to seek their agreement to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to allow the CC to collaborate with adjacent community councils to maximise the community benefit from any nearby wind farm developments.

Of those residents who responded, the overwhelming majority was in favour of the CC signing the MoU and pursuing the opportunity to cooperate with the nearby CCs, so it was agreed to sign the MoU.

As this collaboration proceeds the CC will continue to give the local residents the ability to feedback before any significant decisions are made.

The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam CC will be on Monday 8 July at 7.30pm in The Village Hall in Cleish.









# **Clubs & Community Groups**



# Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation



www.kleo.org.uk

#### Kinross Kacophony Orchestra Performance

Come and listen to the Kinross Kacophony Orchestra on Wednesday 19 June, 8pm at Loch Leven Community Campus! We are having a concert showcasing five or six pieces we have been working on with conductor Dougie Flower over the past few months, and we would like to perform them for you before the summer break. Entry is free!

The Kacophony orchestra is an orchestra for adults who like to play their instruments in a group. All abilities welcome but it is handy if you read music. Please don't worry if you haven't played for a while, we are a very friendly and informal bunch. Sessions take place on Wednesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. The fee is £5 per session.

#### Leven Voices at 'Summer Serenade At 6'

Leven Voices will sing a few songs at a special charity concert in aid of Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP) on Saturday 22 June, 6pm at Loch Leven Campus. This will be a joint concert with the fabulous Capital Concert Band. Come along for a wonderful event and support this special charity! Tickets are £10 from www.eventbrite. com or in cash from Baillies or Morgans Estate Agents in Kinross.

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

#### Kinross Farmers' Market

The next Farmers' Market is on Saturday 22 June from 10am-2pm on the High Street of Kinross. The market is a great place to buy high quality, fresh food from local producers and artisan traders and to shop at the High Street's established businesses. Markets are on every fourth Saturday of the month until October (no market in July).

#### **Kinross Summer Market**

There is no Farmers' Market in July but KLEO will organise a bigger market at the Market Park on Saturday 25 August from 10am-3pm. It will be a community event to celebrate summer with a great variety of food, drink and craft stalls and hopefully some great entertainment too from local musicians! If you would like to book a stall at this market please email 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 £35 or £20 for community groups and charities.

The 28 September and 26 October markets will be back on the High Street again. The Festive Street market is on Saturday 23 November.



#### Barbara Dickson Concert and Flamenco Show

The headline act for this year's Kinross-shire's Winter Festival is Barbara Dickson who will be doing a concert with Nick Holland on Friday 29 November, 8pm at Loch Leven Campus. They will be supported by Irish singer songwriter Anthony Toner. Tickets are £25.

The Daniel Martinez Flamenco Complany will do a fabulous show on Friday 8 November, 8pm at the Campus. Tickets are £20.

Tickets for the Barbara Dickson concert and the Flamenco show are available at Morgans Estate Agent's in Kinross or Light Up My Heart in Milnathort or you can purchase tickets online at <a href="https://www.kleo.org.uk">www.kleo.org.uk</a>

There is an acoustic open mic evening for anyone who would like to play a couple of songs in a live situation. This takes place every third Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm to 9pm in the lounge of the Green Hotel. Text Nigel on 07758 559187.

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

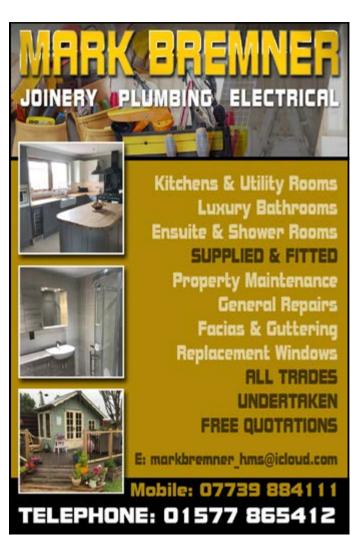
## WHAT TO DO WHEN BITTEN

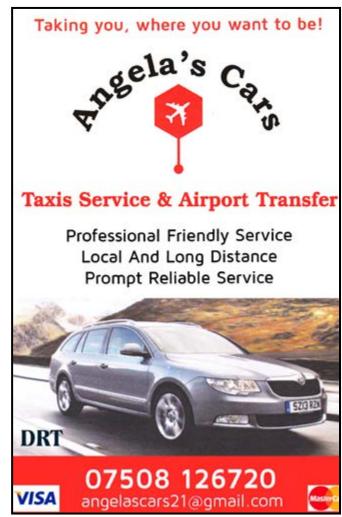
- Never use oil, a match, vaseline, or any other unsuitable products. This will irritate the tick and cause it to regurgitate bacteria into the wound.
- ✓ Ideally, use a tick remover tool. These are designed to avoid squashing the tick's body.
- Alternatively, use fine-nosed tweezers. Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible. Pull gently and firmly upwards. Do not twist or jerk.
- After removal, wash the skin and hands thoroughly with soap and water.
- Check your whole body for any other ticks. Monitor symptoms, which could be delayed.
- If you have any difficulty removing the tick, contact your pharmacist or GP surgery for advice. If out of hours contact 111.













#### **Kinross-shire Civic Trust**

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



www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org Facebook.com/KinCivicTrust

Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com

#### **Annual General Meeting**

At the Trust's AGM on 24 April, Chairman Alistair Smith gave an overview of the Trust's activities, and a report for the Awards committee in particular.

#### **Awards**

Over the years the Awards Committee has covered three schemes: the Best Kept Village (also renamed Well Kept County) Competition, the Architectural Awards and the Environmental Awards.

The Best Kept Village Competition was started by Sir Robert Stewart over 50 years ago and his idea was to bring the communities together and have a pride in their villages. The villages and hamlets have altered and expanded over the years and the focus for many of them has altered into Best in Bloom. We have decided to stop the Best Kept Village Awards. Instead, we intend to approach the Primary Schools to encourage their environmental schemes.

We are looking for good architecture in Kinross-shire and will present the Architectural Award on an ad hoc basis.

#### Planning

Eileen Thomas gave the Planning report. In the year April 2023 to March 2024, there were 177 Kinross-shire planning applications, which is ten more than last year. We objected to 22 applications. Of these, six were approved, five were refused, five were withdrawn and six are awaiting decisions. We made general comments on five applications.

The report also included a status update regarding some of the more notable local applications of the last year.

#### Raingardens Trail

Andrew Flinn began a presentation on the Trust's Raingardens project by giving a summary of the main achievements of the last two years. This included the improvements at the Kinross Park & Ride and work at the the wetlands at Junction Road to improve waterflow and biodiversity.

In the current year, the Trust has undertaken further improvements at the wetlands to promote an increase in the amphibian population. An existing pond was enlarged, a new pond dug and water margin plants introduced. This has been possible thanks to the Community Nature Fund from PKC.

Also this year, some new planting took place around the perimeter of the Park & Ride and some mixed hedging was provided as part of landscaping following the pavilion and car park extension at the King George V Playing Field.

#### The Trust at the Climate Café

Andrew also gave a presentation on the Raingardens Trail to the Kinross-shire Climate Café on 7 May.

# Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District



www.innerwheel.co.uk

All members have been saddened by the loss of one of our founder members, Betty Birrell, who passed away on 27 April. She will be greatly missed.

At our May meeting, members welcomed Rotarians and invited guests to hear our speaker Lucinda Russell OBE. It was a very interesting afternoon listening to an informative talk which covered many aspects of Lucinda's life including her appearance on Desert Island Discs.

She also gave us an insight on how Corach Rambler came to the



President Liz Pottie with May speaker Lucinda Russell OBE holding the Grand National Trophy and the Gold Cup.

stables, was trained and went on to win the Grand National in 2023

Later in the afternoon a discussion was held on disbursement of funds raised during the past year. Our district chairman's charity for this year is Multiple Sclerosis and funds raised at a December bridge afternoon have been allocated to MS.

Raffle monies raised at the bridge day held in April have been given to Kinross library to help support their various activities.

Our club president nominated the Injured Jockey Fund as her charity. We also allocated funds to the following charities; Shelter Box, Scottish Adult Mental Health and Dnipro Kids.

At each meeting we collect coins in a blue money box for Wateraid. This charity is supported each year by the club.

Anyone interested in joining Inner Wheel or who would like further information about the club, please contact Tricia Lucas by email at triciacciw@btinternet.com.

#### **Kinross Centre**

Well, the weather recently has certainly been warmer which has been lovely. Let us hope that the warm weather hangs around for a while to come.

As always, the centre has been busy with the usual activities including curling, dominoes, scrabble, jigsaws, crafting, and lots more. All service users are continuing to enjoy a three course, freshly cooked, meal.

On Monday 13 May, nine of our service users went to Ratho to enjoy the canal and a picnic lunch. We are so grateful to the Seagull Trust who run the barge trips.

We have also been enjoying the trips out and around the town with the trishaws and the weather has been on our side most of the time.

Just a reminder to everyone that we have the hearing clinic on the first Monday of every month. Also the P&K vision group is on the first and third Tuesday of every month.

#### The Harmony Project

See p11 for the pictures from the Harmony Project where our service users and pupils from Kinross primary school have been enjoying spending time together sharing their stories. We had a great time!

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.

# ALL CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD BE SUBMITTED BEFORE THE DEADLINE



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#### Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

#### Fairtrade in Baking

When you are next at the shops, please have a look and see if you could exchange your usual chocolate,

sugar, bananas, coffee or tea for a Fairtrade product. By making this choice you will be supporting farmers and producers all over the world and you will know that they have been paid a fair price, no child or slave labour has been used and that the farming methods have been as environmentally friendly as possible. The Fairtrade mark is independently verified so you can have confidence that you are buying an ethically sourced product.

## **Loch Leven Library**

www.culturepk.org.uk

Tel: 01577 867205.

Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.



Monday 10am-1pm\*
Tuesday 10am-7pm
Wednesday 10am-6pm
Thursday 10am-7pm
Friday 10am-6pm

Saturday 10am-1pm & 1-3pm\*

Sunday Closed

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

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

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

#### Summer Reading Challenge 2024

Each year the Summer Reading Challenge motivates over 700,000 children of all abilities to read for enjoyment over the summer holidays. It is aimed at primary aged children from those due to go to school in 2024 to those in their final year of primary.

The theme this year is Marvellous Makers! and children can sign up from Saturday, 22 June 2024 at the library.

#### Interested in writing?

The next Creative Writing Group sessions will be on **Wednesday 5 June** from 7pm to 9pm. Please contact the library if you would like more information.

# D-Day 80th Anniversary: The Battle For Normandy Thursday 6 June 7pm to 8pm

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 northwest Europe from Nazi occupation.

Now the whole of the Western world will be awash with features, programmes and TV shots of what happened 80 years ago in June. Following his talk on the logistics and preparations leading up to D-Day, retired soldier Andy Middlemiss will deliver his second talk discussing the actual landings and the tough battle for Normandy that followed.

Tickets are £10 and can be booked in person at the library.

#### Making Marks On Paper

#### 5pm-6.30pm on 9, 16 July and 6, 13, 20 and 27 August

Loch Leven Community Library is proud to host a summer series of Guided Drawing visual art workshops with Comrie artist, Liz Kemp in



July and August. Participants will be invited to try a range of different drawing materials and techniques to make a set of drawings, both individual and collective, thematically inspired by listening to selected writings and texts from the library collection. This is a fun and engaging workshop that draws upon the mind's eye to create distinctive images in response to the written word and encourages people to discover and develop the core skills of creative art: perception, observation and imagination."

These workshops are suitable for all levels of experience and skill. Participants will benefit by attending all six classes.

Workshop is free. Please donate if you can. Tickets will be available on the Culture Perth and Kinross website from early June.

**Saturday 22 June: 10.30am—12.30pm** Jimmy Williamson will entertain and amaze with, not just his stories and songs but will be sharing his skills in basket weaving and wood flower making.

Jimmy Williamson is a storyteller, musician, and the last of the traditional basket weavers. As the son of the famous Traveller storyteller, Duncan Williamson, he carries stories, passed down through oral tradition, to regale young and old.

Drop in – no booking required. Suitable for all ages

#### HiVis Fortnight 1 - 14 June 2024

The availability of alternative formats and cultural engagement through libraries is critical to ensuring that over 2 million people in the UK who are blind, or who have sight loss or anything that stops them from using standard print, can access, enjoy and share a diverse range of reading and experiences. HiVis Fortnight seeks each year to focus on the importance of accessible libraries and reading; and encourages local and national services to raise the profile of provision, collections and engagement in this area.

#### Thursday 6 June / 10am-12.30pm

Join VisionPK at our free drop-in library session for HiVis Fortnight. VisionPK will be on hand at the library to tell you more about their services and how they can assist you. VisionPK offers a range of services to people living in Perth & Kinross, including information and guidance to families, friends, and professionals. They also provide sensory awareness sessions and volunteering opportunities.

#### Tuesday 11 June / 10.30am-2.30pm

Join the Macular Society at the library during HiVis Fortnight 2024 to learn how they support people with macular conditions. They offer free information and support to those with macular disease, their family, and friends.

#### Activities in your Library

#### Knit, Crochet and Natter

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

#### IT support sessions

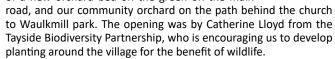
Are you struggling to make sense of the digital world? Would you like to learn more about your tablet, phone, laptop or any digital device?

#### Clubs & Community Groups

Why not pop into our IT support sessions for one-to-one support? You could learn how to send emails, download apps, and surf the internet – topics covered would be specific to your needs. By taking the first step and booking a 45-minute, face-to-face session it might just make a huge difference to your life. The sessions are monthly at Loch Leven Community Library, anyone interested in attending a session can book their time slot by phoning the library.

# Crook and Drum Growing Together

Our highlight in May has been the official opening of a new orchard bed on the green on the main



The community orchard has a mixture of fruit trees, with grasses, wildflowers and native bulbs. Some of the trees will hopefully bear fruit this year, which can be picked by anyone when they are ripe in the autumn. We have a lovely new interpretation board there explaining about the planting and with a QR code for more information about bees and other pollinators. Thanks to our volunteer Luke for the design of the board, and thanks to the Fossoway Community Benefit Fund for financial help.

We were granted some trees with golden fruits from the Tree Council; some are planted in the wildflower area at West Crook Way, with four plums and gages in a new bed on the Green. This is also planted with some perennial plants donated by PKC to be nature friendly.

We are also growing on some plants from seed and plugs for the planters around Crook and Drum for the summer, many of which have good flowers for bees. PKC have had to reduce their funding for Bloom groups this year, but we feel in a fortunate position that we grow many of our own plants and hold fundraising events. We are grateful to people who bought plants at the tea session in the Church Hall after the orchard opening, which will help to support our ongoing activities. Thanks too to the volunteers for some lovely baking for this enjoyable event.

We are usually fortunate to have local people to look after one or two of the planters near them over the summer, watering and removing dead flower heads to keep them thriving. If you could help with this, please let me know.

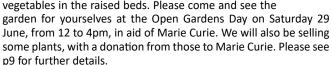
Catherine Lloyd revealing the new board at the community orchard



You can follow our activities on our Facebook Page and the Fossoway Forum, and new volunteers to help in any way are always welcome. For enquiries contact Amanda James on 07963 476803 or by email at Amandajames1577@gmail.com.

## Kinross Potager Garden

The growing season is now well underway, and we have lots of flowers for the bees, and are planting out young vegetables in the raised beds. Please come and see the



Ten pupils from the Eco group at the Primary School came to the garden and planted potatoes and onions, and some flower seeds to be grown on for sale at their school fair on 15 June. They also took some young vegetable plants back to school to grow at the allotment there

We also have a visit planned from the Leven class at the High School to start learning about growing their own vegetables.

We have recently shared our experiences of community gardening with several visitors from other garden projects, the Forth Rivers Trust, and the Social Prescriber from the health centre; we appreciate their positive feedback on our educational role and are aiming for a good experience for the volunteers of all abilities and experience.

Volunteer sessions are on Monday mornings from 10.30 to 12.30. Anyone is welcome to call in for a chat, or join some activity then. The garden is open on school days from 9am-3pm over the coming weeks. Thanks to Zoe and her family for enabling this.

You can follow us on our Facebook page. Any enquiries to Amanda James on 07963 476803 or by email at *amandajames1577@gmail.com*.

## **Common Grounds**

www.spanglefish.com/ commongroundscharitycafe



The month of May has been a busy month, including some new visitors dropping in for a coffee and cake. We have also had some warmer weather which is very welcome indeed.

Our chosen charity for the month is the Ruvuma Development Aid, known as RUDA. This charity supports and builds a nursery, primary and secondary school for children in rural Tanzania. The project started 20 years ago, initiated by Louise Johnstone, an art professor from Dundee who spoke at our last charity lunch. The schools are providing a high standard of education as well as providing accommodation for the teachers.

Work in the gardens provides vegetables and maize to feed the children, giving them a nutritious meal each day. Louise herself tries to visit twice a year and raises money from Art Auctions and students doing charity walks. The next project is to raise money for computers for senior students to help prepare them for further education.

We hope to see old and new friends in the coming weeks; especially James, a valued volunteer who has been unable to attend these last few weeks and has been much missed.



## **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 4 June, Scone, Quarrymill and Coronation Road

Starting from Scone old church, this is a scenic walk through woodland, up some fairly steep steps into farmland with good views over Perth, along Milkboys Road and Coronation Road, then returning through wooded Scone Den.

#### Tuesday 18 June, South Kirkcaldy to Kinghorn via the coastal path

This is an 'out and return' walk along the coastal path from Seafield Beach at the south end of Kirkcaldy to Kinghorn, passing the 16th century Seafield Tower and keeping an eye out for wildflowers and seals. Lunch will be in Kinghorn and, from there, back to Kirkcaldy. Total distance is 4.2 miles.

For further details of where to meet us for Tuesday walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Susan Tester on 01786 834535.

#### Weekend Longer Walks

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

#### Saturday 8 June, Birks of Aberfeldy, 7.5 miles

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

The BB Juniors with their home made medals.



#### Saturday 6 July, Aberdour to Burntisland and return via Binn Hill, 8 miles

Starting out from Silver Sands beach in Aberdour we set out along the coastal path to Burntisland. The walk leads on along the beach, then through houses to the base of Binn Hill. We ascend the hill to experience views over the Forth and, from there, we return to the start through woodland.

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

## **Boys Brigade and Girls Association**



BB members have been busy preparing for their annual presentation evening which takes place on Friday 31 May. Award winners will be posted in next month's newsletter.

Our marquee season has started with a bang with a number of bookings already in the diary for this summer. Our 40 foot by 20 foot white marquee is available to hire for £200 per occasion. The traditional white tent is erected by our team and is only for use on grass. Get in touch with us if you wish to hire our marquee.

Anchors and Juniors have been working on a variety of themes over the past month with St George's Day, vegetable tasting session and the Olympic Games.





## **Kinross-shire Trishaws**



May has been a lovely month for trishaw rides. Our passengers have enjoyed trips along the loch path over

the newly widened bridge towards Burleigh as well as journeys along the old railway path from Auld Mart, through the beautiful Lethangie estate, and the Kinross estate via the golf course road. We have seen red squirrels, lambs, calves, spring flowers in abundance, and heard wonderful bird song. Suddenly, our rides are full of lush greenness and the air is growing balmy and warm. Our rides are full of chatter and laughter and we love hearing the stories our passengers tell us about their lives and experiences.

We have also put all of our three trishaws through their comprehensive annual service and replaced any parts and tyres that were becoming a little worn. We have trained 14 new pilots this year and have a lovely squad of friendly, welcoming people who are very keen to take anyone that cannot cycle or walk for themselves along our lovely network of paths and trails. Rides are free and open to anyone. You can book a ride by emailing <code>KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com</code>.

#### Kinross-shire Climate Café



At our climate cafe in May we met Andrew Flinn from Kinross-shire Civic Trust, who presented a very interesting talk about the origins and principles of Kinross Raingardens Trail. It started

in 2021/22 with the work at Kinross Park and Ride where a wild meadow was planted in the previously flooded area.

Currently the Kinross Raingardens Trail extends to the Church View wetland, the Clash Burn wetland and the raingarden at the South Queich catchment. Raingardens slow down drainage of rainfall to prevent flooding, overflow at the waste treatment plant and pollution in the loch. The water storage supports biodiversity by forming small wetland habitats for amphibians, birds and pollinators. For more details, please refer to Andrew Flinn's article in the March issue of the *Newsletter*.



We are now taking a holiday break over the summer but sessions will restart in September. The first autumn meeting with be an event called 'Every Tree Tells a Story'. It will take place at the pond garden and details will be revealed nearer the time.

We would like to thank Loch Leven Community Library for hosting our events this year and providing technical support for the speakers.

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

#### **Broke not Broken**



We hope you have all been enjoying these sunny days now they've finally arrived! We have been busy planning and prepping for our summer with six family away days all fully booked. We're looking forward to these trips away, giving local families the opportunity to explore new places and reducing food insecurity during the holidays.

Our other big project at this time of the year is our school uniform bank. We will be collecting donated school uniform and Loch Leven Laundry kindly wash it all for free. The Kinross Colts Football Club also kindly let us use their pavilion. We sort through everything, make into packs with a new school bag, and if we have funding,

we add a voucher and new white polos/shirts. This project is a self-referral project, so if your family would benefit from this please complete the referral form on our Facebook page or get in touch. If you would like to donate any old uniform please give it to your school if they are collecting near the end of term or drop it into our box in Sainsbury's.

We recently worked out 73% of families we support are not entitled to school clothing grants or free school meals and therefore holiday meal payments, due to strict criteria but are still in need of our support. We see increases in referrals for the foodbank through the holidays. If you would like to help us advocate for change, please write to your local MSP, or elected councillor to ask them what they are planning to do to support with school uniform and holiday food insecurity for those that do not qualify this year.

If you do have the means we would be grateful for any donation to our school uniform bank or the foodbank to help us cover these costs

Aside from all of this we have been busy as ever with our other projects. We supported 153 households last month within the foodbank. This is less than last year's record peak, thankfully, but still much higher than pre-covid levels. We have also been busy planning our Green Living Fund award. We plan to trial sending vouchers digitally to clients in crisis, to reduce food miles and speed up getting help to people faster.

Our parent and toddler group have enjoyed a trip to the ceramic café, and we had soft play come to us which was great fun! If you are a new or expecting mum, new to Kinross-shire and struggling to meet others please chat to your health visitor or midwife and they can help you get in touch and come along. Our women's group had great visits from Nicola from the Japanese gardens and Tracy from Cloverlea Apiaries — both fantastic local businesses and inspiring speakers who got us tasting honey, making paper cranes and learning about some fierce females.

Finally, we've got a BBQ planned for all of our fantastic volunteers at the start of June to say thank you for all their hard work and dedication. We are certainly more than the sum of our parts here at Broke Not Broken. Everyone brings something to the table and we couldn't do any of this work alone.

If you would be interested in volunteering, please contact volunteer@brokenotbroken.org for more information.

#### Kinnesswood in Bloom

We hope to see new village signs soon. Look out for them as you drive through the village.



We will see detailed plans and costings for the Michael Bruce Cottage Garden refurbishment

soon. Then, with support from Charlie Hardman from Take a Pride in Perthshire, we will start fundraising in earnest. There are already contributions from the *Newsletter* fund, Michael Bruce fund and TAPIP to start the project.

Residents will have received (or be about to receive) the Friends of KIB card through their door. If anyone is missed out, the cards will be available in the shop. This is one of our biggest sources of funding, especially welcome when our funding from PKC has been reduced by 80% this year. Thank you to Carol and Gordon for producing such a colourful card which is less likely to be forgotten.

Most of the Saturday work parties in May have gone ahead, despite rainy days. Anyone in the area is welcome to come and join us. We find it a very sociable occasion with much laughter, and we do manage to do a bit of cutting back, planting and weeding as well.

Tuesday afternoon sessions at the school are continuing. We are keeping a diary and noting planting dates this year as well as introducing growing related words. All the children have learned about what makes good compost and have been involved in planting seeds, planting out seedlings and watering. Norma continues to help Kay Baird with the after-school gardening club.

KIB, in conjunction with the school, have been asked to take part in a filming project to promote food growing throughout Perth and Kinross schools. There will also be a little booklet to share some of our experiences both with fundraising and growing projects.

Next month we will tell you about another exciting film project which takes place at the end of June.

John represented us at the local Biodiversity event and put our wildflower patches on their map.

Look out for our little figures which will be out in the village in time for the Portmoak Festival. In line with one of the Beautiful Scotland themes of cakes, you will find Mary Berry and the Mad Hatter's Tea Party in the Main Street. There will be a Teddy Bear's picnic near the school and various characters holding knitted and crocheted cakes throughout the village. We hope they bring a smile to your face.

We have just heard that our judging date for Beautiful Scotland is 31 July.





# **Beautiful Hearth Warming Stoves**



Turfhills, Kinross, KY13 0NQ t 01577 861440 e info@kinrossstovecentre.co.uk

www.kinrossstovecentre.co.uk

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A skilled and experienced Craftsman

Full kitchen design and installation

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## **Kinross Squirrels**

The squirrels had a great first night back following the Easter break as they finished off working on their Digital Citizen Stage 1 badge. They were learning about how to make a password and also watched and attempted a Cosmic Kids Space workout video from YouTube.

The following week it was all about aeroplanes as they finished off their Air Activities Stage 1 badge. They were designing their own aeroplanes and we got lots of brilliant designs. They were also playing an aeroplane game in the garden. They had to pretend to be aeroplanes, listening to instructions such as take-off, circle, fuel, land etc. as they had to fly passengers to a variety of different destinations around the world. The final activity the squirrels completed was using code to work out what the words were and they also attempted to write their own names using the code. Everyone had a great time.

On 3 May we took advantage of the lovely sunny weather by meeting at Burleigh Sands. The squirrels were working on their All Around Us Challenge badge and Explore Outdoors Activity badge as they took part in a scavenger hunt. They had a great time in their groups searching for the items on their lists. Thank you to our parent helpers for your support.

We were back at the hall for our next meeting working on our Let it Grow Activity badge. The squirrels were decorating plant pots before planting cress seeds in them. They were also learning about different fruit and vegetables. At the end of the meeting, we were



delighted to present the squirrels with the badges they achieved last term.

Congratulations to Lillian who was awarded the Chief Scout's Acorn Award which is the highest award in the squirrel section. Bravo!

At the end of the meeting we said goodbye to Ben, Lillian, Violet and Isobel who are all moving on to beavers. Good luck for the next stage of your scouting journey.

Are you interested in helping at Squirrels? Volunteering gives you career-boosting skills, improves your wellbeing, and helps you make connections with friends, family and your local community. If you

are interested, please email us at kinrosssquirrels@

outlook.com for more information.



We had a great first night back following the Easter break in mid-April as the cubs followed up their visit to the RNLI at South Queensferry last term by learning about water safety. They went over the Code of Conduct and played lots of games.

The following week the cubs were out exploring as they completed a nature walk from Burleigh Sands to Kinross Rugby Club. It was a lovely sunny spring evening and they had a great time as they saw a variety of animals such as geese as well as collecting feathers and lots of pine cones! The cubs also saw tractors working in the fields sowing the spring crops. When we got to the Rugby Club there was time for games as well.

As we moved into May the cubs continued to take advantage of the lighter evenings as they took part in



#### Clubs & Community Groups





a scavenger hunt around Kinross. They were split into groups and each group started at a different location. The cubs then had to find a piece of paper which gave them a clue to tell them where the next location they had to walk to was. They visited a variety of places including the Boathouse Pier, Kinross Tennis Club, Swansacre Monument and the Fire Station. Thank you to our young leaders for organising.

On 8 May the cubs were back at the Millbridge Hall as they completed their Gardener's badge. They were planting sunflower and lettuce seeds, learned about the different seasons and the tools that are used in the garden. The cubs also discussed different insects found in gardens and what was good and bad about them. At the end of the meeting we presented the badges the cubs had achieved last term; there were just over 300 badges presented! Well done to all for their hard work.

Congratulations to Innes, Edward and Harris who were presented with their Chief Scouts Silver Award which is the highest award in the cub section. Bravo!

This term we have also said goodbye to Harris, Atholl and Innes who are all moving on to Scouts. Good luck for the next stage of your scouting journey.

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

#### **Kinross Beavers**

As we returned from the Easter holidays, we kicked off the first night of the summer term with lots of games, which the beavers loved. We also reminded everyone of the Code of Conduct; to treat each other with respect and kindness, and we also talked about mountain safety. That is something to be mindful of as we look to other activities later in the term. It was so nice to welcome everyone back, along with our new starts, and we all had a great first night back.

We went to Kirkgate Park the following week to allow the beavers to do their navigation badge (are you sensing a theme?). We navigated around the park using a map to identify key points and also played loads of games. There was some brilliant map reading done so well done to all the beavers.

On 3 May it was off to Lochore Meadows. It was a lovely early summer's evening, and the beavers used their map reading skills very effectively to successfully complete orienteering around the trails of the park. We also played lots of games.

We focused on health and fitness during the next week, playing lots of games and participating in lessons on health. Well done to all. Congratulations also to Lachlan, Matthew and Jacob who were presented with their Chief Scout's Bronze Award. Bravo!

We also said goodbye to Matthew, Jacob, Callum and Lachlan as they up to Cubs. Good luck with the next stage of your scouting journey.

This term we have also said goodbye to Tommy and Bernard who are both moving on after spending the last couple of years with the colony. All the best for the future boys!

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

## Kinross (Marshall) Museum

On 8 May, Jeremy Squire of NatureScot and David Munro, Chairman of Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust,

led a walk from the Watch Tower in the Kirkgate Park to Mary's Gate, the aim being

to find examples of the rare and delicate Holy Grass (*Hierochloe odorata*) which was first seen here in 1972. Previously found in only ten other localities in Britain, it may have been brought here by wildfowl.

Also in May, Museum Volunteers held their annual reporting on the many and varied projects being researched, including weather reports from the 1880s, dated



Holy grass

lintel stones on buildings in Kinross and the continuing cataloguing of items donated to the museum. A recent example is a fine horse brass originally made for 'J Barclay Saddler Milnathort'. With other

brasses, it would have adorned a horse entered for competition at the Kinross Show. John Barclay, Saddler & Harness Maker, was in business in the 1860s.

Our current exhibition on 'Country Life in Kinross-shire' can be seen during Library opening hours, and work is beginning on the next planned exhibition 'Women of Kinross-shire'. If you have any suggestions for this, or other projects, please call into the museum study room, which is open on Thursdays from 10am to 7pm and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm.



A fine nineteenth-century horse brass recently donated



The weather was no barrier to the helicopter boys.

# Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

www.krmfc.com

There has been a great deal going on at the club in the last month.

The Scottish Rocketry Challenge event took place on Tuesday 23 April and was met with excellent weather and a great turnout. The goal of the competition was to see how high a rocket could be launched and then still return it to ground, all the time carrying an egg! The UK national final is at Buckminster on 27 June and the international final is at Farnborough Airshow on the 25–26 July 2024. Teams including France, USA and Japan will be at the international finals. If you are interested in finding out more about it visit <a href="https://www.ukroc.com/">https://www.ukroc.com/</a>.

The club is delighted to be playing a small part in encouraging secondary school pupils to take an interest in STEM subjects and would encourage any local schools to contact us if they are interested in learning more about aeromodelling.

The club also had a maintenance weekend on 11–12 May when a large number of members turned out to help with giving the flying site a spring clean. A great deal was achieved; the club hut was painted, a new pilot box built, helicopter bench repaired and painted, model stands painted, and grass cut and strimmed.

We are hoping to have an open day in August and planning is already underway to consider the best flying events to feature. The seaplane event is also planned to take place on Loch Leven on 24-25 August.

All the while the flying at the club has been continuing with a great selection of helicopters, fixed wing and gyrocopters all being put through their paces, whatever the weather!

If you want to see what we are up to, visit our Facebook page @ kinrossradiomodelflyingclub. If you are interested in joining the club, please use the contact form on our website.

# Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk

Biodiversity. It's not a great word but we like what it stands for. The *Guardian* has told its journalists to use 'wildlife' instead. But that doesn't tell the whole story; for example, it doesn't include habitat. We spent an excellent couple of hours



looking at the big picture, the potential for expanding habitat and wildlife, at a biodiversity mapping session in Portmoak Village Hall on 28 April.

We poured over giant maps of the parish to try to identify places which could be improved; for example, filling gaps in hedgerows where birds, like swifts, or mammals, like hedgehogs, could be encouraged to return. Many people remember when they were a common sight round here but not any more.

We were pleased to help out with the event which was run by Catherine Lloyd, Co-ordinator of the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership. A total of 16 people attended, either representing other groups or with a personal interest. Catherine hopes that we will become official 'biodiversity villages'. There will be more sessions to come and there is funding available, in this financial year, to help bring our ideas to fruition.

Two immediate events at the Portmoak Festival are now included in the Tayside Biodiversity Festival calendar. They are the (free) bird song walks being led by expert, Scott Paterson, starting at the entrance to Portmoak Moss at 8am on Sunday 2 June (families welcome)

and 8am Wednesday 5 June. The contact is Stuart Garvie on 07788142909.

Once again, the Moss is attracting a lot of interest for the bog restoration project we have been working on with owners, Woodland Trust Scotland. We were very pleased to welcome Dr Emma Hinchliffe, Director of the UK Peatland Programme of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Emma spent a morning with us and was very positive about the work we have been doing to remove birch and conifer saplings, and to raise the water table. She said, 'There are really encouraging signals from the centre of the Moss outwards. The dying heather suggests it's getting wet enough and there are lots of other signs, typical of wetlands, like craneflies laying their eggs in the sphagnum moss in the ditches.'

She (and we) also recognise the extra work that needs to be done and it is worth reading the Woodland Trust's latest 5 year plan for the site which contains some very interesting proposals for what could be done, assuming government funding is available. It is out for consultation until 10 June and that means everyone here has a say. You can read the draft by visiting their website and scrolling down to the end of the Moss section. Go to <a href="https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visitingwoods/woods/portmoak-moss/">www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/visitingwoods/woods/portmoak-moss/</a>.

All this, and more, comes up for discussion at our regular meetings which take place every third Tuesday of the month at The Well Inn, Scotlandwell. Everyone is welcome.



## **Kinross in Bloom**

We hosted a meeting on 7 May featuring Clara Schade Paulson from the Forth Rivers Trust as the main speaker. Clara is at the start of a project aimed at meeting with local groups to make them become more economically resilient and more able to further environmental aims. Representatives from the Civic Trust Rainwater Group and Kinross Climate Café came along and it was an excellent opportunity to hear about the ongoing work of the individual groups. A follow up meeting is planned for September.

At the May planning meeting, members reflected on the recent news that Perth and Kinross Council is cutting their grant to the group by 80%. This means that a lot of future planning will concentrate on the types of planting and the best locations for enhanced planting. Logically there will need to be less areas of planting, but counter to this, the aim of planting at key points should be the main focus.

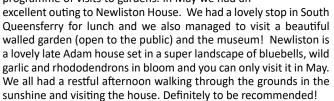
#### Clubs & Community Groups

In the meantime, the summer plants are thriving in the polytunnel and summer planting is on target for early June. Members agreed to survey various areas of planters to assess their condition and location, reporting back in June. In addition, a subgroup was set up to provide plans for filling hanging baskets and another group is looking at forward planning for sustainable planting.

Kinross in Bloom is a friendly, forward-thinking group. Anyone who wants to help us plan and move forward over the next five years will be made very welcome at our meetings which take place at 7pm on the first Wednesday of the month in the Church Centre on High Street. Green thoughts are needed, but not necessarily green fingers!

## Kinross Garden Group

We are very pleased to have started our summer programme of visits to gardens. In May we had an



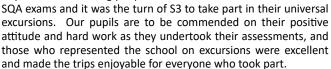
The next visit will be on Thursday 13 June when we head to the Explorers Garden at Pitlochry. We will have lunch in the town. The bus will start from Milnathort at 10am. Members can pay for this trip by dropping off a cheque or cash for £26 (made out to Kinross Community Garden Group) to Ann Walker as soon as possible. Alternatively, members can pay online. Details are provided on the information sheet.

The visit after this will be will be to Stobshiel garden near Humbie on Thursday 11 July with payment due by 27 June.

There are a few spaces left for both of these trips. For more details about the outing programme and membership of the Kinross Garden Group contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589.

## **Kinross High School**

Term 4 is a key time for all young people at Kinross High School as everyone takes the next steps in their learning journey or moves on to their destination beyond school. Young people in S4-6 undertook their



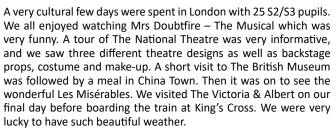
The school timetable changed on 20 May, with all young people moving on to their next steps in learning and embracing the challenges ahead.

#### Farewell To S6

The S6s had a fabulous day in Tentsmuir to celebrate their last day of school before the exams. There were beach activities galore, fudge doughnuts from Fisher & Donaldson and ice cream from Janetta's of St Andrews. There was even some blue sky!

#### Trips

We have had some fantastic trips over the last few weeks with pupils heading off to Alton Towers, some to London and some to Paris!



Thirty five S3s (and three staff) had an action-packed overnight trip to Alton Towers. The sun shone, the queues were short and everyone made the most of all that was on offer. Some brave souls even managed the thrill rides! Tired but happy faces greeted parents when we returned – thank you to everyone that took part.

Well done to the all 80 S3 pupils who participated in the Paris trip – you were an excellent group of young people to take away and you made the trip enjoyable for the staff involved.

#### **Duke of Edinburgh**

The expedition season is now well underway with our participants putting their weekly classroom-based training into action on their day walks in March, and our Bronze Training Expedition last weekend. Despite being a little chilly, the weather has been kind and everyone had a great time! Many thanks to our amazing volunteers who make it all possible.

We are looking forward to the Bronze Assessment Expedition in the foothills of Beinn a Ghlo in late May and the Gold Training Expedition in the Cairngorms in June and of course our annual traipse across Scotland with the Gold Assessment in early September.

Recruitment for next year's Bronzes will be open to S3 pupils in late September! Please get in touch with Mrs Morran if you want to join our team of volunteers. It's great fun and very rewarding.

#### **Hamilton Trip**

Pupils attended a performance of Hamilton at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh. They got to see the professional production and a presentation at the end from the cast and creatives about how the show was put together, including demonstrations of equipment and how sound and lighting cues work.

#### S1-3 Geography Club Triumph

Mrs Chadwick is thrilled to announce that the S1-3 Geography Club has won the Tayside & Central North Regional Heat. The team will advance to the National Heats at Dollar Academy on 12 June.

Their journey included challenging rounds at the Local and Regional Heats such as: Ordnance Survey map skills, the Tundra Biome, observation rounds, identifying the world's highest capitals, Earth Forces crosswords, and current geographical news. In the Regional Final, they were tested on the Geography of South Africa, a rapid-fire One Minute Round, identifying Scottish Councils, and the high-stakes 'Who Dares Wins' round.

Their outstanding performance reflects their dedication and passion for geography. We wish them the best of luck at the National Heats!

#### Perth Festival Of The Arts Concert

Pupils performed in St John's Kirk Perth as part of the Festival of the Arts at the end of May. Well done to all our performers!





#### Flying High

Dr Oates' S3 Physics class enjoyed flying in clear blue skies over Glenrothes. Fliers had hands-on control of GO-ASK. Thanks again to Aerospace Kinross and ASSET!

#### I Read For... Project

We achieved a £3,700 grant for a project focused on anti-racism, diversity, and racial equality. We worked with our library to read two novels, discuss the themes, attend author talks, participate in workshops with visiting guests and create a video, learning all-important digital skills. This project was supported by the Scottish Government School Library Improvement Fund (SLIF). Dana Neumannova from the Scottish Library and Information Council said, 'It was wonderful to read pupils' and parents' reflections on the project and the difference it made. The video was also brilliant. You've done really astounding work!'

#### **Pupil Support Faculty**

Kinross Pupil Support are delighted to receive the Learning through Landscapes Nature Grant worth £650! They will be getting new Climate and Weather curriculum kits, Outdoor Learning Kits as well as two benches for their outdoor space and Membership to Learning through Landscapes to support future fundraising and training on outdoor learning.

#### Our School Show, Seussical

We are currently rehearsing for our school show Seussical which will be performed in the school Assembly Hall at 7pm on 11, 12 and 14 June. Tickets are available on the school shop which you can access

by using the QR code here, or by visiting the school shop. You can find the link to it at our website under Quick Links at www.kinrosshigh.org.uk

Tickets are priced as follows:

Tues 11 June £8
Wed 12 June £10
Fri 14 June £12







# Kinross High School Parent Council

Linktree: linktr.ee/kinrosshsparentcouncil

Find us on Facebook

With the announcement of this year's funding awards, the April meeting of the Parent Council was a fantastic celebration. Over £10,000 was committed to 12 great initiatives which will enhance the experience of our young people at Kinross High School.

The Parent Council has worked hard to make sure the application process was inclusive and would deliver long term, sustainable benefit. As a result, it was pleasing to see that the work was rewarded with applications from a wide range of school departments from teachers, pupils and leaders of many of the extracurricular activities at the school, including the PE department, the Expressive Arts faculty, the Science department, the English department and the Science Club, a founding after school climbing club, the Debating Society, the S6 Leavers Prom and the School's Duke of Edinburgh Scheme.

Full details of the successful bids have been reported with the minutes of the meeting, but as a quick flavour, investments were made in sport at the school (including athletics, volleyball and netball), improving the debating society, new climbing wall

equipment, new science kit, author visits to promote reading for pleasure and a new tent to keep the expedition volunteer leaders warm and dry while out on the hills!

Three of the local PKC Cllrs were in attendance at the meeting to help celebrate this significant investment in the school. Euan Pirie, Chair of the Parent Council said,

'It's hugely rewarding to see this money being spent to benefit our young people at the High School. I want to thank everyone who made this happen – from those who applied and, of course, parents and previous Parent Council office bearers who raised this money. Seeing the benefit this spend will generate is a fantastic motivation to support future fundraising efforts'.

# Kinross & District Town Twinning Association

Members are busy preparing for a special Bastille Day celebration on Sunday 14 July to celebrate 50 years of twinning with our Normandy twin town of Gacé.



Perth & Kinross Council Provost, Zander McDade, has given his support to the Bastille Day concept in the hope that other twin towns linked to French towns in the region can carry on this tradition on a rotational basis in subsequent years.

An open petanque competition is planned for the two courts at the campus, as well as having a 'waiters race' like they do every year in Paris. Waiters must wear a white shirt, waistcoat (optional), apron and carry a tray with a plastic bottle of water, a plastic tumbler, and a croissant. We hope that our local hotels will participate but the race is open to anyone. We intend to start the race at Market Park and run off road by the golf course, finishing at the doctors surgery.

We are also planning a shop window competition. We are asking local shops to have a French theme for the week before and after the Bastille Day events. More details about the event will be available in next month's Newsletter.

## Milnathort Bridge Club

We are now well into our summer season and numbers are keeping up to give us a full house each week; well, perhaps not a full house but a full Orwell church hall!

The winter season ended with 10 tables participating in a party night which included a competition with aggregate scoring and a lovely supper which everyone enjoyed.

Prizes for the overall winners of the winter bridge season were as follows: The Jim Lawrie Cup for the best pair, Bob Robertson and Helen Todd; The Zandra Quaich for best individual, Bob Robertson; The Mary Baxter Salver for the best lady, Jean Bennet.

We are delighted to welcome two new members from Glenrothes, brothers Ian and Pat Cook.

Representing MBC at St Andrews are Janet Laird, Geoff Bilton and Colin and Gloria Wilson.

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

#### Results

Results	
North/South	East/West
29 April Jan Hill/David Poole	Liz Pottie/Jessie Mitchell
6 May Ian and Pat Cook	Beryl Harley/Jean Bennett
13 May Willie Young/Jane Smith	Bob Robertson/Helen Todd
20 May	

Ian and Pat Cook

## The Rotary Club of Kinross and District

Helen Todd/Bob Robertson

www.ribi.org

This month we have some inspiring speakers and it is always good to raise our awareness of what is going on in our community and beyond.

We had two speakers on 22 April. Stephen Blakey told us about the fascinating historical origins of 'The Priory of Scotland of the Order of St John'. This eventually led to the formation of the St John Ambulance Service and, in Scotland, the St Andrew Ambulance Service, where volunteers, supporters and members of the public deliver life-saving support to the public. Alison Milne outlined this work; core projects presently include Patient Transport, Community First Responders, Public Access Defibrillators and CPR Awareness.



She emphasised the vital necessity for us all to feel competent in delivering CPR and having the confidence to deploy a defibrillator.

Marg Meade, a great friend of the community, spoke to us about Marie Curie's recent expansion of its work beyond palliative care for terminally ill people with cancer. Their remit now includes other illnesses plus therapy before and after bereavement. They are actively recruiting and fundraising for these extra services. Marg has worked for Marie Curie as a nurse and now as a volunteer. At the moment, she is recruiting gardens for the open gardens tour of Kinross involving 12 lovely gardens on the weekend of 29-30 June.

Another active person on the opposite end of the scale is Lily Finch. Lily is an astounding 10 year old. She came with her mother Pamela and thrilled us all with her chat and a dramatic demonstration of Taekwondo. Lily is already a multiple medal winner. Her big problem is whether to specialise in Taewkondo or swimming because she is a champion in both. One way or other she has an amazing sporting future ahead of her.

#### **Future Events**

27 May	<b>Assembly</b> when our next president Robert Mitchell will lay out our plans for next year.
18 June	Jane Smith from CHAS
24 June	<b>Bernard Dunn</b> speaking to us about hospital radio.
22 June	<b>Serenade at Six.</b> Retiring President Jo Middlemiss is running a concert for the Ethiopia Medical Project (see p.57).

#### **Contact Us**

Meanwhile look out for us out and about in the community over the next weeks. Come and speak to us, find out what we do and maybe find a way that you can be involved. Or please contact *secretary.kdrc@gmail.com* if you would like any further information.

## Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

This month, Shirley Scott, one of our members, tells her story:-

'This community newsletter led me to KADAC via an email to club secretary Glenys who replied, 'It's a very friendly and welcoming club and usually we say to people interested in joining, just come along for a couple of sessions and see what we are all doing. Ask all the questions you want to and see if you think this is for you'. Thank-you Glenys, it has been.

For over 4 years I've been inspired by the wide variety of members' work from pencil and ink drawing in sketchbooks, coloured pencil and pastel pictures, to painting in watercolour, acrylics, oils, picture felting and other arty crafts. What's brilliant about KADAC is that everyone will take time to chat through what they're doing when you ask. Their



Sheena's Dalmation Artwork

enthusiasm shines through and their willingness to share experiences with different art materials is much appreciated by all.

My 'go to' materials are sketchbooks, pen and ink. I began with pencil as a teen, I'd sit in fields drawing trees. I then moved on to technical pens and ink drawing at college where I did a 2 year Art Technician course covering a variety of subjects including design, photography, reprographics, screen printing and technical drawing. I loved drawing with the very fine technical pens. Sadly, once I went on to work as a graphic designer within the marketing/advertising department of a large insurance company, I left drawing behind and focused on corporate design and finished artworks for print.

My return to ink drawing came just a couple of years before I joined KADAC. From that I went on to watercolour, with a couple of courses. I was fascinated by the textures and unpredictability of it. I could draw with ink over and under it too, a bonus. This all worked brilliantly for trees, I still love to draw them. Many sketchbook experiments have followed and will continue as I now explore the vibrancy and flat colour gouache can give. I'm exploring trees with this too!

Thank you all at KADAC, joining you with work for your yearly exhibition has taken me to subjects I would never have imagined trying, like the dog in the picture with this profile. I've gone out of my comfort zone and enjoyed challenging myself to do something different for it. Sometimes arty ideas work, sometimes they don't but I have had great fun trying out new things! I would definitely encourage others to take part in it too, it's a great experience.'

The Club meets on Tuesdays and Fridays but is currently on a summer break, opening again on Tuesday 20 August and Friday 23 August. The Annual Exhibition and sale of work will be held on 6-8 September in Cleish village hall.

### Kinross Camera Club

We have an exciting itinerary of locations to visit during the summer months. So far, we have had photography evening meet ups in Kinghorn, Kinclaven Bluebell Woods, Portmoak Moss, North Queensferry and Tentsmuir

Forest. All ability levels are welcome at our meet ups. A few of the evenings have been designed with beginner photographers in mind with a few more experienced members available to assist with learning about camera functions and creative techniques such as long exposure and ICM (Intentional Camera Movement).

If you have an interest in photography and would like to join us or if you would like to learn more about Kinross Camera Club and the planned activities and events please contact us by email at <code>secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk</code>.

Photographers of all abilities will be made very welcome. You can even come along to a few meetings before deciding if you would like to become a paid up member. Why not come along on to one of our summer evening meet ups to see if you enjoy it?

The featured images this month are macro and micro photographs expertly created by our member Francis Principe-Gillespie who has also kindly written a short description to give us an insight into his work:

'The difference between macro and micro can sometimes be a little difficult to quantify. As with so many instances in life a picture can speak a thousand words. So, to that end, here are some





### **Clubs & Community Groups**

examples. The first, a daffodil is at the lower end magnification and, arguably, borderline macro. The next the branch is a 1:2 macro that shows the emerging stigmas of Wych Elm flowers on a small branch and the third is a close up of the stigma with the female finger-like papillae that trap the pollen and the swollen male anthers before they release their pollen, definitely micro. These images were taken to assist the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh Scottish Plant Recovery project https://stories.rbge.org.uk/archives/38649.

Finally, a link to https://cleish.org/page7.html which shows a macro of a (sadly extinct in the 1840s) British butterfly Lycaena Dispar Dispar that you can zoom into any part of to view it at micro scale. This was made up of over 12,000 photographs and then assembled as a mosaic. There are many different techniques used in these images but, for microscopy, the biggest challenges are movement (both of the subject and the necessary movement of the camera) and lighting. The rest is patience and lots of time to process the hundreds, and often thousands, of images'.

### Kinross-shire Partnership Kinross-Shire Breakfast Meetings

A hearty breakfast and a healthy turnout for the latest Networking Breakfast meeting at Loch Leven's Larder. (There was a healthy option on the menu too). Sixteen local, self employed and business people shared their stories and of course listened to our inspirational guest speaker Justine Scott-Gray.

Our next meeting is Wednesday 5 June starting at 7.30am although people are welcome from 7.15am and we are finished by 8.30am but again people are welcome to stay on and network. Our guest speaker on 5 June is Jo Middlemiss who will be speaking about her charity 'Ethiopia Medical Practice' (EMP).

If you would like to join us please call or text Richard on 07999 510500. Everyone is welcome.









### **Carnbo SWI**

President Heather Dennis welcomed all members along with Jean Paterson and Jessica Munro from Milnathort SWI who acted as tellers at our AGM. A new committee was voted on.

Annual reports were given. The Daniel vase for most points in our monthly competition was won by Sheila Reid. The Paterson rose bowl was won by Cath Mearns for most points in the monthly 'flower of the month' competition and the Ann Bernard trophy was won by Josephine Paterson.

This was followed by a beetle drive organised by Grace Paterson. At the time of writing we are looking forward to our annual Macmillan walk. On 12 June we will go on our summer outing to Perth Museum followed by lunch. After tea Heather wished everyone a safe journey home.

Our next meeting is on 17 June at 7.15pm in Carnbo Hall. The RSPB will talk about birds and agriculture working in harmony. All welcome.

### Competitions

Flower of the Month: 1st June Brunton, 2nd Linda Band.

A Repurposed Cardboard Box: 1st Linda Band, 2nd Sheila Reid

### **Glenfarg SWI**



Above: Glenfarg SWI member Sylvia Wall hands over a cheque to Ian Lindsay and Libby Rodger from the SCAA. Below: Winning member Vivienne Hebblethwaite shows off the patchwork quilt.

At our April meeting, president Linda Martin welcomed over 40 members, guests and our speakers from Scotland's Charity Air **Ambulance** (SCAA), lan Lindsay and Libby Rodger, who gave a most interesting informative presentation about the history and vital work of the SCAA.

This organisation is completely

donation-funded, so we were delighted to be able to present a cheque for £380, raised on the night from the raffle of a patchwork quilt. The quilt was made by several members of Glenfarg SWI, who had been toiling away for several weeks on this project. The winner of the quilt was Vivienne Hebblethwaite. The vote of thanks was given by Linda Martin.

### Competitions

In March, the competition this year for the Catherine Fairweather Quaich was for the best sewn bib apron. The trophy was won by President Linda Martin.



#### April

Easter Card:

1st Lynda Stuart, 2nd Sheena Chisholm

3 Easter Cakes: 1st Lynda Stuart

Flower of the Month: 1st Liz Yull, 2nd Sheena Chisholm, 3rd Lillias Johnson.

### Milnathort SWI

Jean reminded everyone about our afternoon tea meeting on 20 June.

We met in the town hall on Thursday 18 April at 2pm. President Jean Paterson welcomed members and after the usual business and event reminders. Jean introduced Karen from Cloverlea Apiaries, Path of Condie. Karen was a very enthusiastic speaker, explaining about their Scottish Bees and their products, as well as honey, cosmetics, candles and soaps. We all enjoyed her talk and being able to sample the different flavours of honey she had brought along.

#### Competitions

**Holiday Photograph: 1st Denise Stephenson**, 2nd Cathie Cochrane, 3rd Kathleen King.

Flower of the month: 1st Jane McConville, 2nd Kathleen King, 3rd Cathle Cochrane.

We met again on Thursday 16 May for our AGM. Jean welcomed everyone and, after business and reminders, the present committee was re-elected for the coming year.

Jean then presented a certificate and flowers to Cathie Cochrane, who has been a loyal member for 62 years. Members congratulated Cathie on this achievement.

The Points Cup was presented to Denise Stephenson. Aileen Hunter and Kathleen King were best triers. The flower of the month cup was presented to Grace Drysdale.

### Competitions

**Three Muffins: 1st Denise Stephenson**, 2nd Aileen Hunter. **Flower Of The Month: 1st Denise Stephenson**, 2nd Grace Drysdale, 3rd Jane McConville.

Jean reminded everyone that our afternoon tea would be on 20 June and hoped to see everyone there.



Sheena wearing her special waterproof jacket with a built in barcode that was zapped every time they went off and on the ship

### **Powmill SWI**

President Tricia Greer welcomed Sheena Anderson who gave us a talk and presentation on her cruise to the Antarctic in 2020. They also visited South Georgia and the Falklands where the main attraction was the Albatross nesting colonies. She spoke of being taken ashore in full gear including life jackets in freezing temperatures, seeing numerous penguin species, fin whales and seals. After a very informative and interesting presentation Tricia gave a well-deserved vote of thanks.

#### Competitions

**Snowy Photo: 1st Mary Wilson**, 2nd Janie Buchanan, 3rd Tricia Greer.

Oat Biscuits: 1st Tricia Greer,

2nd Debbie Carter, 3rd Donna McBain.

Green Fingers Spring Posy: Sharon Buchanan.





### **Sports News**

### **Kinross Tennis Club**

https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub Email: kinrosstennis@gmail.com/kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com Find us on Facebook @kinrosstennisclub and @siobhanmacleodtennis

It has been great to see so many members down at the courts in the spring and early summer. Coaching, social sessions and matches are in full swing as we approach the peak of the tennis season (which normally occurs when Wimbledon appears on our TVs!).

So far this season members have enjoyed social sessions in increasing numbers and fun events like an American style tournament in mid-May, where we were able to meet up, play some organised sociable tennis and, most importantly, drink tea, chat and eat cake! Club open/social sessions now run on 4 days a week (Sunday mornings, Tuesday afternoons, Wednesday evenings and Thursday afternoons) and are a great time for a relaxed game and to come along and meet other members.

Club teams have also been travelling far and wide to play matches against other clubs across Tayside and Fife during April and May. Matches have included Montrose, Wormit and Newport, West End (Dundee), Falkland and St Andrews.

It has also been a busy month for our junior players. We have had 5 junior teams in action; 2 in the Tennis Tayside 16 and under league, 1 in the 12 and under Perth and District League, and our 10 and under and 9 and under players have been involved in matches at Dalgety Bay, Bathgate and Strathallan school already. We have lots more matches planned, both home and away, for the next couple of months too. It is great to see our juniors developing their game and enjoying tennis so much.

### **Interested in Playing Tennis?**

The club is always keen to hear from anyone interested in playing tennis. Please contact us by email (addresses above) or checkout our website for more information on the club, including coaching, events and social tennis sessions. Everyone is welcome, and all standards of tennis players are catered for, so don't worry if you are new to the game or a regular player.

Membership is only £49 a year for adults, £99 for families, and enables use of the courts and clubhouse at any time when they are not being used for social sessions, events and matches. Court booking is now done via an easy to use app. All members who provide their email address when joining also receive regular emails featuring updates and information on planned events.

Please get in touch if you are interested in learning more about the club!

### **Tennis Coaching**

Coaching continues on Saturdays, Sundays and Tuesdays. We have had over 150 players in coaching this busy summer term with lots of new faces joining in every week!

Coach Siobhan will also be running two summer camps during the holidays on weeks beginning 15 Julyand 5 August. Details and booking will be available on the Facebook page and website very soon. For more information on coaching, team matches and/or summer camps get in touch with Siobhan MacLeod (Level 3 LTA Accredited Coach) by text 07443223408, email at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com or on Facebook @siobhanmacleodtennis.

### **Kinross Hockey**

Kinrosshockey.org



### **Unsung Heroes 2**

Having given our appreciation to a couple of adult volunteers, this month it is the turn of two younger individuals. The slightly more mature volunteers do it because they can no longer run around like they used to; or so they say. Why do the youngsters volunteer? Well, because it can be fun. Firstly, by joining in they get to play more often than they might otherwise do and, secondly, it can count towards the Duke of Edinburgh Award. Having said that, it was clear from these two that they also volunteer because they enjoy it.

Ryan is clearly having a great time and is progressing through the ranks to become a first team regular. What is more surprising is that Annabel does not even play regularly. Her number one sport is now kayaking (Canoe Slalom to be exact) but we won't hold that against her. She a member of Strathallan Canoe Club who apparently do it kneeling down. The only downside is her that poor dad has to take her everywhere and that severely restricts his playing time.

It also means that, by undertaking this assistance, they are completing their training at the first level of coaching qualification, should they wish to continue with it at some time in the future.

A lot of regular players will shy away from coaching because they think that they cannot do it or are not good enough. What Ryan and Annabel are demonstrating is that you can do it, even if you don't have years of experience behind you. The most important





element is helping the juniors have fun and the technical skills can follow on later if they remain with the sport. Thank you Ryan and Annabel!

#### **End of Season Ladies Game**

Well, it hasn't been the easiest season, for either the ladies firsts or seconds. However, we were determined to finish on a positive note so, on 17 April, nearly 30 girls and ladies turned out on a clear but chilly spring evening to play an end of season friendly, with teams mixed up from both squads.

The age and experience level may have varied widely (from 12 to, well, let's say 50 plus), but what was consistent was the enthusiasm, encouragement and excellence on show. Great communication between players, passing sequences, through balls, sprints down the wing, driving the baseline, tackles and brave saves, the game had it all. In the end, we think the Darks ran out 3-2 winners over the Lights, but it wasn't really about the score.

It was a great way to end the season, and so uplifting to see the talent and commitment coming through the younger end of the club. It really bodes well for the future.

On that note, the club is actively looking to recruit new members. Maybe you have been a member before, but been away for a few years. Maybe you played at school or university but have not picked up a stick since. Maybe you have never tried it. Tyou would be joining a great group of girls and ladies. We train once a week, on Wednesdays, and in season, play matches, usually on Saturday afternoon. We are competitive and always keen to improve, but not overly serious. You will find a welcoming and





supportive environment. Get in touch by visiting our website or emailing us at *kinrosshockey@gmail.com*.

### **Kinross Golf Club**

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



#### **Ladies Section**

Having received a bye in the first round, Kinross Ladies have been drawn at home against Lundin Ladies in the second round of the Kyocera Matchplay series.

Milnathort Ladies kindly hosted our friendly inter club match this year, played in perfect weather conditions with Kinross Ladies winning 2.5 to .5

As the season gets into full swing, it is very encouraging to see the number of ladies entering competitions and returning good scores.

#### **Honorary Member Presentation Seat**

To mark the honorary membership for long and distinguished service to Kinross Golf Club, and her 100th birthday on 1 November 2023, Madge Malcolm was presented with a bench seat.

### **Kinross Mixed Open Results**

We held our first club open of the year on Sunday 12 May, which was our Mixed Open. There were 44 pairs playing and everyone had a very enjoyable day.

The handicap winners were Robin and Elspeth Caldow and the runners up were John and Chrisine Kinloch. Both teams are members of Kinross Golf Club. The scratch winners were Alistair and Meghan Scott (Lanark) and the runners up were Shaun Butcher and Caroline Barclay (Kinross)

### The R&A 9-hole Championship Qualifier

Lynn Murray and David Whitley won the R&A 9-hole championship qualifier and will play in the regional final at Dundas Castle.

### **Mens Section**

The gents competitions have been very busy for the start of the season with over 100 members playing in a number of competitions. We are about to enter the period where a number of our larger competitions take place, with the Handicap Championship qualifying, the Gents Open and the Club Championship qualifying taking place over the next four weekends.

The Men's Ochil League team began the defence of their title



Madge and club captain Scott Michie on the bench seat

with a 4-2 win against Alloa and a 6-0 win against Perth Artisans, in the first two games of this season. The scratch league team began their season away at Blairgowrie on Friday 24 May. Unfortunately, the Bell's Trophy lost narrowly away to Pitlochry in the first round of the county competition.

### **Junior Section**

Our team consisting of Oliver Jackson, Liam Hannah, Owen Peters and Callum McGee, halved their semi-final match with a very good Muckhart team in the 2023 Perth and Kinross County Junior Bell Trophy which was held over from last year due to the September weather making play impossible.

Despite the teams spirited performance, Kinross lost out in the countback and did not qualify for the final.

We also fielded a team in the Scottish Golf Sixes competition. This competition run by Scottish Golf is a gentle introduction to golf for beginners. To fit the criteria, players must be under 12 years old with high or no handicap. The matches are over six shortened holes and are played over four different courses in the County of Perth and Kinross.

Our first match was played at Strathmore GC with Josiah Bell, Roddy Davidson, Finlay Thorpe and Rhory Graham representing Kinross.

Our next match is on 2 June at the North Inch GC in Perth, after which we play Blairgowrie in July, before finishing the season at Kinross in August.

Our Junior Open is on Tuesday 6 of August and can be booked online through 'How Did I Do' or 'Club V1'.

#### **Seniors Section**

The Seniors had an away day to Balwearie Golf Course, Kirkcaldy. They were lucky to get a sunny day and a very challenging test of golf. The winner on the day was Bobby Lees.

### **Kinross Road Runners**

https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com

It's been a busy month at Kinross Road Runners with our members taking part in no less than 18 different events with distances from 5 to 53 miles and of course, hosting our own half marathon event!

First up, Matt Newton and Gregor Malcolm donned their hill running shoes and completed The Cobbler hill race, with Matt

getting up and down the Corbett in 1hr 13 mins 38secs (14th M40 in a stacked Scottish champs race). While Gregor, who was representing Ochil Hill Runners that day, finished 13th overall in a sprightly 53 mins 14 secs!

In stark contrast to an overcast Scottish hill run Hannah Lopez and Alessia Palmieri completed the Santa Eulaia des Riu Ibiza 22K the same weekend, posting 2:33:01 and 2:08:49 respectively.

To finish off the weekend at the Adidas Manchester Marathon KRR were represented by Jillian Gordon who completed the course in a time of 3 hours 15 mins 38 secs.

The races kept on coming the following weekend, and at the TCS London marathon the club had 2 members participating this year. Alison Callaghan fulfilled her club place and finished her first marathon in a time of 4 hrs 27 mins 26 secs whilst Rob Niven capped off his return to running 3 years on from his leg break completing the course in 4 hours 11 mins 17 secs. Well (Lon)done!

There were 4 KRR in action at the Forth Ultra, a 43mile circuit of the Forth starting and finishing at Helix Park in Falkirk crossing the Kincardine and Forth bridges. Alex Reily and Caroline Jones buddied up to take part in the pairs relay, each running two alternate legs. They were the first mixed pair and first pair outright!

Stephen Freeland was doing the whole 43 mile Ultra thing himself and finished in a time of 8 hours 11 mins 10 secs. Michelle Murray took the sensible option and took part as a relay team of four, completing long leg two (14 miles).

Karen Birnie took part in the Scurry around Helix 10K and finished second FV60 in a time of 57:42. While Niamh Quinn completed the She Ultra 50K on the Llyn peninsula in North Wales; the first ever female-only charity ultra (we believe), finishing in 8 hours 54 mins 56 secs.

At the Dalgety Bay 10K, Judith Dobson, Connor Finlay, Michelle Murray and Sarah Eaton took part. Judith took first FV60 honours with a time of 52:39.

In attendance at the first of the Fife Midweek Series races, the Craigtoun Country Chase 5 miler, were Alex Reily, Gill Lopez and Hannah Lopez. Alex finished 8th overall, while Gill placed 4th FV60.

At the longest run of the month, 5 KRR made the start line of the Highland Fling, a 53 mile event over the Southern half of the West Highland Way from Milngavie to Tyndrum. Allan Kemp was the first KRR back in 10:56:34, followed by Scott Strachan in 11:11:35 and Karen Ritchie in 14:53:37. Willie Bell, after leading our charge, unfortunately took a tumble and had to retire at Beinglas 40 miles in. Alison McGill, running in Fife colours, had another very successful run on the Way, claiming the Scottish championship title in 8 hours 57 mins 26 secs. Congratulations!

At the Tay Ten in Perth there were 11 KRR in action, taking part

Alex and Caroline with their trophy for the Forth Ultra.





Above: Loch Leven Half Marathon: The finish area volunteers Below Right: Loch Leven Half Marathon: David Scott, first runner back who placed in the Scottish Athletics championship, Below left Alex Reily and Ann Malcolm presenting the cheque for TRACKS to Cllr W Robertson

in one of our club championship races. David Scott finished 10th overall/2nd MV40 in 59:03, followed in by Alex Reily, Martin Hill, Sandy Freck, Zhivko Veskov Zhelyazkov, Connor Finlay, Christine Myerscough (4th FV60), Claire Allison, Val Findlay, Wendy Grieve and Hannah Lopez.

There were four members who headed South of the Forth to take part in the Edinburgh to North Berwick (E2NB) 20 mile road race. Jillian Gordon took 2nd FV45 honours and 4th female overall in 2:26:23 whilst Murray Speight, Caroline Jones (9th female) and Jim Reilly completed the quartet.

Up at Strathyre Fiona Horsfield was the sole rep for the club at the Stuc a Chroin 5000 hill race, so called for its 5,000 ft of ascent. Fiona completed the course in 3 hours 16 mins and placed 3rd FV40!

Two KRR took part in the 3 Beaches half marathon relay on North Uist, under the team name Seasgad agus Slaodach. Alison Robertson and Anne MacIntyre completed the course in an overall time of 2:22:15.

Two midweek races saw Ann Malcolm, Hannah Lopez, Karen Birnie and Simone Young take part in Strathkinness to Blebocraigs

Fife AC midweek series. Meanwhile at Dumyat hill race Alex Reily, Gill Lopez and Gregor Malcolm were in action with Gill placing 3rd FV60 and Gregor Malcolm finishing 3rd overall in a lightning fast 33:42.

Sticking with the hills it was the British Senior Home International championships at the Glas Tulaichean Uphill Only Race on Saturday. Bart Burza repped the club and finished the ascent in 52 minutes flat. Gregor M was competing again towards the front and posted 37:59 to place 14th overall, the top Scot outside the selected Scottish vests.



And finally,

to our hugely successful Loch Leven Half Marathon! What a fantastic day for the club hosting what was also the Scottish Athletics East Half Marathon Championship. The weather gods were kind and the immense effort from everyone at the club and the support of the local community on the day made the event a brilliant success. A huge thank you to everyone in Kinross and the surrounding areas, residents and businesse alike, for their support. It means a lot to the club and to all the runners taking part. The runners were especially thankful for the cheers, jelly babies, slices of orange and high fives around the course! In addition to the successful running of the event a fantastic sum of £727 was raised from entry fees. The money was presented to TRACKS on the day.

The race was started by local Olympian and Commonwealth Games champion Eilidh Doyle. With her words of encouragement, 759 runners completed the course, which included 25 KRR in the race results. First KRRs were Linsey Neilson





Eilidh Doyle and club president Ann Malcolm

in 1:58:18 and David Scott in 1:20:07. David was 9th overall/2nd MV40 and second in the SA East District Masters champs.

Our other members in action on the day were Alison Callaghan, Lynsay Moyes, John Beveridge (2nd MV50), Alex Reily, Dave Mudie, Iain Watson, Benjamin Ross, Munro Strachan (3rd MU20), Richard Aldred, Rob Niven, Connor Finlay, Matthew Moyes, Paul Baughan, Andrew Hutchison,

Pierce Mullen, Robin Gordon, Wendy Turnbull, Karen Birnie, Lorna MacInnes, Elisabeth Dickson, Catherine McAdams, Gillian Morris and Audrey McFarlane. Well done everyone!

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

Our summer schedule has swung into action and means generally meeting up at 7pm on Tuesday evenings at Kirkgate Park and 7pm on Thursdays at the start of a trail run (different venue each week).

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

### **Kinross-shire Cricket Club**

www.kinrosscc.co.uk

Find us on Facebook

The start of the 2024 season was, predictably, impacted by the rain. The first two games had to be postponed as the ground was unplayable with standing water just off the main wicket.

Our first match was against Dundee University on the first sunny Sunday of May. Batting first Dundee found the KCC bowlers too hot to handle. David Campbell took his first wicket of the season with his second ball dismissing the opener for a duck. Two balls later the ball fell agonisingly short of first slip. Rahul Khanduja replicated David's efforts taking his first wicket for the club with his second ball. A second wicket fell in his second over.

The first change of bowlers saw Ivan Groenewald improve on efforts so far taking a wicket with his first ball of the season. Veteran John Ross seemed sluggish by comparison as he had to wait until his fourth ball for a wicket, although he did make up for it by taking the next three ball later. Wickets from Warren Greg and Joe Jennings brought the Dundee innings to a close at 45 for 10 wickets. Best bowling went to Ivan with 2 wickets for 2 runs, closely followed by Rahul and John, both with 2 wickets for 5 runs.

In replay KCC reached 46 runs in the eighth over for the loss of one wicket. As the sun was out for a change the two sides decided to play on to 20 overs. Fraser Laing top scored with 50 not out and Ivan added 17 before falling to a questionable LWB decision. A great game played in the right spirit.

The remaining May fixtures against Doune and Forfarshire will be featured in next month's *Newsletter* as they are played after the article submission date.

#### Softball Cricket

During June and July, the club will be running Softball Cricket at the Larder on Wednesday evenings. This is a fast-paced version of the game using a rubber ball without the need for pads or helmets. The games will be run making up teams based on the numbers available. It's a great way to get into playing and



Fraser Laing beside the scoreboard

is much less formal than hard ball matches. Matches start at 6.30pm and are open to anyone over the age of 12. For more information see our Facebook page.

### **June Fixtures**

Sunday 2 June

Juliuay 2 Julie		
Dollar CC	1pm	Home
Wednesday 5 June		
Softball Cricket	6.30pm	Home
Sunday 9 June		
Edinburgh South	1pm	Edinburgh
Wednesday 12 June		
Softball Cricket	6.30pm	Home
Sunday 16 June		
Clydesdale CC	1pm	Clydesdale
Wednesday 19 June		
Softball Cricket	6.30pm	Home
Sunday 23 June		
Stewarts Melville CC	TBC	
Wednesday 26 June		
Softball Cricket	6.30pm	Home
Sunday 30 June		
Linlithgow CC	1pm	Linlithgow

Visitors and spectators are always welcome for home games. Matches start at 1pm at the cricket ground behind Loch Leven's Larder. Refreshments are available from 3.30pm.



### Volleyball

The weather has played havoc with our free 'pop up and play' grass sessions on Sundays. Rain has stopped play most weekends.

However, the recent upturn in the weather has meant we are now able to resume our weekly sessions from 7-8.30pm and everyone is enjoying the longer days.

The men's team has been preparing for the Scottish Open Volleyball Tournament on 25-26 May. It takes place at Perth's North Inch with over 140 teams competing this year.

We have also extended our free grass sessions to Mondays so that, hopefully, if it does rain on Sunday, we might have better luck on the Monday!

### **Orwell Bowling Club**

Orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

Find us on Facebook

Since we opened, we have played three friendly games; we won one and lost two. Our first friendly was on Sunday 28 April at home to Strathmiglo, when we won with 40 shots to 33 shots. On Saturday 4 May we played away to Maitland. We lost 48 shots to 51 shots so Maitland retained the quaich again this year. On Sunday 12 May we played away to Newburgh and lost 38 shots to 65 shots. The weather this month has been good for bowling and we hope it continues as our Scottish and County competitions are about to start.

Unfortunately, the race night was cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances, but our next social event is a bowls and burger afternoon on Sunday 16 June. This was a very popular event last year and non-members are welcome.

Tickets will be on sale soon. The clubhouse is also open on Friday evenings from 7.30pm so why not come along and have a game of bowls or have a game of pool, dominoes or darts, or just come for a chat? See our website or Facebook for more information.

If anyone would like to come along and try bowls, they would be very welcome, our address is Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort, KY13 9YN, or call 01577 863739/07790 026589.





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### **Kinross Badminton Club**

After the final night of our Kinross Badminton Club Junior Coaching Sessions of the season, we want to thank all those who have helped us in various capacities including BADMINTONscotland, Active Schools Kinross and Live Active Leisure. It has been wonderful to establish our Junior Coaching Sessions and to be able to say that within the space of a year we have 16 kids taking part and a waiting list with further interest in/around the local area is absolutely fantastic.

We have also had support from Patrick MacHugh returning to his old stomping ground, giving our young (and older) players a taste of what it was like for him growing up and training in Kinross before moving to Glasgow and pursuing his badminton career, going on to represent Scotland at two Commonwealth Games and winning a host of International Doubles titles. We are looking forward to working more closely with Paddy and Glasgow Badminton Academy in future seasons.

The Kinross Juniors have done exceptionally well, with a small group qualifying for the Scottish Schools Championships after winning their regional draw. All of our junior players have progressed exceptionally well throughout the sessions and were very proud of all of them and hope to welcome them back next season.

The Junior Coaching Sessions wouldn't have been possible without Kinross Badminton Club's Lead Coach Jennifer McLean, who has not only led each coaching session and brought our players on considerably, but has set an example, and been an inspiration for all of the players, particularly our cohort of young girls. Well done Jennifer and thanks for giving your commitment, dedication, knowledge and time to develop the next generation of badminton players.

We would also like to thank Kinross Badminton Clubs adult players who've come to support and help supervise our junior sessions, again these sessions couldn't run without your support and help.

Kinross Badminton Club's Junior Coaching Sessions will be taking a break over summer but we hope to be back next season August/September and we'll be in touch with parents about this in advance. If you're interested in learning more about Kinross Badminton Club's Junior Coaching Sessions or the club more generally please do get in touch with us via our Facebook page.

Have a wonderful summer break when it comes and well done to all our junior players, keep practising and we look forward to welcoming you back next season.





### JKS Shojiki Karate Club

https://shojikikarate.co.uk/

Find us on Facebook and Instagram

Our members recently took part in a grading. They all passed and were promotoed to the next grades. We travelled to the JKS Scotland Headquarters in Dunfermline to take on the examinations in front of a panel of high grade instructors from throughout the Federation.

the In last few weeks, instructor Ben Woods has been working with Kinross Milnathort and Primary Schools to provide taster Karate sessions. This has given many more children in the local area an opportunity to try Karate and see all the great things that it has to offer.

Our club will continue to work hard towards our next grade, as we all grow as individuals, welcoming new members to our club.





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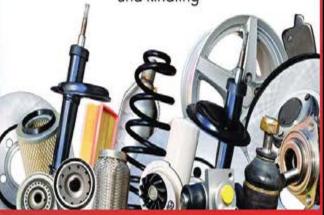


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### NatureScot Loch Leven NNR



### **Summer On The Loch**

**SUMMER IS WELL UNDERWAY** at Loch Leven, with our meadows in bloom, birds feeding young in the nest, and broods of ducklings and goslings scattered across the loch. The flowers bring with them an abundance of insects, plenty of bees and butterflies, damselflies and dragonflies, and the warmer temperatures mean more moths are about! It truly is a wonderful time of the year.

One of our biggest jobs over the summer is tackling Himalayan balsam, an invasive species that spreads rapidly at the expense of native species. It has explosive seed pods that aid this spreading, which happens after it flowers from July, so we will be busy pulling, strimming and bashing away to try and tackle it. Another species that we tackle is giant hogweed, another invasive that resembles cow parsley, but is much bigger and can grow up to three metres tall. It's also poisonous, and if you come across any and get its sap on your skin wash it off immediately, as when exposed to sunlight it will burn and blister skin.

Our tufted ducks are busy nesting, with most found on St Serf's Island. We are monitoring them more

closely this year, to get an idea of breeding success, and when the ducklings hatch predation rates. You may also spot us out on the loch on our boat, as we complete brood counts of everything on the loch to get an idea of breeding populations of our wildfowl.

With this in mind please remember to check access guidance when you visit nature reserves. Water access is allowed from Burleigh Sands or Kirkgate Beach, and we ask people to stay 200m away from the shoreline and not to land on the islands. This is to limit disturbance to sensitive bird breeding areas. We also would like to remind people to check SOAC guidelines on wild camping. There should be no open fires on the ground, as these leave scorch marks, damaging the site, and remember to take all of your rubbish away with you.

Our three summer seasonals Alex, Stuart and Matt will be out





and about all through the week, so if you see them and have any questions about the reserve or responsible access don't hesitate to stop for a chat. They will also be hosting pop-up events over the weekends and summer holidays, so keep an eye on our social media for updates. We will also be advertising other events in the *Newsletter* as well as putting posters up around Kinross and Milnathort.

To keep updated with whats going on the reserve have a look at our social media (Facebook, Instagram and Wordpress blog - @ LochLevenNNR), and feel free to get in touch with any of your own as well.

Sally Reay

### Weather



### Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

### April 2024

Total Rainfall Heaviest Fall	123.7mm/4.94in 21.2mm/0.84in	
Total Sunshine Sunniest Day	145.5hrs 10.8hrs	(25 Apr)
Max Temp Average Highest Temp	11.19°C 15.70°C	(11 Apr)
Min Temp Average Lowest Temp	-1.23°C -8.70°C	(26 Apr)

### RSPB Loch Leven



### **Cuckoo Cacophony**

**SINCE OUR LAST COLUMN** the reserve has really burst into life, and it finally feels like summer is almost here with lovely long evenings and warmer temperatures.

As we write this, in mid May, most of the waders, ducks, gulls and swans are already on nests with eggs, but some of these have already hatched and there have been plenty of young birds spotted out on the reserve. Our earliest lapwing nests this year were found on the 5 April and these have now hatched with some reasonably sized chicks to be seen from the hides, feeding close to their parents. There have also been cygnets and, more recently, mallard ducklings across the reserve and the loch, so it is all starting to get quite busy. In the next few weeks we expect a lot more of our wader nests to have hatched alongside the black headed gulls, which will only increase the noise out there!

Other recent highlights include a flock of eleven black tailed godwit, whimbrel, ringed plover, and a marsh harrier hunting regularly over the wetland.

Along the trails and in the woodland the final Spring migrants to arrive have been heard, including whitethroat and garden warbler, adding to the cacophony of different bird songs across the reserve. Recently we've regularly heard a green woodpecker yaffling in the woods on the hillside, as well as a cuckoo.

Despite a slow start due to the cooler weather earlier in the year there has been an influx of pollinators out and about including orange tip, peacock and green veined white butterflies which add a dash of colour to the trails, which is so welcome after the long winter months. The wildflowers are also in full bloom with cowslips, red campion, garlic mustard, violets and bluebells all flowering.

Our volunteers have been busy helping with all sorts of tasks around the reserve, installing a new 'sky bench' in the Leafy Loop which, when finished, will provide a view of the sky from a comfortable seated position. They've also been working on the new cottage garden, maintaining the picnic area, installing some anti-erosion coir matting along the Sleeping Giant path, and assisting with wildlife surveys on the reserve.

The cottage garden, next to the visitor centre, is pretty much finished now and open for visitors to enjoy, so do come along and have a look to get inspiration about wildlife friendly plants you could put in your garden.

Did you know that we're now on Instagram at @rspblochleven? Why not follow us for regular updates and super wildlife photos!

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You can also join us on Facebook at @RSPBTaysideFife where you will also find details about our events and activities.

Talking of events, if you like a spot of outdoor theatre we have a date for your diaries. On Saturday 20 July we will be welcoming the Festival Players back for an evening production of The Tempest. Tickets will be available from our shop, or online via our website *rspb.org.uk/lochleven*.

Karen Caldwell



### **Farming**

### **Barley Brekkie**

**IT TOOK A WHILE** to surface but spring finally decided to show its face and grace us with its presence. Fields slowly dried out enough to allow spring work to begin although wet patches and low lying areas of fields took a long time to dry out sufficiently.

Conditions eventually improved for ewes lambing outside although only after a few nightmare days in early April. Farmers with later lambing flocks managed to hit the better spell of weather this year. Most cattle have been turned out from their sheds too, since grass is generally growing well and fields are dry enough.

Here at Backward Farm, lambing is finished and it's fair to say that it has been a mixed bag. The early batch which were lambed inside were fine as we were able to hold the ewes and lambs inside until they were a few days old before turning them out into a field with plenty of shelter all round it.

The relentless wet took its toll on some of the layer lambing ewes, causing a few problems and the blackface ewes which lamb outside had a testing few days at the start of their lambing period but there were stories of farmers in other areas having a torrid time so maybe we got off relatively lightly.

The couple of fields of barley we grow for feeding to the pigs and cattle were sown at the beginning of May which was only about ten days later than normal by our standards.

Temperatures had warmed up by then so it germinated very quickly compared to some years and there has been plenty of moisture to help it get off to a good start. We are growing a different variety this year, so,it will be interesting to see how it performs. The cattle are mostly outside now and we are getting through the calving, which has been quite slow but should be finished before too much longer. Harold, our Aberdeen Angus bull (which is his nickname, not his real pedigree name) was treated to a pedicure recently but unfortunately this revealed





some bad news about one of his front feet. It turned out that the horn of his foot is cracked down the front (a bit like having a split nail) and it is something which is unlikely to heal and he will probably always be a bit lame on that foot, so we will have to keep a close eye on him.

The pigs are still doing what they do best (making a mess) and the two British Lop sows recently had a litter of piglets each just a few days apart.

We brought them inside to farrow but they will soon be back outside in their own paddocks. They are really good natured pigs. They have good sized litters of piglets for which they seem capable of producing a plentiful supply of milk.

John

### Loch Leven Castle Castle Island, Kinross

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Mary, Queen of Scots spent a traumatic year in captivity here, when she miscarried twins and was forced to abdicate. She dramatically escaped in 1568.

The property is reached by boat, operated by Historic Scotland and departing from the fishery pier (Pier Road, KY13 8UF).

Due to limited capacity, it is recommended that all visits are booked online at www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle.

### **OPENING TIMES**

1 April – 30 Sept: Daily, 10am – 5.30pm (last outward sailing 4.15pm) 1 to 31 Oct: Daily, 10am – 4.30pm (last outward sailing 3.30pm)

# PRICES Adult (16-64yrs) £10 Concession (65yrs+ and unemployed) £8 Child (7-15yrs) £6 Family (1 adult, 2 children) £20 Family (2 adults, 2 children) £29 Family (2 adults, 3 children) £34 Historic Scotland members travel free.







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### Gardening

### **Sprouting Success**



**FIRSTLY, MANY APOLOGIES FOR** being absent last month, there really is no excuse, I don't know where the time has gone!

Secondly, has everyone had enough rain yet? It has been truly abysmal, I'm tired of looking at the forecast and just seeing rain every day, with the occasional snow shower thrown in just to keep us on our toes.

As a result of the rubbish weather, there hasn't been a lot of outside work done yet this year – though I did manage to weed one flower bed and plant the sweet williams grown last year, that was back at Easter.

Inside work has been moving apace though in the hope of sunnier times to come. The begonias were woken from winter storage and chucked into some compost to 'do their thing' and as usual, they haven't disappointed. It always amazes me that these hard, brown lumps will sprout after being wrapped in newspaper for months and go on to produce fantastic, long-lasting blooms.

Seeds have also been liberally sown... when will I ever learn that I don't really need that 'extra pinch'? This year I have an eclectic mix at various stages of germination and growth. There's Peony Poppies that have been very enthusiastic about germinating, to Larkspur that really can't be bothered doing anything.

In between, we have statice, sunflowers, rudbeckia, cosmos, nigella and pot marigolds... all great for cut flowers to bring a little of outdoors, indoors.

For those difficult to grow things, the universe invented plug plants which were ordered back in January to try and bag some bargains. I really need to learn to file order emails in one place as there's hardly a week goes by at the moment where I don't receive a mystery parcel or two... it's like Christmas!

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There's a fair bit that should be getting done in the garden this month, weather permitting.

**Seedlings:** These need to be pricked out and grown on in 15-cell tray inserts ready to be hardened off later in the month. I have a couple of small 'blow away' cold frames that stay open most of the time to get the plants used to the outside world.

**Weeding:** As you know, my favourite pastime! Everything needs weeded... beds, pots, between paving slabs, there's even a couple in the greenhouse. A couple of dry days should see me make a big dent in this; fingers crossed.

**Basket Planting**: Once my plants are big enough (or the rest of my plug plants arrive) I'll plant up my baskets and grow them on in the greenhouse prior to putting them out at the beginning of June. This year I have a couple of new half circle wall baskets that I had to buy more begonias for... well, I needed them all the same colour... didn't I?

**Patio Cleaning:** I don't know about you lot, but my patio is usually OK until about February when it starts to develop this attractive green slime coating that's also really slippery. Well, this will need scrubbed at some point this month... not something I'm particularly looking forward to.

Reading back over what I've written, it seems the moral of this month's article is: 'however far behind in the garden you think you are, there's always someone further behind!'

Have a great month folks, don't let the weather get you down and fingers crossed for a smashing late spring!

Teresa Stirling









### Kinross-shire Churches Together



### **Kinross Parish Church**

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ

Spreading the Word I Serving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org **Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland** 

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri.

Otherwise operating remotely. Leave phone message or email. Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

**Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie** 

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir

Contact the Church Office for our weekly email of events and Zoom details. Events below are in the church unless otherwise indicated:

#### **REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS**

Sundays

9.15am **Choir Practice** 

10.30am: Morning Service, gathering song about 10.25.

For Young People: Junior Church (age 4-11) meets in the Upper Room from 10.30 then joins in at the end of the service. Within the church there is a corner for

parents with babies and toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services.

Sunday morning services are also available online: live on YouTube and

Facebook. Thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or

request a CD.





6.00pm: Sunday Evening Prayer, on Zoom 6.00pm: Crossfire, church centre. Age P7 upwards.

**Mondays** 

10-12.00pm: Church Office open to visitors. **Bridge and Board Games Afternoon** 2-4.00pm: **Dungeons and Dragons (Adults)** 7.30pm: 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 Women's House Group 8.00pm:

**Thursdays** 

10.30am: **House Group** 

11am-12pm: Table Talk - chat on Zoom.

**Fridays** 

10am-12pm: Church Office open to visitors.

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association, (Church Centre during term time) 6pm-7.15pm Anchor Section (P1-P3) 7pm-9.00pm Junior Section (P4-P6) 7pm-9.30pm Company Section (P7-S3) **7pm-9.30pm** Senior Section (S4-S6)

5.30pm: **Dungeons and Dragons (Youth)** 

certain Fridays - see diary below

### OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS: JUNE

10.30am: Morning Worship including Quarterly Sun 2

Communion. Special offering for KYTHE: transforming

young lives locally. 7pm: Sunday@7

Mon 3 8am: Guided Silent Meditation

Sun 9 2.30pm: Let's Sing – All welcome, but particularly

those living with dementia.

Mon 10 7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons Fri 14 5.30pm: Youth Dungeons and Dragons

**Sat 15** 11am: All Friends Together for adults with learning disabilities **Sun 16** 10.30am: Morning Worship, including MAF update from Ruth Jack, followed by Soup and Sandwich lunch.

7pm: Sunday@7

Tue 18 10-11.30am: Teddy Bears' Picnic, end of session celebra-

tion of **Stepping Stones** for babies, toddlers and carers

Thurs 20 9pm: Evening service of Compline

Sat 22 10am-2pm: Farmers' Market in the High Street-

church and Fairtrade stalls

4-6pm: Messy Church for children and families at

**Orwell Church, Milnathort** 

Sun 23 10.30am: Morning Worship, End of Session Celebration

2.15pm: Church Family Walk. Meet at church lane

Mon 24 7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons

**FAMILY WEEK** 

Registration is open for Family Week, 29 July – 2 August. See website

### STEPPING STONES



Weekly in **Kinross Parish Church** Tuesdays, 10-11.30am.

**Stepping Stones is** for parents, carers, babies and toddlers.

ALL WELCOME



### 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: <a href="https://www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk">www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk</a></a><br/>We look forward to welcoming you to worship with us in Cleish Church, located in the village of Cleish, KY13 OLR.

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

#### **JUNE**

2 June	11.15am	Morning Worship. Fairtrade Stall.
9 June	11.15am	Morning Worship
16 June	11.15am	Morning Worship
23 June	11.15am	Morning Worship
30 June	11.15am	Morning Worship

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

#### JUNE

2 June: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

**9 June: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship** led by Rev Christine Sime. Refreshments will be available after the service

**16 June: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship** led by Rev Iain Goring. Refreshments will be available after the service

23 June: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship Refreshments will be available afterwards

**30 June: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship** Refreshments will be available afterwards

FOSSOWAY PRIMARY SCHOOL FETE – Saturday 22 June, 11am-2pm The church is organising teas/coffees at the fete.Come along and join us for a cuppa and a cake in the FRED room.

### **REFRESH THURSDAY**

Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Church Hall. Join us for friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All welcome.

### **FILM NIGHT**

Fri 7 June 7.30pm in the Church Hall: One Life (12)

One Life tells the true story of Sir Nicholas Winton (Antony Hopkins), who in the months leading up to WW2, rescued 669 predominantly Jewish children from the Nazis. It was a race against time, and he was always haunted by the fate of the children he wasn't able to bring back. Not until 50 years later, when the BBC television show, That's Life, surprises him and introduces him to



some surviving children, now adults, that he finally comes to terms with the guilt and grief he had carried for 5 decades.

Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits.

Please join us for the film, some refreshments
and a blether. All are welcome

#### **FOSSOWAY CHURCH CHOIR**

Our church choir meets every Sunday morning before morning worship and our wonderful organists run through the hymns that we will be singing during worship. There is no need to read music as the organist helps us to learn what we need to know. We also meet from time to time to practice for special projects e.g. Easter, Christmas. We are a friendly group of people and would love to welcome new members with open arms.

#### FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

The group meets every Friday 9.30-11.30am, in Fossoway Church Hall. Join us for snacks, play and blether.

#### **FOSSOWAY HOUSE GROUP**

Our House Group usually meets every Thursday evening at 7.30pm. For more details please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268.

#### **CROOK YOUTH CLUB**

Term-Time Weekly Drop In: Every Thursday 6-8pm Monthly: 2nd Sun of each month - Sunday 9 June 7-8:30pm

Come along – it's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats!

For all young people aged 11-19yrs old.

#### **Completely Free!**

### **MEN'S BREAKFAST GROUP**

The Men's Breakfast Group is taking a summer break. See you all again in the autumn!

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 in

Orwell Church, at 10:30am on the first Sunday of each month. Messy Church will meet on Saturday 22 June from 4-6pm at

Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, fun, and food.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: JUNE

2 lune Joint family service in Orwell Church at 10:30am

No morning service at Portmoak Church

6 lune Ashley House Service at 2pm.

21 June Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 2-3:30pm.

28 June Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room

between 10:15am-12pm. Stories With A Difference. 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)

Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.

Tel: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

Fr David and the congregation at St Paul's look forward to welcoming to you to our Episcopal worship services and other outreach and social activities. We recognise how scary it can be to cross the threshold into an unfamiliar place, so you're assured of a friendly smile and any help you need for you and your family to feel comfortable.

Sunday and Wednesday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. We usually hold Eucharists (worship with Communion, sung with hymns on Sundays). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

We will provide regular updates on the website concerning our schedule of worship. Please do refer to it regularly.

Although we don't insist that people wear face coverings, you are very welcome to do so if that helps you feel safer in public spaces.

Services are also broadcast via Zoom (please email us for weekly links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal e-booklets, the weekly pewsheet and the occasional extra supplementary.

JUNE

Pentecost 3 (Proper 9) Sun 2

10am: Sung Eucharist. Celebrant & Preacher: Bishop Ian Paton

Wed 5

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sat 8 / Sun 9: Art@St Pauls exhibition weekend

Sun 9 **COLUMBA OF IONA** 10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 12

10am: Midweek Holy Communion Sun 16 Pentecost 5 (Proper 11)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 18

10am Midweek Holy Communion

Sat 22 / Sun 23: Art@St Pauls exhibition weekend

Sun 23 Pentecost 6 (Proper 12)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Wed 26

10am: Midweek Holy Communion

Sun 30 **PETERTIDE** 10am: Sung Eucharist

### **Loch Leven Church**

(Charity No: SC049050) info@lochlevenchurch.com

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch

Leven Community Campus, at 10.30am each Sunday.

Our sermon series from April to June is *Good News for a Change* from Mark's Gospel and we'll be hosting the following services in June:

2 June: Mark 10:13-27 The free gift: How Jesus does for us what

we cannot do for ourselves (Allan McKinnon, Principal,

Tilsley Bible College)

9 June: Mark 8:22-9:7 The costly commitment: How Jesus

expects us to find following Him difficult (Gavin Matthews,

Assistant Director, SOLAS)

16 June: Mark 4:1-20 The different soils: How Jesus challenges

us to respond to His words (Roy Osborne, SU Regional

Worker, Perth, Kinross & Fife)

23 June 3pm: Summer Concert at Loch Leven's Larder (Stephanie

Staples Rostad, Musician from Nashville, US)

30 June: **Communion Sunday** 

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome to join any of these. To know more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@lochlevenchurch.com

### Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross www.kinrossgospelhall.info Tel 07818 050785

Gospel Meeting Sundays 4pm Toddlers' Group Thurs 9.30-11am Explorers (Primary School) Thurs 6-7pm

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All welcome.





64 High Street Kinross KY13 8AJ

### Weekly Programme For June

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (3 June ONLY) Exercise Class Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, domino 'Stride for Life' Walking Group	10am-12pm 11.30am es 1.30pm 2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (4 & 18 June ONLY) Barge Trip (26 June ONLY) Exercise Class Trishaws Singing Group (11 June ONLY) Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	10-11.45am 10am 11.30am 1.30-2.30pm 1.30pm 1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service Reminiscence Group Garden Room (5 June ONLY) Craft Group (12 & 26 June ONLY) Football Memories ALL WELCOME (??? June ONLY) Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, domino	1.30pm 1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (27 June ONLY) Interactive Games Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble Art Group Exercise Class with Kenny from Live Active	10am-1pm 11.30am 1.15pm 1.30pm 2.00pm
Friday	Exercise Group Trishaws Bingo Life Story Books Board Games	11.30am 1.30-2.30pm 1.30pm 1.30pm 1.30pm

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.
TRISHAWS HAVE ALSO STARTED UP AGAIN, WEATHER PERMITTING



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

### 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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Tullibole is yours exclusively for the whole weekend so you can enjoy a relaxing barbecue with friends and family the next day.

> Visit us for a show round, please email hitched@tullibolecastle.com



CROOK OF DEVON, KINROSS KY13 OQN T: 01577 840236 W; TULLIBOLE CASTLE COM



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No mind control, no hocus pocus...just logical, personalised therapy which clients tell me is pretty, magical!

Why not choose to Matter now and visit www.matter.uk. Or contact Hazel at hello@matteruk.com to take advantage of your free, no obligation, introductory call.



### **Notices**







### ORWELL 70 PLUS NOTICE OF AGM

The Annual General Meeting of Orwell 70 Plus will be

held in Milnathort Town Hall, on **Monday 24 June** from 7.30 – 8.30pm.

All are very welcome to attend.

If you are 70 or over, live in the parish of Orwell and are not currently on our members list, please get in touch with our secretary, Carole Anderson, tel: 863175. Thank you.

### **MUSIC IN DOLLAR**

We will be holding our Open Evening for Members and Non-Members at the Forager in Dollar on Wednesday 19 June at 7.30pm, where we will have a short AGM followed by a performance by Melanie Scullion and friends – free entry. Come and hear about the exciting performances we have planned for next season.

There will be a Scottish Chamber Orchestra – wind soloists - concert at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy on 28 June at 7.30pm. Further information on https://www.sco.org.uk/summertour.

### CARNBO HALL

**CARNBO & DISTRICT** Community Hall Association Committee invite you to our informal BBQs at Carnbo Hall on the first Sunday of the summer months. This is a free community event. All members and non members are welcome. It is a great opportunity to meet up with neighbours, family, friends and to make new friends. BBQ facilities are provided by CADCHA. Please bring your own BBQ food or picnic, drink, crockery, and cutlery etc.

### CARNBO HALL BBQ & DUCK RACE

SUNDAY 2 JUNE Duck Race 4pm BBQ 5pm

**Duck Race:** held at the west end of the village in the field on the right-hand side, just before the bridge as you leave the village, heading for Stirling.

Ducks can be bought online prior to the day, or on the day before the race starts at 4pm

Sunday 7 July BBQ 5pm Sunday 4 August BBQ 5pm Sunday 1 September BBQ 5pm

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

### **P&K SCHOOL TERM DATES 2024**

TERM ENDS: Thursday 27 June

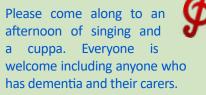
### **MOBILE LIBRARY 5, 19 June**

(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.

### **LET'S SING**



Usual time 2.30pm to 4pm in Kinross Parish Church – see church listings for details.

Next meeting Sunday 9 June.

### 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

### 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

### Items for Sale

**VANGO AIRAWAY KELA 111.** Awning for campervan, caravan or motor home. Also carpet for same. Excellent condition.

£250 ono

07754705268 or 07564943424

### **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
July	Friday 14 June	Saturday 29 June
August	Friday 12 July	Saturday 27 July

### 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

### 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/kinrossshire-fund

## MOBILE POST VAN AT BUCHAN AVENUE, KINNESSWOOD

MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45 WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45

### **Homes For Cats Wanted**

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



### KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE ROYAL MAIL

87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR

MONDAY 8-10am

TUESDAY 8-10am

WEDNESDAY 8-10am

THURSDAY 8-10am

FRIDAY 8-10am

SATURDAY 8am-12pm

SUNDAY CLOSED

### **Baby & Toddler Groups**

### **MONDAY**

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

### **TUESDAY**

**Portmoak Babies and Toddlers** Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

### Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

### **WEDNESDAY**

**Breast Buddies** 

Health Centre 10-12pm

**Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers** Village Hall 9.30am

**Muckhart Babies and Toddlers** Church Hall 9.30-11am

### **THURSDAY**

Montgomery Toddlers Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

### **FRIDAY**

**Portmoak Babies and Toddlers**Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

**Fossoway Babies and Toddlers** 

Crook of Devon Church Hall 9.30-11.30am

Please let us know if you have any info to add to this list.

### **EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS**

Medical		Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)	
Loch Leven Health Centre 01577 862112		Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm)	
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252		01738 475000
NHS 24	111	Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE)	0800 232323
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard Perth Royal Infirmary	01382 660111	PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers	
(Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734	Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111	Anti-social behaviour helpline (voicemail)	01738 476173
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355	Child protection	01738 476768
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623	Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422	Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219	Environmental Health	01738 476476
		Flooding	01738 476476
Police, non-emergency	101	Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999		Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Gas (worried about gas safety)	0800 111 999	Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Traveline Scotland	0871 200 22 33
Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency	0845 600 8855	Loch Leven Community Campus	01577 867200
Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages	0345 988 1188	Kinross High School	01577 867100

### **Community Councils**

Kinross: Chair: Lynne McKay, 01577 531076

Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort Chair: Neill Bingham

**& Orwell**: Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway Chair: Nicola Marchant & District: 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 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

**Clir DAVE CUTHBERT** (Independent)

Tel: 01738 475110
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk

Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

Clir NEIL FRESHWATER (Scottish Conservative & Unionist)

Tel (office): 01738 475108

Email: nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire

Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)

Mobile: 07909 884042

Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

**CIIr 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 OPE

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
Books Fluorescent, LED Packaging
Bras & Long Life Light Rubble
Bulky Goods Scrap Metal

Car Batteries Fridges & Freezers Soil
Cardboard Garden Waste Stone
Cartons and Paper containers with metal ends Batteries Soil

Fridges & Freezers Soil

Garden Waste Stone

Fleephone Directories

Textiles

Cooking Oil Large Domestic (Clothes & Shoes)
Electrical & Appliances Timber

Electrical & Appliances Timber

Electronic Non-Recyclable Waste (General Waste)

recycle batteries Separately) Paper Timber

Car Tyres (maximum two per day, strictly household only)

Free compost available (subject to availability).

A maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per day

### Diary

June		Diary
Sat	1	Portmoak Community Gala
Sun	2	Portmoak Festival begins
Sun & Wed	2&5	Birdsong Walk with Scott Paterson, Portmoak
Sun	2	Carnbo BBQ and Duck Race 4pm
Sun	2	Portmoak Film Society show 'Migration'
Mon-Thurs	3-6	Cream Teas, Portmoak 2-4pm
Tues	4	Fossoway and District Community Council meets
Thurs	6	D-Day 80th anniversary talk, library
Sat/Sun	8-9 & 22-23	Art @ St Paul's exhibition weekends
Sat	8	KYTHE car boot sale 11am-2pm
Sat	8	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group (see club entry for details of walks)
Sat	8	Milnathort Primary Summer Fair 12-2pm
Sun	9	Let's Sing! Kinross Parish Church
Sun	9	Tunes in the Orchard, Portmoak
Mon-Wed	10-12	Pudding Club, Portmoak
Tues	11	Quiz Night at the Well Inn, Scotlandwell
Tues	11	Portmoak Community Council meets
Thurs	13	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Fri	14	Deadline for July Newsletter
Fri	14	Coffee and Chat Event for carers, 10am-12pm Green Hotel
Sat	15	Kinross Primary School Fayre
Sat	15	KYTHE live! Concert at Milnathort Town Hall 6.30-9.30pm
Sun	16	Discovery Day (NatureScot), Kirkgate Park
Sun	16	Dave Bachelor and friends Jazz Night, Portmoak
Tues	18	Teddy Bear's Picnic, Stepping Stones, Kinross Parish Church
Wed	19	Kinross Kacophony Orchestra concert, Campus 8pm
Wed	19	Music in Dollar Open Evening and AGM
Fri	21	Garden Gathering, Social Mum Society
Fri	21	Crook of Devon Hall Bingo Night
Sat	22	Farmers' market, 10am-2pm High Street
Sat	22	Summer Reading Challenge begins/Jimmy Williamson, library
Sat	22	Summer Serenade at 6 concert
Mon	24	Annual General Meeting of Orwell 70 Plus
Tues	25	Kinross Community Council meets
Fri	28	Deadline for comments on Brunt Hill Wind Farm Application
Sat	29	Repair Cafe at Milnathort Town Hall
Sat	29	Superhero Walk and Fun Day, Stephen Lyon Organisation
Sat/Sun	29-30	Open Gardens Weekend in aid of Marie Curie

letter is available from:		
High Street, Kinross	Buchan's Garage	ſ
High Street, Kinross	Kinnesswood Shop	ſ
Station Road, Kinross	Fossoway Store	(
Lathro, Kinross	Fossoway Garage	(
Green Road, Kinross	Mona's Coffee Shop	1
New Road, Milnathort	Powmill Stores	-
Stirling Road, Milnathort	Loch Leven's Larder	1
South Street, Milnathort	Glenfarg Village Shop	(
	High Street, Kinross High Street, Kinross Station Road, Kinross Lathro, Kinross Green Road, Kinross New Road, Milnathort Stirling Road, Milnathort	High Street, Kinross High Street, Kinross Station Road, Kinross Lathro, Kinross Green Road, Kinross New Road, Milnathort Stirling Road, Milnathort  Buchan's Garage Kinnesswood Shop Fossoway Store Fossoway Garage Mona's Coffee Shop Powmill Stores Loch Leven's Larder

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Crook of Devon
Crook of Devon
Muckhart
Owmill Stores
Och Leven's Larder
Glenfarg Village Shop

Main Street, Kinnesswood
Main Street, Kin