



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the January Issue

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Contributions

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

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

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

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

Post or by hand to:

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Editor's Page

Cover photo: Goose by Alan Ruiz Cover Design: Lee Scammacca

Letter From The Editor

I'VE JUST RETURNED from the Festive Market and what a lovely day it was – with a winter chill in the air, some cheery Christmas music and so many enthusiastic stallholders selling their wares and happy to chat. Thanks to the organisers and volunteers for making it happen. A huge amount of work goes in to putting it on every year and we are all very grateful. I hope all the stallholders and helpers enjoyed it as much as I did.

The Christmas lights were switched on in Green's Car Park a few nights ago and there was a great turn out to countdown and celebrate. Thanks to Light Up Kinross for organising it (and all those who helped to finance it) and to all who contributed

on the night, from the Kinross Pipe Band to Santa and his elves from the Kinross Rotary Club. It was lovely to see the smiles on so many little faces when they got to meet Kinross's own Spiderman and other favourite characters.

It won't be long before Christmas is upon us, and it's great to see some new additions to the High Street. One of the CHAS shops at the top of the High Street has been fully refurbished, and we now have a lovely new gift shop called Tartan Kipper where the old betting shop used to be.

We wish Audrey Telford well with her new hair salon, which you can read all about in this issue.

Moira Hookham's lovely refill shop, The Kind Pantry, has some great eco-friendly ideas for Christmas. It's great to see these new businesses thriving so please support them all, as well as other Kinross shops if you can when doing your Christmas shopping!

If you like to cook at Christmas time and want to wow your guests, the marvellous Sarah Rankin has a special Christmas recipe for us on p13. The *Newsletter* would like to thank her and all our contributors for putting up with me nagging them for yet another year!

We all know that Christmas is not necessarily a happy time for everyone and there is no need to be isolated or alone unless you wish to be. The wonderful Kinross Day Centre has a Christmas lunch for anyone who wants to attend. See p9 for the details if you would like to go along.

I finally received my new grey bin last week and was still a bit puzzled as to what can go in it and what can't.

I hope to answer some of them with help from the lovely PKC ladies who attended the Festive Market and helped me work out the answers. If, like me, you still have recycling questions (Where do I put fruit nets? What about toothpaste tubes? Should I keep the lids on things?) see the article on p52 which I hope will help to answer some of them.

A reminder that the January *Newsletter* will be hot on the heels of this one, and the deadline is Friday 8 December. Once the January issue is ready, the Newsletter Team will be taking a hard-earned break, switching off our phones and putting our feet up for bit. I hope you all get the chance for some rest and relaxation over the festive period.

Best wishes to you all from all of us at the *Newsletter*.

Hannah Phillips, Editor

About The Kinross Newsletter

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

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

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

The *Newsletter* is published by Kinross Newsletter Limited (company no SC374361). Any profits are transferred to charitable company Kinross Community Council Newsletter Limited (charitable company 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.

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CC: Community Council

Cllr: Councillor
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Thanks



Madge Malcolm

MADGE MALCOLM would like to thank all her friends in Kinross who have sent cards and flowers on the occasion of her recent birthday.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 2023

Poppy Collections

WE WANT TO SAY a big THANK YOU to the over 40 outlets, shops and businesses, which let us place our poppy boxes and tins on their premises this year. We hope the large poppies placed about the towns, and outlying villages, gave you a feel for the season too.

A big thanks to our many friends, who helped us place tins and collect them, and to Richard and team at the Loch Leven Laundry, again, for the terrific and imaginative window display, and to all others who did similar – it's really good of you all.

HUGE THANKS TO ALL OF YOUR READERS for donating by QR codes on tins, by texting, in cash, or on our online Giving site. We tried hard to make digital giving easier again, though we did notice an uptake in cash making a come back this year.

So, what are our totals? We are still counting as the *Newsletter* deadline approaches, but we'll let you know in the next edition how we did.

THANKS to Sainsbury's staff, Kinross, for taking the poppy boxes, displaying the merchandise stand, and for letting us do in store collections again on so many occasions. We were there every day, at differing times, in the week's run up to Sunday, and it was great how many people wanted to stop for a chat, to tell us about their family members, and make a donation for a poppy.

Thanks to local schools – staff and young people – who kindly took the boxes too.

Parade

IT WAS WONDERFUL TO have such a great turnout at Kinross Parish Church, at the parade and at the War Memorial this year. Sincere thanks to Lynne McKay and the Community Council team for their careful planning, our parade commander from the ACF, the superb bugler, the youth organisations in great numbers and to our church ministers, who ran a lovely service, and arranged a dry, still day. Thanks to the wonderful Kinross Pipe Band, St Serf's Lodge for use of the hall for a cuppa soup and eats afterwards, and Police Scotland too. And thanks to you the Kinross and district people, who came in very big numbers to be there. It was Mrs Jeffy Erskine's first time as a new Deputy Lord Lieutenant to lead the wreath laying on behalf of HM The King.

VETERANS: You're always welcome to march with us every year. We did spot several with good medal racks in the crowd – please march with us next year.

Renewed thanks to you the public for your support to the poppy appeal. The monies raised during the Scottish Poppy Appeal will provide vital life-changing support to the Armed Forces community in need, in Scotland.

*NIALL BENNET AND CHRISTINE ROBERTSON,
SCOTTISH POPPY APPEAL AREA ORGANISERS
KINROSS, MILNATHORT, FOSSOWAY & PORTMOAK*



Flutterby Fitness & Macmillan Cancer Support

A HUGE THANK YOU to everyone in the community who came along to our Macmillan Cancer Support Afternoon Tea event which was held in The Masonic Hall Kinross on 31 October. It was a very successful afternoon raising £1575 for this worthy cause. My personal thanks must go to my team of helpers – The Kitchen Elves who served the refreshments and scrumptious cakes, the Door/Raffle team and the home baking stall ladies. Thanks also to the wonderful local stall holders – Goosetown Pottery, Fair Bothan Beag Designs, Neals Yard, Orla Beaton Poetry and CHAS cards for providing some beautiful and practical pre-Christmas shopping gifts and treats.

We were most grateful for lovely donations of prizes for the raffle from The Grouse and Claret, Fair Trade, Goosetown Pottery, Neals Yard, Bothan Beag Designs and Hunters the Butchers. My thanks also to the committee of Lodge St Serf for their very generous monetary donation and for the use of the hall facilities.

I'm very grateful to all of my Pilates class participants for their kindness in giving monetary donations to the event and to all those who made contributions of home baking, raffle and tombola prizes and generally supported the event.

With much heartfelt thanks to all.

Val Oswald, Flutterby Fitness Pilates

Scotlandwell in Bloom & the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal 2023

THE SCOTLANDWELL IN BLOOM team and friends had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon on Thursday 2 November courtesy of the Well Country Inn (thank you Ronnie) as they wrapped and filled shoeboxes for the Blythswood Shoe Box Appeal. We completed an amazing 110 shoeboxes and were rewarded with coffee and sweet treats kindly donated by some of the ladies



from the Friendship Circle. Due to the generosity of donations we were able to donate £140 towards transport costs. A huge thank you to everyone who came along and to those who very kindly handed in donations (shoeboxes, goodies and cash) – together we made it happen. A special thank you must go to Jinty and friends who knitted and donated a fabulous variety of wonderful much needed woolly hats.

Thanks also to the 5 o'clock gang (and Charlie and Hannah) who helped carry the shoeboxes out and filled the cars ready for transportation to Kinross. The boxes were delivered to the Blythswood lorry on 7 November. We very much hope our boxes are making their way to help spread a little Christmas cheer to those less fortunate.

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Thanks and Congratulations

Complete Look Team

The Complete Look team would like to thank every customer who visited us in 2023. Running a business always has challenges and this year was no different, but your continued support is the reason we do what we do.

Our small business relies on your custom, and of your sharing your experiences in our friendly, little salon. If you have talked about us to your friends, bought a voucher as a gift, or treated someone special (or yourselves) to something from our product range, thank you. You have no idea how much it means.

We know that this year more than most, you choose carefully where to spend your money and we're honoured if you choose us. It helps us to support our staff, improve our training, update our equipment and build our business.

We have a range of beautiful products in-store this festive season to suit every budget and we are always happy to see you, so please do pop in for a browse.

We'd love it if you could share your experiences, good or bad, to help us improve the services we offer.

Our new loyalty scheme is now fully up and running! You can pick up a new card anytime you visit and after 15 stamps, you'll receive 15% off your next treatment. Terms apply, and you can get all the info from our friendly team.

We wish all our customers the very best of the festive season.

Craighead Wind Farm

A big thank you to all those who attended the recent public consultation events for our proposed Craighead Wind Farm (8 turbines, 48MW), in Carnbo and Dunning in November.

Information on the development is available on our dedicated website at www.craigheadwindfarm.co.uk, where there is the opportunity to view the consultation boards and provide feedback, if not done so already. The opportunity to provide feedback will be open until Friday 1 December.

We will be engaging further with the local community councils over the coming months, as we look to advance discussions in relation to our community offering – namely our proposed Renewable Electricity Discount Scheme (REDS), and community Shared Ownership, of which further information for both can be found on our website.

A second round of consultation events will be undertaken in January 2024, on Tuesday 23 January between 3.30pm and 7.30pm at Carnbo Village, and at the same times on Tuesday 24 January at Dunning Village Hall, where we will seek to incorporate, where possible, feedback from the first series of events. A further newsletter will be circulated to the local community in advance of this.

PORTMOAK VILLAGE HALL

The Portmoak Village Hall is now fully open and available for bookings for social and educational events.

We offer a large and attractive venue with a well-equipped kitchen, entrance hall and lobby, and the usual conveniences including for the less able.

We presently have availability during the day on most days, and on Wednesday mornings and evenings.

**Enquiries and bookings via
Mr John Nicol 01592 840573**

Congratulations!



It's A Boy!

David and Isobel Syme, 3 Fruix, Kinross are delighted to announce the birth of their seventh grandchild, **Dylan David Syme**, born on 8 September 2023 at Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy. Son of Matthew and Chelsai Syme and brother to Lucy and Thea.

Letters

£1,700 donated to install and maintain defibrillators around Loch Leven

Following **Kinross Road Runners'** three sell-out events in 2023, we are delighted to have been able to donate £1,000 to Kinross First Responders Charity, £500 to Orwell Parish Church and £200 to Loch Leven parkrun, for the installation and maintenance of defibrillators in the local area.

We are very grateful to the local community for the support of our club and are thrilled to be able to invest in the local area with the proceeds from our events.



Farewell

SO IT'S FAREWELL to our current MP, John Nicolson, after the next general election. He says he'll be 'very sad' to leave his constituents but it would be difficult to work that out from his monthly contributions to the *Newsletter*.

To my recollection he has never written anything about Kinross or Kinross-shire, nothing about matters affecting us in our part of the world. Maybe he'll be more attentive to people in the constituency he is to contest but somehow I doubt it.

I only hope that our next MP, whoever that may be, will write a Newsletter column that's relevant to those of us living here instead of filling the allocated space with matters which concern only him/her or his/her immediate social circle.

Bill Cooper, Kinross

AUDREY T 
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ALDI or LIDL – BUT NOT BOTH?



KINROSS RESIDENTS ANTICIPATING the arrival of new budget food stores in the area may have to settle for only one, rather than two.

Aldi's original planning application for a new store on land at Auld Mart Road in Milnathort was submitted in May 2022. Following public consultations and discussions with the planning department, the developers submitted a revised application. The amended plans now include:

- Retention of Market House;
- Reconfiguration of the store to make it 1.1m wider and rotated by 50C;
- Removal of a separate service yard in the interest of local amenity;
- Introduction of a more direct path from the north-east corner;
- Additional trees on the eastern side.

If it does gain approval, the development at Auld Mart Road will create up to 35 jobs for local people, as well as employment opportunities throughout the construction process and within the Aldi supply chain. Andy Doyle, Property Director says 'the new store would bring an investment of around £5.3 million into the local area, alongside providing residents with increased consumer choice.'

The Aldi application may not now be determined before Christmas, as the Council have to invite feedback on the new plans from the community and other stakeholders.

Meanwhile, a representative for London and Scottish Property Investment Management (LSPIM), attended the November Milnathort and Orwell CC meeting to update the public and the CC on the company's proposals for the eagerly anticipated retail park scheme at the old BCA site (to be known as Loch Leven Gateway).

It seems as though the plans for Loch Leven Gateway (where several retail outlets are planned) may depend on the planning permission situation with the ALDI site in Milnathort.

LSPIM had a successful public consultation phase, with most Kinross residents making positive comments about their proposals. However, analysis from a discount food retailer (who was not named) seemed to indicate that it is simply not viable for Kinross to have more than one budget food retailer.

It may make it more difficult for a development site to attract a general goods discount retailer if they do not have a discount food retailer already prepared to move in.

The result could be that Kinross-shire residents might have to make do with just one discount store, as the likelihood of getting both a Milnathort Aldi and a Lidl seems to be receding.

There was discussion at the meeting about whether the customer base in the Milnathort and Kinross area was large enough to sustain two discount supermarkets.

Cowdenbeath has a population that is not only smaller than Kinross but also has a lower per capita disposable income – and there you will find not only Aldi and Lidl, but also Iceland and Morrisons.

The catchment east of Kinross is considerable, including Strathmiglo, Auchtermuchty, Falkland and minor villages in the surround.

The building of Loch Leven Gateway would be dependent on flood defence proposals being approved. The PKC flood defence team have carried out their public consultation phase and will be reporting back to the Council by early 2024.

LSPIM are now targeting an opening of Loch Leven Gateway in May 2026. The project webpage has been updated to reflect this at <https://www.lspim.co.uk/bca-kinross-consultation>.

It says, 'Since we conducted the second public consultation event, at which our proposals for Loch Leven Gateway were warmly received, the Council have held two public consultation events on their flood defence proposals. We were extremely encouraged to see the positive approach being taken on the delivery of the flood defence works, which will be constructed on BCA land, and that the Council are now reporting an improved delivery timeline, saving approx. 7 months, which means that the Loch Leven Gateway development timeline can come forward too.'

'The revised timeline is now:

PKC Flood Defence Works	Aug 2025 – Apr 2026
Loch Leven Gateway Construction	Apr 2025 – Apr 2026
Target opening of development	May/June 2026

LSPIM did not wish to provide a comment at this time.

Whichever way the decision goes, there will no doubt be a discount food retailer in this area soon. Either Kinross residents will travel to Milnathort for their food shopping, or Milnathort residents will travel up to the far side of Kinross for theirs – with, of course, the added attraction of being able to visit the other shops in the proposed Loch Leven Gateway. There are a number of competing and variable factors at play in advancing this development. The situation does not appear to be straightforward and we will continue to observe closely, with interest, progress in the coming months.





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MORE BLOOMIN' AWARDS FOR KINNESSWOOD!

IT WAS A HAPPY and hopeful bunch of Kinnesswood in Bloom members who set off for London to compete as finalists in Britain in Bloom, held in the Lindley Hall on 23 October. This awards event celebrates those groups who make positive changes to their local environment through horticultural, environmental and community action.

It seemed like a long time since the judges' August visit to Kinnesswood and even longer since KiB agreed to be one of four Scottish representatives nominated in various categories by Beautiful Scotland. The others were East Haven Together, Aberdeen Communities Together and Bonnie Blantyre and Pals.

Whatever hopes they had allowed themselves were well and truly exceeded. Kinnesswood in Bloom were awarded not only the RHS Gold Award, but also came top in the Village category and were winners of the Children and Young People's Participation Award. In addition, John Nicol won a richly deserved Community Champion Award.

John told the *Newsletter*, 'I couldn't believe it after all the awards we won. I've been working with the group for 20 years altogether. I retired 10 years ago and I basically do this full time. I work with the school children as well. I was well pleased.'

Among its many gardening initiatives Kinnesswood was recognised for their maintenance of eight community gardens around the village and the well-kept floral displays, demonstrating the good use of permanent planting.

The judges were very impressed by their visit to the school where they were shown round by articulate, knowledgeable and enthusiastic children. They also liked the displays of art and environmental work done by the children and displayed in the bus shelter.

They felt there was a strong sense of local identity and pride of place from everyone they met, exhibiting an appreciation of the village. They were also struck by the extensive use of tech-



John Nicol and Norma Smith with Tayshan Hayden Smith, from the BBC's 'Your Garden Made Perfect.'

nology to promote the work of the Bloom group and the life of the community.

Rachel de Thame, seen on programmes like *Gardener's World* and the *Chelsea Flower Show* presented the awards, commenting, 'Britain in Bloom gardening groups give selflessly of their time and energy to make their communities better for everyone to enjoy, from engaging with young people, helping to grow food for those in need or providing plant displays to inspire a sense of pride. These groups are the heroes of our villages, towns and cities and keep our country blooming.'

It was a very proud group of In Bloomers who returned from London, laden with trophies.



John Nicol, Carol Vance and Rachel de Thame

Alone On Christmas Day?



WILL YOU OR SOMEONE you know be on their own on Christmas Day?

If so, why not join us in the Kinross Centre for Christmas Lunch and entertainment? Lunch will be served from 12pm and transport can be provided if necessary. Christmas lunch is free of charge, however donations are welcome.

- Home Made Soup donated by Heaven Scent Coffee Shop in Milnathort
- Turkey and trimmings donated by Hunters of Kinross
- Fruit Trifle donated by Reminisce Coffee Shop, Kinross
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For further information or to book a place either call or text Richard on 07999 510500 or call Nan at the Kinross Centre on 01577 863869.



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LOCH LEVEN'S LARDER

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7th & 14th December till 8.30pm

Take the hassle out of Christmas with our late night shopping hours! For two nights in December, our Gift Shop & Food Hall will be open until 8:30pm, the perfect opportunity for some stress-free gift buying. Our cafe will also be open for walk-ins offering a limited and delicious selection of hot meals.

Christmas food to order
via our online shop

Our festive food collection is now available to order online! Get ready to indulge your taste buds with our delectable range of courses, all expertly crafted by our talented chefs, as well as meats from our selected suppliers to ensure your Christmas dinner is nothing short of spectacular.

For more information visit lochlevenslarder.com



NEW SALON FOR AUDREY



POPULAR KINROSS HAIRDRESSER Audrey Telford has realised a long-held dream by opening her own salon in the heart of the town centre.

Audrey has taken over the shop at 109 High Street, formerly occupied by the Stephen Lyon Foundation, and transformed it into a stylish yet relaxing retreat called Audrey T, the Salon.

Already she has a loyal clientele, many of whom have entrusted their hair to her over the 15 years she worked at Salon 62 in The Muirs.

'It's always been a dream of mine to open my own salon', says Audrey.

'So when I saw that the High Street shop had become available, I jumped at the chance.

'There are quite a few hairdressers in the vicinity, but I'm offering something a bit different in that it will be just me and one client at a time. My aim is to create an intimate atmosphere where clients can chill out and have a coffee and a chat without all the interruptions of a busy salon.'

As her clients would testify, Audrey is highly-skilled in all aspects of hairdressing and always has the time and patience to talk



to, listen, and advise. But despite offering such a personal service, her prices are highly competitive.

The shop is open from Tuesday to Saturday. Book an appointment by phoning Audrey on 01577 869592.

A TRULY A-MAZ-ING WINNER!

A RECENT SWI CONFERENCE in Perth saw the inaugural presentation of 'The Margaret Whiteford Award' for an outstanding member who is extraordinary and deserving of recognition. Maz Thorn beat off strong competition from all over Scotland to be the first holder of this prestigious trophy.

Maz has been a SWI (rural) member since 2006 after she retired from teaching in England and moved back to Scotland. She has many hobbies including indoor/outdoor bowling, for which she is the Perth and Kinross convenor. Music is another hobby she enjoys, playing guitar for parties, singing in the SWI choir and Rural Blend. In fact she often helps out neighbouring SWIs and other local groups with singing/songs and accompanying music.

Craft is one of her true loves whether it is sewing, quilting, paper craft and many more. In fact she will try her hand at any craft and if she doesn't know how to do it she will look on YouTube and take it from there.

During Covid, Maz took herself into Zoom and digital communications with vigour and enthusiasm. She set up Zoom meetings and got lots of people involved from all over Scotland. This proved a lifeline to many especially those who live in remote areas.

Her passion for digital communications has led her to be a SWI digital champion. She has helped people of all ages get a device, set up, and join the online community. Any problems can be sorted out as she is just a phone call away.

Maz told the *Newsletter*, 'What an honour and privilege it was for me when I became the inaugural recipient of the SWI Margaret Whiteford Trophy for Outstanding Member of the Year at the Scottish Women's Institutes National Conference held in Perth.



Maz (left) receives the Margaret Whiteford Award from SWI Kinross President Joyce Petrie.

'I was nominated for sharing my digital skills with other members, particularly during lockdown, in order to help them use Zoom to access meetings and skill sharing sessions and thus prevent them from being digitally isolated in what were very isolating times. There were three finalists and each of the others were deserving winners also. Thank you to all who nominated me. I am truly honoured.'

An SWI Spokesperson said, 'Maz is currently our secretary keeping us up to date with happenings from all levels of the SWI using WhatsApp, email and post. She is a good friend to many with a heart of gold helping everyone in any way she can. She is a truly deserving recipient of this award. We are all so proud. Well done Maz.'

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SARAH RANKIN COOKS



ONE OF MY favourite things about Christmas dinner is the stuffing. Whether we're having turkey or not, there is always stuffing on the table and the leftovers make for a brilliant Boxing Day Breakfast or an epic turkey sandwich.

My love of stuffing is such that I've created a whole dish – why bother with the trimmings if you're really only interested in the star of the show? This is a great option for the Twixmas days when you just can't be bothered to cook but still want some-

thing delicious. It's quick and easy and can be prepared to the baking stage and frozen in advance.

Use the best quality sausages you can find, something like a Cumberland or Lincolnshire seasoned version adds in loads of extra flavour.

You Will Need:

- 250g high quality pork sausages
- 250g venison sausages
- 1 large onion finely diced
- 2 minced garlic cloves
- Handful of shelled pistachios – roughly chopped
- 2 tbsp dried sour cherries (or dried cranberries)
- 1 tsp cumin
- 1 tsp coriander
- 1 tsp fresh chopped rosemary
- 1 pack all butter puff pastry
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp each of sesame seeds and nigella seeds

METHOD

Preheat the oven to 200°C fan.

Fry the onion and garlic in a little oil until softened and sweet. Be patient. This will take about 10 minutes. Leave to cool a little.

Remove the sausages from the skins and mix together by hand. Add the spices and rosemary and a little salt and pepper. Add the pistachios and sour cherries.

Mix in the cooled onion and garlic and combine well. Shape into a round, flat disc and set aside.

Roll out the pastry into two equal-sized discs and place the sausagemeat in the centre of one. Brush with beaten egg and place the second disc on top and shape round the meat. Bring the sides of the pastry together, using the egg washed bottom layer to stick to the upper one. Egg wash the whole thing again all over. Place in the fridge for 10 minutes. Egg wash again and sprinkle with the sesame and nigella seeds. Bake for 20–25 minutes. Leave to cool before cutting. Serve hot, or cold with a healthy serving of chutney.

Stuffing En Croute

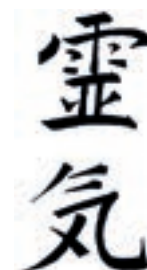


WANT TO LEARN REIKI? Traditional Japanese Methods

Reiki Level 1 & 2 training offered by reiki master Kor Newhouse at his Scotlandwell reiki studio. Full details on the website.

Korstia Reiki Studio

www.korstiareiki.com
T: 07739 462465



PlaidSong Wow SSAFA Guests in KPC

PLAIDSONG, THE PERTH-based duo who are increasingly gaining a steady following, treated a full house of 150 guests to a superb selection of songs at a November concert held in Kinross Parish Church in aid of SSAFA Perth and Kinross.

PlaidSong specialise not just in performance but giving the history associated with each song. Syd and Nicola have performed together over a number of years, forming PlaidSong to showcase their shared love of history and music. They have performed regularly in Scotland and beyond. Appropriately, for a concert timed close to Armistice Day, they treated the audience to *Songs of the Scottish Soldier Across the Centuries*.

The Scots have long soldiered for money, adventure, a just cause, or national emergency. Out of that has come a rich heritage of music and song by, about, or for soldiers. This performance by PlaidSong told that story through performing a selection of songs from across the ages, including old favourites and some new, such as: *Johnnie Cope; Twa Recruitin' Sergeants; When This Bloody War is Over; D Day Dodgers; A Scottish Soldier*, and more.



All of this was presented with a PowerPoint presentation illustrating the stories and history behind each of the songs.

Dr Nicola Small is a professional historian and researcher. She has sung and performed in many shows and concerts over the years.

Syd House is a retired Perthshire-based forester. He has sung and played guitar in various folk ensembles over the years.

An unusual feature of the show was a display of art created by veteran prisoners in-

side HMP Perth. The Governor, Mr Andy Hodge, was the VIP guest, who spoke about the art and how helpful it is for mental health and therapy reasons. The display will be followed up by a full exhibition in St Paul's church hall, Kinross in early 2024, with a view to selling some of the art for SSAFA and the prison benevolent fund.

Branch chair Andy Middlemiss said, 'What a show by two inspiring musicians, with stunning voices and wonderful guitar playing. We are deeply grateful to PlaidSong for giving us a great night.'

Branch President Major General Adrian Freer – late PARA – gave a vote of thanks to the large crowd who supported the show, Rev Alan Reid and church staff for hosting the event, the many SSAFA volunteers who helped arrange the show and especially to PlaidSong. He explained how the monies raised – well over £1300 – would be used for veterans' welfare in the Perth and Kinross area.

NEW PKC GREEN LIVING FUND

GROUPS AIMING TO CREATE low carbon communities can help the environment, providing solutions to act against climate change, as well as tackle challenges associated with the cost-of-living crisis.

Perth and Kinross groups are implementing solutions which save the community and householder money, whilst ensuring the environment is protected and enhanced. Measures such as making homes more energy efficient, reducing travel costs and sustainable food options all contribute towards a more resilient future. The green living fund is now open to help support groups to undertake this type of good work in our communities.

Green Living Fund for Community Groups

The Green Living Fund is a new opportunity for community groups to apply for a grant to make a positive difference around climate change and cost of living. Proposals should fit with at least one of the criteria listed below, and also demonstrate how it will help local residents with the cost of living.

- Energy** reducing consumption, promoting efficiency
 - Transport** encouraging active travel, decarbonising transport
 - Waste** reduce, reuse and recycle
 - Resilience** improving greenspace, biodiversity, local food growing
 - Engagement** increasing public awareness, engaging communities
- For more information on how to apply visit Green Living Fund (communitychoices.scot)



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K I N R O S S

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WET CYCLE IN AID OF CHAS

A GROUP OF LOCAL families took part in a 24 hr cycle relay on a wet Saturday, just after storm Babet. Chris and Jo Nicholson and their family and friends took on the challenge to raise money for CHAS and have raised £2,350 so far.

Setting off whilst navigating the last gasps of Storm Babet 12 children and 7 adults from across four families sought to cycle around Loch Leven non-stop for 24 hours, all in aid of CHAS. They cycled through foot deep flood water, had multiple punctures and had to arrange for chainsaws to be deployed to clear fallen trees.



Collectively they cycled over 1000km, ranging from the seven-year-olds clearing 40km, a 66-year-old doing 80km and some members cycling non-stop for the full 24 hours. They celebrated with a big breakfast and were pleased to raise over £2,000 for charity.

Chris and Jo want to extend their huge appreciation from the families to CHAS, the supporters who baked lots of calories to keep the cyclists going and for Sainsbury's for their generous donation.

Well done to all of them! If you would like to contribute, you can look them up by searching *justgiving.com* for 'Group Family Fundraiser for Children's Hospices Across Scotland, (CHAS)'.

GLENFARG COMMUNITY TRANSPORT GROUP

Kinross-Glenfarg		Booking Number 0845 605 5955			
Monday to Saturday	95	95	95	95	95
Not full					
Kinross, Park & Ride	0745	0845	Everyhour	1445	1800
Campus	0753	0815	-	1453	1808
Milnathort, Church Street	0755	0815	-	1455	1810
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0805	0905	-	1705	1820
Glenfarg-Kinross					
Monday to Saturday	95	95	95	95	95
Not full					
Glenfarg, Greenbank Road	0710	0810	Everyhour	1430	1710
Milnathort, Church Street	0720	0820	-	1420	1720
Campus	-	0822	-	1422	1722
Kinross, Park & Ride	0730**	0830	-	1430	1730

**Connections with 0737 Amber 01 to Edinburgh, services 0845

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Added to this, from January we will be starting a three-to-six-month pilot of an extension to the 55-bus route. The extended daytime service will be running hourly from Kinross, through Milnathort, Glenfarg and Bridge of Earn to Perth, where we will serve a range of stops including the station, leisure pool, hospital and retail park in addition to the City Centre. We are therefore recruiting.

Contact us: transport@glenfarg.org

KINROSS STANDS PROUD ON

The War Memorial, after the laying of wreaths.



The Parade sets out

ONCE AGAIN, KINROSSIANS DID themselves proud as they came to pay tribute to those lost and fallen in service.

On a gloriously still and sunny Sunday morning a large number of people came to Kinross to take part in the Remembrance Service and Parade. After a joint service in Kinross Parish Church, the parade, heralded by the Kinross Pipe Band and led by the colour bearers, assembled and proudly marched to the War Memorial in the town centre.

Following the colours were the veterans, escorted by serving men and women and then the youth groups. There was the Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association, scouts, cubs and beavers, and of course then there were the people.

It was truly moving to see such a large turn-out of local people, from the very young (and very well-behaved) toddlers to the oldest attendee, a Royal Artillery veteran of the Normandy landings, 99-year-old James Dudley. They lined the streets from the church to the War Memorial. They came not because they had to, but because they wanted to. They came to show their appreciation and say a silent prayer, perhaps for a friend, a family member, whether long gone or lost in more recent conflicts. War touches many of us in so many different ways. For some the loss is instantaneous, for others the pain is long, drawn out and brings a lifetime of sadness.

The Rev Alan Reid of Kinross Parish Church and Fr David Mackenzie Mills of St Paul's both said prayers. Then came the wreath-laying, followed by the poignant sound of a lone bugler playing the Last Post. An impeccably observed traditional silence was held before Reveille was sounded, after which the ceremony closed to the skirling of the pipers.

St Serf's Lodge kindly opened their hall on the Muirs for a cup of soup and bite to eat afterwards.

It was Mrs Jeffy Erskine's first time as a new Deputy Lord Lieutenant to lead the wreath laying on behalf of HM The King.



Colour bearers lead the veterans away from the Memorial as the ceremony ends



Kinross Community Councillor Emma Leslie, with local Councillor Neil Freshwater

A SUNDAY OF REMEMBRANCE



Colours are lowered while the Last Post sounds



Kinross Firefighters pay their respects



Veteran James Dudley, born 17 November 1924, and now aged 99. Aged only 19 he took part in the invasion of Normandy with the Royal Artillery. He is a very proud recipient of the Croix de Guerre, presented to him in 2017 by the French Consul in Edinburgh



The Last Post



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Mark MacRae manoeuvres himself around the parapet



The Igoe Up team, fitting the Christmas lights around the Kinross Parish Church Tower. Inset: Chris Igoe places the star on one of the minarets.



UP, UP and AWAY!

IT'S A LONG CLIMB up to the top of the Kinross Parish Church clock tower. It involves stairs, ladders, narrow trapdoors, boarded rafters and beams so low that I'm surprised I escaped with my skull intact.

Once there, though, the view is stupendous. The tower is 30m - just under 100ft high - and each year it is decorated with 2,400 Christmas lights by the kindness of Chris Igoe and his team, Mark McRae and Keigan Mason.

This is done at no cost to the church or the community - as Chris says: 'The church is the heart of the community in our eyes and even at our busiest time of the year we always need to make time to light it up at Christmas.'

'Sometimes it's the small things that matter in life and we hope that people find that looking at the church lights helps bring them some Christmas spirit.'

We're sure it does. Thank you, all.



It's a long way down...

KIRSTEEN IN TOP 100 WOMEN IN CYCLING

EACH YEAR, THE UK'S cycling charity Cycling UK recognises women from all corners of the cycling world who have had a positive impact. Raising £25,000 in 2018 to buy three Trishaws, Kirsteen Ross founded the Kinross chapter of Cycling Without Age Scotland.

The following year Kirsteen bought a road bike, joined Kinross Cycling Club and trained as a Breeze ride leader.

Kirsteen has now been recognised as one of Cycling UK's Top 100 Women in Cycling 2023.

She told the *Newsletter* 'I am delighted, amazed and proud to be recognised nationally for my work as Founder of Kinross-shire Trishaws by Cycling UK.



Kirsteen Ross

The trishaws enable the elderly, or those that cannot cycle themselves, to feel the wind in their hair on adapted bikes in the countryside, and to feel connected and valued within their community.

I'm incredibly proud of the positive impact Kinross-shire Trishaws has made and the happiness it has brought. We have cy-

clered over 1000 miles on the trishaws this year alone.

'Over the past year, I have led over 50 bike rides for women as a ride leader for the British Cycling Breeze programme as well as ride leading for Kinross Cycling Club. My aims have been to enable women of all ages to get active, participating in fun, social rides, allowing riders to gain in confidence, esteem, improve knowledge of safe cycling, improve fitness and achieve their own goals.

What makes volunteering special to me is to see the joy on riders' faces, the positivity, camaraderie and long-lasting new friendships formed. It's such a pleasure, and I'm thrilled to be recognised in this way.'

Christmas Carols at the Café

Time: 3.30pm

Date: 10th December

Venue: Loch Leven's Larder

Refreshments will be served during the event.



**Loch
Leven**
Church

Charity No: SC049050

info@lochlevenchurch.com

www.lochlevenchurch.com

www.facebook.com/LochLevenChurch

CHRISTMAS AT LOCH LEVEN CHURCH

3rd December – Nativity family service
Loch Leven Community Campus at 10.30 am

10th December – Christmas Carols at the Café
Loch Leven's Larder at 3.30 pm

17th December – Community Christmas Carols
Kinross Parish Church at 4 pm

www.lochlevenchurch.com
www.facebook.com/LochLevenChurch
info@lochlevenchurch.com



**Loch
Leven**
Church

Charity No: SC049050

HE'S MAKING A LIST!

A big thank you to the wonderful Rotary Club and all the Elves involved in making this happen for the children of Kinross-shire every year!

Remember that all runs are weather dependent, so like the Facebook page to get up to date information on the night

Facebook.com/Kinross & District Rotary club

They are still hoping to have a tracker on the sleigh, but it will be different to the one used in previous years.

Again, follow Kinross & District Rotary club on Facebook for more information.

There will be collectors out this year but if you prefer to donate via JustGiving, then find us at *justgiving.com* for *kinrosssantasleigh2023*

Please note that, if weather prevents one of these outings, Santa and his elves will try to cover it on Sunday 17 December.



SANTA'S SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 1 DECEMBER

*Kinross South of Station Road:
Burns Begg Street, Nan Walker Wynd 6-8pm.*

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER

*Kinross Central Route 1:
Douglas Crescent, Station Road,
northward to Ochil, Green Road,
Simpson Drive, Sir Alan Smith Gardens 6-8pm.*

SUNDAY 3 DECEMBER

*Classlochie, Gairneybridge, Cleish, Drum,
Crook of Devon, Middle Balado 5.30-7.30pm*

FRIDAY 8 DECEMBER

*Kinross Central Route 2:
Wilson Court, Springfield Park, all streets north of
Springfield Road, Muirpark, Muir Grove,
Broom Road, Sunnypark 6-8pm*

SATURDAY 9 DECEMBER

*Kinross North:
Burnbank, Lathro Park etc, Acremoar,
Latch Dubh, Dalwhamie, Drumeuther,
Gallowhill Road, Mavisbank 6-8pm.*

SUNDAY 10 DECEMBER

Milnathort 5.30-7.30pm.

FRIDAY 15 DECEMBER

*Balgedie, Glenlomond,
Kinnesswood, Scotlandwell 6-8pm.*

SATURDAY 16 DECEMBER

*Mawcarse, Cuthill, Drunzie,
Duncrивie, Glenfarg 6-8pm.*

THE GREAT GIVEAWAY

SINCE 2018 PKC has committed approximately £2m to over 400 community-led projects through the Community Investment Fund (CIF). In Kinross-shire, 10 applications sought

£40,000, against an available budget of £36,000. Panel members assessed and scored applications. They agreed to award £27,500 to 8 separate projects, as below.

- Milnathort & Orwell Core Paths Group** **£1,828.98**
To purchase a heavy-duty, self-propelled, petrol-wheeled flail for use on core paths in the Milnathort & Orwell Community Council area.
- Kinross Bowling Club** **£4,750**
To install disability ramps to provide wheelchair access to the clubhouse and bowling green.
- Glenfarg Community Transport Group** **£3,000**
To help develop a website to provide information about the community minibus and associated walking and cycling resources.
- Broke not Broken** **£4,800**
To support an infant food insecurity project, providing formula, nappies, wipes and weaning products to those in need.
- Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust** **£5,000**
To support free school and community workshops. These workshops focus on climate change through light pollution and how to reduce our own individual and collective impact.

- KYTHE** **£2,000**
A contribution towards a larger project providing rural youth outreach activities across Kinrossshire and elsewhere in P&K.
- Perth Autism Support** **£4,047**
To support an outreach project for young people aged 4-18 in several rural communities, including Kinrossshire. Funding will ensure that the services are delivered at low, or no cost to the families involved.
- Kinross Centre** **£2,130**
To support Ruby Anniversary celebrations for the Centre. A fortnight of special themed events involving local residents, volunteers, service users and schools is being offered.

These funding decisions left an underspend of £8,306.02 and elected members asked that the fund be reopened to allow additional groups to come forward and make use of the remainder. The funding portal was reopened in October. Applications will be accepted until Friday 15 December. A further meeting in January 2024 will be held when funding decisions can be made.

MUSIC ON YOUR DOORSTEP

ON 2 DECEMBER, a small concert for the community will be taking place at Milnathort Town Hall, with many young people from the local and surrounding area taking part. This will be the culmination of many weeks of hard work, plus quite a lot of fun. In fact, Milnathort is bursting with community music opportunities for everyone, thanks to local music teacher Adelaide Carlow.



Adelaide leading the choir

Fancy a good warming sing with friends of an evening? Or maybe your child wants to join a string group to experience the fun of playing along with others? If you've got a toddler or a baby maybe you'd like to bring them to a creative and gentle music group?

What do these three groups have in common apart from the obvious – music?

- They provide an opportunity to make connections with other people;
- They are led by Adelaide Carlow, a multi-instrumental musician, songwriter and teacher based near Scotlandwell;
- They are all right on your doorstep.

Adelaide believes that 'music adds a fabulous extra zing to your life and can help you meet your tribe outside of school or work or home – it opens all kinds of new doors to friendship and fun'.

Adelaide insists that 'absolutely anyone can sign up to these classes, there are no expectations that you should be great at singing or music. I truly believe that with the right environment and support,

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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



Adelaide coaching one of her youngest wee cellists.

we can all learn to sing and play - everyone is capable of making a really great sound. It is one of humankind's loveliest gifts – to be able to make music – and we all deserve a chance to enjoy it.'

Adelaide trained in music, psychology and ethnomusicology in Glasgow and London, before establishing her teaching career. For over 20 years she has developed particular areas of skill and interest – teaching younger children, residential music camps, teaching through innovative and creative ideas, group music making and natural voice leading. Natural Voice practitioners believe in letting your own, ordinary voice sing, liberating it from being told not to, so that you can express yourself in harmony with others, because EVERYONE can. She has most recently been a regular tutor with thriving natural voice choirs Earnsong and Just Singin' in Comrie and Birnam.

So how can you take part?

Cantie Choir began in September 2023, and is welcoming new members through its door every Thursday at 7.15pm at the Orwell Church Hall, Ba'Hill, Milnathort. Just turn up!

Milnathort Youth String Orchestra or MYStrO welcomes all young string players on violin, viola, cello and bass to it's fun and active music sessions on Saturday mornings from 10-11.30am at Milnathort Town Hall. Please get in touch to sign up. Adelaide arranges all the music she sources specially to suit the musicians who take part and organises regular games, workshops and performance opportunities and outings for these young musicians, and there is plenty of room for this young orchestra to grow bigger and better all the time. Age range: 5 to 14 years.

Mouse Music, for 0-4s and their parent/carer, takes place in Scotlandwell on Friday mornings. This is a gentle explosion of sound, colour and joy, with Adelaide playing her own instruments and using scarves, puppets and balls to enrich the sensory experience. Please get in touch to sign up.

You can turn up to Cantie Choir unannounced, but for all three you are welcome to chat to Adelaide in advance, who can be reached by email adelaidecarlow@gmail.com and by phone 07790 568460. She would be delighted to hear from you and help you take a step into her friendly, connection-giving musical world.

Or just turn up at the Town Hall on 2 December at 11am and enjoy the music!

Kinross Newsletter Fund Awards



BUYING THE NEWSLETTER, or advertising with us, is helping to make a difference to your local community. All profits from the *Kinross Newsletter* are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes.

After a recent meeting of the Kinross Newsletter Fund, the following awards we re given out:

• Carnbo Hall	£2000
• Friends of Loch Leven Library	£ 500
• KGV Pavilion	£1000
• Trishaws	£1000
• MAKAR	£1600
• Michael Bruce Garden	£ 500
• Light Up Kinross	£2000

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.



Find A Warm Space

Loch Leven Library, Tues and Thurs, 10am-7pm; Wed and Fri, 10am-6pm; Sat: 10am-1pm. Warm space, hot drinks.

Glenfarg Community Centre Mondays, soup and roll 12.30-1.30pm.

Men's Shed Mondays 2pm-4.30pm, hot drinks and rolls with activities. kdms.secretary@outlook.com

Tabernacle Hall, Blairadam. Every second Wed until March 2024, 12-4pm. Booking required; please call 07990 662073 & speak to Margaret.

Orwell and Portmoak Church: Milnathort Warm welcome, last Fri of the month, 10am-12noon. Messy Church and 3-course meal, 2 December 2023.

Portmoak Church, Speaker and afternoon tea, 15 December 2023. Call 01577 861200

Carnbo Village Hall, Monday evening talks, 1st Mon of the month except January, starting at 7.30pm, refreshments. Call 07917 319003.

Coffee and Chat, Wed following the Mon talks, 10am-12noon.

Kinross Day Centre, Mon to Fri. Lunch and activities for older people, including board games, quizzes, singing, indoor curling and gentle exercise.

KYTHE Study group (age 11-19), Mon, 3.45-5pm, Fitness group, Tues, 3.45-5pm Art group, Wed 3.45-5pm, Music, Wed, 6pm-8pm (by appointment only), Chill and bible chat, Thurs 3.45pm-5pm Drop-in, Fri 1pm-4pm. <https://kythe.org.uk/>

Millbridge Hall, Talking Donkey Café, Fri 11.30am-1.30pm. Open to all for a great hot lunch, a cuppa and a blether.

Warm Packs: Broke Not Broken, Kinross Day Centre (Soup in a flask (flask can be brought back and re-filled at the Centre, Monday to Friday 10am-3pm)

Loch Leven Library: Warm items, e.g. blankets, hot water bottles and flasks.

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DECEMBER

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December 1st: 6pm - 10pm
Open late, small plates & DUB

Milnathort Winter Market
December 14th: 6pm - 7pm
Milnathort Town Hall
Late night shopping, local businesses open until late, a night of festive fun!

Milnathort Filmhouse
Pre-film nibbles
December 16th, open until 7pm

Christmas Eve Grazing Boxes
Pre-order our adults & kids grazing boxes for collection on Christmas Eve! Collection before 7pm.

FESTIVE OPENING HOURS

20th December	10am - 5pm
21st & 22nd December	10am - 5pm
Christmas Eve	closed
Christmas Day	closed
Boxing Day	closed
27th & 28th December	10am - 5pm
29th December	10am - 5pm
New Year's Eve	closed
1st January	closed
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PIPERS PLAY FOR CHAS

PIPERS FROM ST JOHN Scotland Perth and Kinross visited Rachel House children's hospice recently to hand over a cheque for £1250 and also put on a personal performance for children and families.

The group, which is made up of a pool of pipers, mostly from The Royal Scottish Pipers Society, have raised over £40,000 since their first donation of £1000 made in 1995 towards the building of Rachel House.

The pipers help raised funds for CHAS by piping for visitors to Scone Palace during the summer months and at the Kinross Agricultural Show each August. They are joined once a year by young pipers from Glenalmond College.

Chairman of St John Scotland Perth & Kinross, Janice Webster said: 'We were delighted and privileged once again to be able to play for the staff, families and volunteers of Rachel House. The work which CHAS does is so very valuable and we look forward to continuing our support in the future.'



Pipers from the Order of St Johns Perth and Kinross at the cheque presentation at Rachel House with CHAS service user, Lyle Cornet.

CHAS Community Fundraiser, Lyndsay Stobie said: 'CHAS is so grateful to the pipers from the Order of St Johns for their continued support over the last 24 years. Our children

and families always enjoy their performance each year – it is such a treat.' To find out more about CHAS visit www.chas.org.uk.

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DRUM ROLL... ONE, TWO

FOLLOWING THE GENEROUS DONATION from Hawick Pipe Band of six snare drums and a tenor drum to the Kinross Youth Pipes and Drums schools tuition programme, pupils at Arngask and Fossoway Primary Schools are getting to grips with their new drums.

Pupils can now embark on the next stage of their learning; mastering the flam, 13-beat roll and other drum moves, to keep the pipers in time with the beat.



The band are enormously grateful for this huge gift and hope to be able, one day, to show their gratitude by playing to the people of Hawick.

Above: Fossoway Primary Pupils with Stephen Kennedy and David Miller
Left: Arngask Primary Pupils with their new drums

Church News

SEE YOU ON SUNDAY @ 7!

KIN-NECTIONS - OUT NOW!



THE NEW KIN-NECTIONS, the free magazine of Kinross Parish Church, is now available. It covers the period December to February, including all the special events and services for the Christmas period.

The theme of this issue is from the words of a hymn: 'Together We Serve, United by Love'.

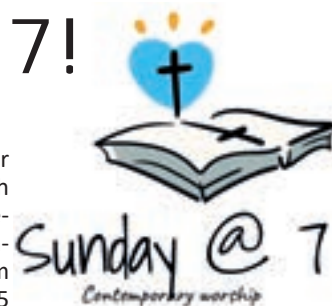
The magazine is delivered to the congregation and copies may also be picked up at the church, church centre, library and various cafés in Kinross.

KINROSS PARISH CHURCH invites you to **Sunday @ 7** – a service of informal contemporary worship and bite-sized Bible teaching.

This new service is designed with older teenagers and young adults in mind, along with those who work on Sunday mornings. Everyone, how-

ever, is welcome.

Held in the upper room at Kinross Parish Church on 3 and 10 December with refreshments from 6.45pm and lasting around 45 minutes. Young people can go on to snacks and drinks at the home of a member of the congre-



gation 8pm–9pm. Contact office@kinrossparishchurch.org for details.

The Big ADVENTure



ON SATURDAY 9 December **The Big ADVENTure** is taking place in Kinross Parish Church between 1-4pm.

All children are very welcome. Parents can either stay or leave their children. There will be a jam-packed programme

of toys, games, crafts and workshops with snacks and drinks, Christmas songs and activities related to Advent and the Christmas story.

There is no need to register in advance and there is no charge.

MISSING A LOVED ONE THIS CHRISTMAS?

CHRISTMAS CAN BE A hard time for many people and Kinross Parish Church recognises this through its annual Service of Quiet Remembrance and Thanksgiving.

This is at 6.30pm on Monday 18th December and is especially for anyone in the community who is missing a loved one at Christmas.

There are many other Advent and Christmas events at the church, listed in the diary in the church section of this *Newsletter*.





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D-DAY @ 80 – LEADERS

NEXT YEAR IS THE 80th anniversary of the D Day landings. Let's look at who was at the very top of the D Day 1944 planning, codenamed Operation Overlord.

Leaders are often tasked with seeing a vision that others can't. Their goal is to recruit others to pursue the dream with them.

In this particular case, the stakes could not have been higher. The fate of the world rested in the hands of generals, soldiers, airmen and sailors – men and women – who were committed to fighting for what they knew was right. Did the commitment of the leadership increase the commitment of the followers? Without a doubt. D-Day leadership qualities – commitment, honesty, integrity, a willingness to sacrifice, humility – are maybe something that we should all strive for. This is leadership at its finest.

In my last feature we looked at Winston Churchill. Now let's look at the overall military Supremo – nicknamed by all: 'IKE'.

General Dwight D. Eisenhower

Eisenhower was the American Supreme Allied Commander in charge of all forces involved in Operation Overlord.

In June 1942 Eisenhower was appointed to command U.S. Army forces in the European Theatre of Operations, but almost immediately he moved to the Mediterranean to conduct offensives in North Africa and Sicily during 1942–43. There he gained greater knowledge of U.S. and Allied forces and personalities, including Air Chief Marshal Arthur Tedder, Admiral Bertram Ramsay, and Lt. Gen. Bernard Montgomery.

He was appointed Allied supreme commander for Operations Neptune (the seaborne armada) and Overlord (the actual landings and breakout) on Christmas Eve of 1943 and, after extensive briefings in Washington, he established Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force (SHAEP) in London in January 1944. Many of the American and British commanders, who he had known in the Mediterranean, assumed crucial roles in SHAEP, enhancing

Anglo-American coordination.

It was no easy task. Because of his diplomatic skills, Eisenhower may have been the only American who could have operated the sometimes testy coalition so well. Relations with Montgomery were particularly strained at times, but U.S. dominance in manpower and material required an American as theatre commander. Though criticism was sometimes levelled at Eisenhower for his lack of combat experience, and his highly political orientation, the results proved the wisdom of his selection. He was, after all, manager of perhaps the most politically challenging coalition of all time, involving, as it did military and diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

The original date set for D-Day was 5 June 1944, but an unseasonably rough weather forecast forced a reconsideration. Eisenhower accepted the optimistic assessment of Scotsman, Group Captain J. M. Stagg, the chief meteorologist, who called 36 hours of decent weather over the sixth of June. Though concerned that the first landing waves would be isolated ashore, with insufficient strength to repulse German counterattacks, Eisenhower felt justified in proceeding with Op. Overlord. The order was issued at 0415 on 5 June, and at that point the process became irrevocable.

'No one present disagreed,' Eisenhower recalled, 'and there was a definite brightening of faces as, without a further word, each went off to his respective post, to flash out to his command the messages that would set the whole host in motion.'

But what is fascinating is the letter General Eisenhower wrote and had ready: 'In Case of Failure.' In part, it reads,



In the great course of this war, he was willing to accept full blame for its failure. No excuses. No wavering. No lack of integrity. A man full of valour, grit, and resolve. He knew what was right, and he was committed to doing it.

Just before the off, he had this message sent to all ranks:

'Your task will not be an easy one. Your enemy is well trained, well equipped and battle-hardened. He will fight savagely... but I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty and skill in battle. We will accept nothing less than full Victory! Good Luck! And let us all beseech the blessing of Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.'

Eisenhower toured the Normandy beaches shortly after D-Day, observing the massive movement of U.S., British, and Canadian forces driving inland.

He was awed seeing at first-hand the massive necessary logistical network, such as the Pluto oil pipeline and the Mulberry harbours. He was accompanied by his son John, a newly commissioned second lieutenant, who had just graduated from West Point Academy on 6 June.

As the Allies rolled across Western Europe, Eisenhower had to balance Allied priorities, rather than pursue American interests. Anglo-American fortunes under Eisenhower were almost uniformly successful, excepting the ill-fated airborne assault into Holland in September, and the surprise German offensive in the Ardennes in December. At year's end of 1944 Eisenhower was promoted to General of the Army.



'My decision to attack at this time and place was based upon the best information available. The troops, the air and the Navy did all that bravery and devotion to duty could do. If any blame or fault attaches to the attempt, it is mine alone.'

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Gen. Eisenhower earned his fifth star as Supreme Commander of the Allies — one of only nine men to ever hold a 5-star rank. As the Allies Commander, Eisenhower was considered the most powerful military man in the world.

A good friend of mine, the ex-army, military historian Rob Lyman, known to some as ‘Mr Burma Campaign’, wrote recently:

‘Experience of war between 1941 and 1945 showed that successful generalship requires four critical characteristics: leadership, strategic sense, intelligent energy and originality. What is abundantly clear is that generals who possess only one or a pair of these characteristics will never achieve what Sun Tzū lauded as a ‘Master of War’ or what Clausewitz called a military ‘genius’.

Ironically, his Jehovah’s Witness parents had been strict pacifists.

‘You have got to have something in which to believe. You have got to have leaders, organisation, friendships, and contacts that help you to believe that, and help you to put out your best.’

Eisenhower’s retirement was short-lived. He was recalled to active duty during the Korean War, commanding NATO from 1950 to 1952. However, the politically astute supreme commander already had been mentioned as a potential presidential candidate. He declared himself a Republican, and was elected 34th president of the United States in 1952. His immediate priori-

ty was concluding an armistice in Korea, which was accomplished in July 1953, with back-channel threats to use nuclear weapons. However, as Commander in Chief, he was again faced with terrible challenges — in this case Communist refusal to repatriate all POWs, and he may have left as many as 8000 US and United Nations personnel in captivity, because the Chinese and Soviets would never admit to holding them.

Eisenhower was re-elected President in 1956. He was a great leader- right man at the right time in the right job. D day operations were a success, largely because of ‘Ike’s’ will, leadership, determination and his ability to make people get on with each other. How we could use him in the Middle East right now.

ANDY MIDDLEMISS, BEM DL



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Councillor Neil Freshwater



Rural Recycling

A number of constituents have been in touch regarding recycling in rural areas including Fossoway and Portmoak, following the reduced hours of the recycling centres across Perth & Kinross.

Whilst most households have wheelie bins at their home for refuse and recycling, some properties do not. This is because either there is nowhere a wheelie bin can be stored, or because of vehicle access difficulties or that it is uneconomical to make the collection. In some instances, larger bins are provided for a group of houses, or where this is not an option, pink refuse sacks are provided for rubbish to be collected. This means that in some cases, the only option for people to recycle is by taking the materials to the recycling centre or a recycling point. This can be a great inconvenience, particularly for those who would like a garden waste bin, given the difficulty in transporting and storing the material. Some weeks ago I wrote to council officers about what might be done to improve the situation or what options might be viable and I await a response.

District Heating for Kinross

I was happy to write and co-sign a letter with the my fellow ward councils in support of the proposals for a district heating system for Kinross, which would generate heat using an industrial heat pump in Loch Leven. Many readers will be aware of the campaign by CATCH Loch Leven which has been in action for some time. Such schemes exist in places like Denmark, where district heating system are commonplace. The fundamental principle of such a system is you have a facility which provides heat for a number of buildings, rather than needing a boiler in every single home. This reduces both cost and carbon emissions. I do not underestimate the scale of the challenge of this project, but the letter sent supports the possibility of moving the project to the next phase and undertake a detailed feasibility study. Well done to David Cairns and the team at CATCH for their efforts so far.

Cycling Facilities at Kinross Park & Ride

The resurfacing of the Park & Ride facility in Kinross was very welcome, but when it happened last year, the cycle lockers were removed. I seemed to recall that whilst it was a bit bashed, the lockers were quite serviceable and I had recently used them myself. Since May last year I have been trying to get to the bottom of what happened to them but the conclusion seems to be that they were beyond repair. This month I asked for an update from the council and received a response from the local Sustrans Scotland officer. There are proposals to install some open bike lockers together with some bookable secure lockers, which would require planning permission. These are app controlled and currently being trialled by Glasgow City Council. PKC are wanting to learn the outcome of the trial but I believe it is very important that bike lockers are reinstated at the Park & Ride.

Councillor Neil Freshwater

Politicians

Councillor Willie Robertson



Council Budgets 2024: The Council are now looking at the budgets for 2024 and it looks like there will be even more cuts in services. We have already seen reductions in the opening hours of the Recycling Centre in Bridgend from last year's budget but even deeper cuts are anticipated in the 2024 budget. I got the first warning of this at the November meeting of the Kinross-shire Committee – see below.

Grounds Maintenance: A verbal report was presented at November's meeting of the Kinross-shire Committee detailing proposed changes in how our open spaces will be maintained going forward. The officer speaking to the report said that in order to substantially cut spending on grounds maintenance and also to increase bio-diversity there will be a large reduction on the amount of grassed areas which will be cut. These include Kirkgate Park, Kirkgate Cemetery and grassed verges on roads throughout Kinross and Milnathort. I wasn't given the full details but on first hearing my response to the officers present was that this could be a very hard sell. Kinross-shire residents take a real pride in their communities. If maintenance is reduced it is easy for areas to look run down and neglected. We already have sections in our parks which are left uncut and these tend to become 'no go' parts of the park due to the danger of dog waste amongst the long uncut grass. I am in favour of increasing our bio-diversity but not at the expense of our towns and villages looking uncared for. The improvements carried out on the verges at the Kinross Park & Ride and Junction Road are excellent examples of a managed way to improve bio-diversity. If we are going to stop maintaining grassed areas this has to be managed and they can't simply be abandoned. I would welcome your comments on what is planned.

Winter Road Gritting Schedules: The winter gritting programme for Kinross-shire roads are as follows;

- **A977, A91 and A913** - Complete morning de-icing by 7.30am and monitored and gritted as needed until 9.00pm
- **B996 and B9097** – as above
- **Other less strategic routes** – no pre-salting but kept open as capacity allows

Christmas and New Year: May I take this opportunity to wish everyone a restful and peaceful Christmas and a prosperous and healthy 2024.

Councillor Willie Robertson

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Politicians

Councillor Richard Watters



Strategic Active Travel Routes for Kinross-shire and Glenfarg

Following an Active Travel Strategy report that was presented to the Tactran (Regional Transport Partnership) board in mid-September, I have had numerous meetings with stakeholders to try to understand why the report did not include any path projects in Kinross-shire or Glenfarg.

Active Travel routes are paths that connect our settlements, providing people with the opportunity to use sustainable transportation methods to get around.

The main issue seems to be the lack of active travel projects developed to the required level for inclusion in the Tactran strategy document. To address this, I proposed a motion to the Kinross Committee, seeking approval to use the committee's available funds to hire a 'paths officer' to begin developing strategic Active Travel routes in and around Kinross-shire, as well as connecting to Active Travel Routes in Fife, Clackmannanshire, and Perthshire. The motion received unanimous approval.

The outcome of the motion is that Council Officers will provide a report to the committee at the next meeting, presenting options on how to implement this plan. Having 'shovel ready' Active Travel projects will increase the chances of Kinross-shire and Glenfarg receiving their fair share of the projected £320 million annual allocation from Transport Scotland for Active Travel projects.

Addressing the Climate Emergency

Perth and Kinross has been recognised as one of 119 cities and local authorities across the globe to receive a 'A' rating for environmental action from the CDP. This award recognises the significant efforts undertaken by the council to address the climate and biodiversity emergencies. In 2019, the council received a D-grade from the CDP, but this improved to a B in 2022 before achieving the highest grade possible this year.

This demonstrates our climate leadership through concerted and effective action. The grading acknowledges the enormous commitment and progress that has been made in Perth and Kinross regarding awareness of the climate and ecological emergency, and how we are addressing it. This grading shows that we are moving in the right direction, however we know that there is still much more work to be done, which will continue to be challenging, especially given the current financial environment.

In demonstrating this commitment the Council received another award. Riverside Primary School in Perth won a prestigious award for its innovative environmentally friendly design at The Learning Places Scotland Awards ceremony in Glasgow.

Riverside is the first primary school in Scotland built to Passivhaus standards, where energy-saving measures are integral to the construction of the building. Showing our commitment to give our children and young people the best start in life, by providing a fantastic place for learning.

The Primary School is a state-of-the-art building, and I am sure it will be held up as an example for buildings across the country in years to come.

Finally, I would like to wish all the readers of the *Newsletter* a wonderful Christmas and Happy New Year.

Councillor Richard Watters

CONTRIBUTORS

WHENEVER POSSIBLE, PLEASE SEND YOUR ITEM WELL BEFORE THE DEADLINE

Liz Smith, MSP



SMALL BUSINESSES ARE THE beating heart of our local communities yet, as everyone knows, they are having a really tough time right now, not just with concerns about the cost of living and the downturn in consumer footfall but also because of worries over business rates and the possible imposition of a visitor levy. Regrettably, in retail, they are also facing a rising tide of shoplifting.

It is an all too common misconception that shoplifting is a victimless, petty crime. It is not. Goods stolen from stores mean less money available to pay the wages of staff and enhance their wellbeing at work, less money to make refurbishments and possible increases in prices to compensate for the lost revenue – exactly the opposite of what people can afford during a cost of living crisis. Sadly, the current evidence shows that shoplifting cases are generally the work of repeat offenders who make return visits to the shops in question. Naturally, this increases the anxiety and fear of verbal or physical abuse against staff.

The Scottish Retail Consortium tells us this has become a daily concern for many people working in retail. Stolen goods might appear to be a drop in the ocean in the world of retail, but they accumulate to eye-watering levels. Shoplifting cost retailers in Scotland £90m last year, a figure so alarming that Primark revealed they were forced to reduce their adjusted operating profit margin from 8.3% to below 8% when factoring in rising cases of theft.

Evidence put forward by the Scottish Retail Consortium and the Scottish Grocers Federation suggests organised crime is predominately to blame. They are also concerned that the police do not have adequate resources to deal with the offenders. It is unsurprising then that gangs, moving from town to town, are taking advantage of this. Indeed, the British Retail Consortium reported that nearly three-quarters of serious cases of crime in a major retailer were not responded to by the police. The figures of incidents in Scotland – 70-80 per day - is likely much higher than reported as we can only expect that businesses will opt not to report low value crimes to the police because they know it is unlikely anything will come of it.

It is very concerning that businesses including the Co-op are choosing not to open branches in some areas because they have been designated "no-go" areas for their stores. I know from first-hand account through my contact with businesses in Perth and Kinross that anti-social behaviour is a growing nuisance that they should not be expected to deal with on this scale.

We all want to see a flourishing high street in our small rural towns but this significant, and rising, problem is just one more good reason for prospective businesses to decide against opening their doors, just when our communities need it most.

Liz Smith, MSP



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John Nicolson, MP

I HAVE A CONSTITUENT – let’s call him Jim. Jim and his wife Mary have never been in debt. They’re prudent with money and have always had a clean credit history – something they’re proud of. But that all changed when they became entangled with an energy company called OVO.



Jim and Mary are not and never have been OVO customers. And yet out of the blue, OVO began bombarding them with bills for a non-existent account. Jim and Mary tried to be cooperative, phoning OVO repeatedly to explain that they’d never had an account. On the phone OVO representatives were courteous. But that didn’t stop the bullying, threatening letters.

Jim’s ill health was known to OVO. The company were also aware that their incessant letters were causing him enormous stress. Jim then suffered a heart attack. Now, no one can say for sure what role OVO played in that. But as Mary says:

‘Jim just found the situation so harassing. The letters were aggressive and threatening. We couldn’t understand why they wouldn’t leave us alone.’

Jim and Mary contacted my office. My constituency team have since spent scores of hours speaking to OVO representatives by phone and e mail. Initially we got apologies and guarantees the harassment would end. But then OVO stopped returning our calls too.

I used to be a presenter on BBC ‘Watchdog’. I know how powerful a tool public shaming can be when used against bullies. There’s nothing thuggish companies hate more than being kicked in the profit margins. So, I took to social media. I told the world what OVO was doing to Jim and Mary. My friend Carol Vorderman retweeted the story. People from across the country wrote back telling us of almost identical experiences – harassment by OVO over non-existent bills. Finally, a high heid yin from OVO called. And for the first time we got a number – not a switchboard – we could call back.

I can’t fault OVO’s Katie who took up our case at this point. She apologised. Jim and Mary now have financial compensation. OVO have promised my team the couple will be harassed no longer as their ‘account’ is now closed. And I have secured a charitable donation from OVO which I will give to poverty charities in my constituency.

I am, of course, pleased for Jim and Mary. They just want to be left in peace. But what does this story tell us about consumer protection in this country? It tells us, I think, that energy privatisation has produced a plethora of dodgy privatised companies. Some are immune to pressure as they’ve no reputation to lose. We know too that the watchdog put in place to protect energy consumers is useless. Companies like OVO have a track record of harming the credit scores of perfectly innocent parties, by chasing up phantom debts such as Jim and Mary’s.

But for me the biggest lesson is that utilities should exist for the public’s benefit not to be milked for profit. We should re-nationalise them all.

John Nicolson, MP



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IDENTITY THEFT

Identity theft is when criminals get access to someone's personal information. They then use it to steal their identity.

They could then pretend to open bank accounts, get credit cards, loans and mortgages or to claim benefits.

They could even take over someone's accounts and change the address.

They can steal someone's name and reputation. Then they can use this to make money.

How The Fraudsters Operate

Here are a few ways which these criminals work:

- They search through rubbish to find bills or bank statements
- They target flats where shared mail boxes make theft easier
- They bribe or rob postal workers or purchase the information from other criminals
- They search through unattended bags.

Warning Signs

There are a number of warning signs to look out for:

- If you get bills or invoices for goods you have not ordered
- If you get collection letters for debt that isn't yours or
- There are transactions on your bank or credit card statements that you do not recognise
- Important documents such as your passport or driving licence may have been stolen.

Take Action

There are a number of steps you can take to avoid falling victim to identity theft:

- Keep all your important documents safe and secure
- When using a credit or debit card, make sure it's never out of your sight
- Cash machines may have been tampered with. Your cards could be skimmed and cloned
- Never give out your personal details when you're contacted by phone, fax, post or email
- Always offer to ring back any suspicious callers but check the phone number you are given
- When throwing out documents which contain personal information try to shred them so that nobody could read your personal details
- Always check your bank and credit card statements. Report any transactions you don't recognise, even small amounts
- Close all accounts you no longer need
- Move your mail when moving home by arranging with the post office to forward your mail to your new address
- Get organisations to send to your new address.

If You Think You're A Victim

If you think you might be a victim of identity theft, don't delay:

- Contact your bank or building society
- Keep a record of all communication
- Report the matter to the police and note the crime reference number
- Request a copy of your credit report (such as Equifax or Experian) - you can ask for incorrect information to be removed

UPDATES

A 36 year old man was arrested and charged with six high value theft-by-shoplifting offences in Kinross between Friday 27 October and Thursday 16 November.

RECENT INCIDENTS

Between Wednesday 25 and Friday 27 October break-ins occurred at Kinross Golf Club. (CR/258375/23)

Anyone with any information that may be useful should contact Tayside Division on 101 or any police officer, quoting the crime reference number listed at each incident. Alternatively information can be passed anonymously via the charity Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

Rogue Traders – Who Should I Call?

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

- Contact the police immediately on 999

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

- Contact the police on 101.
- Try and take a note of vehicle details or registration numbers, and descriptions of anyone suspicious....**if I want to contact the police anonymously?**

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

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

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

Police Scotland – Local Community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

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

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

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

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

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

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

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

Crime Stoppers 0800 555 111

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

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

NORWAY IN A NUTSHELL - BUT NOT ON A BUDGET!

WINNING WAYS

by Jo Middlemiss

WHEN PLANNING A TRIP abroad, I usually have two simple rules. The first is that I don't want to go anywhere that is colder than where I live, and the second is that it shouldn't be more expensive than home. I broke those two rules resoundingly some time ago. We went to Norway. I must admit that I had never had any inclination to go Norway before. I quite liked the idea of fjords from my old school geography books, but in my ignorance that was about it. But circumstances do change, and we got an e-mail from friends posted to the Embassy in Norway, to say that they were leaving soon, and if we didn't visit them now, we would have missed our chance. We were originally going to go to Oman, which would have been fine, but we switched directions and headed for Norway.

The journey was easy, and the public transport enviable and fantastic. Everything works. Trains, trams and buses turn up and leave at exactly the time it says on the board. Our friends met us, and we spent a couple of delightful nights with them. We were invited to a Norwegian friend's house for dinner. There were twelve people round the table, 8 of them Norwegians, and the entire evening was conducted in flawless English. Can you imagine that at home? Indeed, most of the people round the table could also speak French and German with ease, and it left me thinking for the umpteenth time about how we tackle the teaching of languages in our country.

The Norwegians love The Brits though, as we discovered when we went to visit The Resistance Museum. What a story that was! It is hard for us to imagine what it must have been like to have been occupied during the war. All of their young men were involved in the resistance movement, although they had to learn the hard way, as the German war machine was so much more sophisticated, and initially they were easily discovered. But improve they did, and made ready for the support they received from Britain. Churchill is a huge favourite and a national hero in Norway.

Our trip was called 'Norway in a Nutshell' and we travelled on boats and trains and planes to get a taste of it. The fjords are truly breathtaking. A train took us to the Hardanger Plateau on top of the glacier. It was bitterly cold and very, very beautiful. The train progressed through many tunnels, and again I marvelled at the ingenuity of the engineers, who design these extraordinary routes



through inhospitable terrains. When you see these enormous mountains, it is possible to feel very small and insignificant.

We had booked into a beautiful hotel in Flam, only yards from the most beautiful fjord. We were a bit early in the season, but it was a surprise to be the only residents in this 120 bedroom giant of a place. Quite surreal! If you've ever seen *The Shining* you'll know what it felt like. On to Bergen, which is a lovely bustling port town, with fresh food, fish markets and intriguing little alleyways of wooden houses, built very closely together. I have to say that it was incredibly expensive, and we were working on practically double for everything. We didn't buy our usual fridge magnet souvenirs, or anything that could be bought in the U.K. I think Norwegians are doing very well, because they are out and about eating, drinking and making merry. They have stayed resolutely out of the EU, and so have a disregard for health and safety rules! That was quite refreshing in a way. We even saw a nursery school outing with the children playing around, with steep drops all around. However, their caretakers were definitely in charge, in a very relaxed sort of way, and the children seemed to realise their limits. Our friends told us that Norwegian children do not sit in watching T.V. In the winter they are sledging, skiing or skating, and in the summer they are cycling, walking, sailing or some other sporting activity. Apparently work/life balance is not an issue, as most people finish work by 4pm and then have light until midnight to follow up on all their hobbies, and sporting activities. They are not into binge drinking, because the booze is just too expensive!

I was thinking that Norwegians would love Slovenia, because Slovenia is as pretty as Norway, but everything there is much cheaper than it is here. And consequently it would be like a free paradise to them! Ah well.... each to their own!

Jo Middlemiss MBE



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KEEP WELL THIS WINTER

KEEPING WARM in winter is especially important as we get older as changes to our bodies often mean cold weather and winter bugs affect us more than they used to. The good news is there are things you can do to stay warm and well.

A little bit of activity now and then is a great way to help you keep warm, as well as help you maintain strength and mobility. So try not to sit still for more than an hour at a time.

Eat well

IT CAN SOMETIMES be difficult to keep up the motivation to prepare meals. But it's good to try and keep to a routine where you can. Hot food and drinks can help you to keep warm, so try to have one hot meal a day and as many hot drinks as you can.

Try to have a range of foods in your diet and try to eat fruit and vegetables each day – frozen and tinned vegetables can be just as good as fresh. It's also a good idea to keep your cupboards stocked with some basics just in case you can't get out to the shops – whether due to illness or bad weather.

The main thing to remember is that it's better to eat a bit of what you fancy than to eat nothing – even if it's just a slice of cake.

The British Dietetic Association (BDA) has some tips for saving money on your shopping and reducing food waste, as well as some budget meal ideas. If you're worried about being able to afford food, the BDA website also has some information on local food banks and useful helplines.



Get your winter vaccinations

RESPIRATORY VIRUSES are more widespread in winter, so it's especially important to get your vaccinations. Vaccinations are particularly important this winter as flu & coronavirus levels are expected to rise.

If you're aged 65 and over you might be eligible for a coronavirus booster jab. And it's not too late to have your first jab if you haven't yet. You're entitled to a free flu jab from the doctor or pharmacist if you:

- Are aged 65 or over
- Care for someone, such as a friend or family member
- Are under 65 and have a serious long-term health condition
- Live in the same house as someone

who is immunocompromised

- Are in long-stay residential care.

When you get your flu jab, check if you're also eligible for the pneumo vaccine, which helps protect you from pneumonia, and the Shingles vaccine.

Make sure your home is warm enough

TRY TO HEAT your home to a steady and comfortable temperature throughout the day in the rooms you use most, such as the living room and bedroom – usually around 18°C (64°F) is ideal. If there are rooms you don't use, like a spare bedroom, turn off the radiators in that room and close the doors. This will help you save on energy costs while keeping warm in winter.



At dusk, close all the curtains and keep the windows closed to help keep heat in when the weather's at its coldest.

If you have wood or laminate floors, you may want to consider putting rugs down to insulate your home.

If you're having trouble with the costs of heating your home, you might be entitled to government support.

Help with the cost of living

YOU MIGHT BE entitled to some support, such as Pension Credit or Attendance Allowance, which could help you stay on top of your finances.

Stop the spread of germs

AS WELL AS getting vaccinated, there are some other simple measures we can take to reduce the spread of illness. Regularly washing your hands with soap and water is one of the best ways to stop germs from spreading.

YOU CAN ALSO:

- Catch coughs and sneezes in a tissue
- Choose to wear a face covering in busy indoor spaces, like shops
- Leave windows ajar to let fresh air circulate when meeting people indoors
- Avoid close contact with people who are unwell.

It's a good idea to keep some hand sanitiser with you when you're out and about in case you can't access a sink or bathroom to wash your hands.



Wrap up well

WEARING PLENTY of layers is the best way to keep warm in winter. If you're heading out, make sure you take some extra layers – even if you don't need them immediately. It's a good idea to be prepared because the temperature can drop significantly when the sun goes in.

Wearing several thin layers will keep you warmer than wearing one thick layer, as layers trap warm air between them. Our bodies react to the cold by redirecting our blood away from our hands and feet and towards our vital organs, so part of keeping our hands and feet warm is about keeping our whole body warm.

Stay stocked up

IT'S A GOOD IDEA to make sure you're prepared – winter weather can be unpredictable and can stop you from getting out and about.

Think about stocking up on cold and sore throat remedies as well as food. Your pharmacist can give you advice on what might help if you're feeling under the weather. You might also want to get big bottle of water in case the water supply is interrupted.

It can also help to keep a list of important contacts, such as loved ones or emergency numbers, by the phone in case you need them.



Be aware of your heart and circulation

THE COLD CAN increase the risk of a stroke or heart attack, as well as hypothermia. If you think you or someone else is experiencing any of these symptoms, call 999 (or 112 from a mobile) immediately and ask for an ambulance.

For a stroke, think FAST:

- F** Is the face drooping on one side?
A Can the person raise both arms and keep them there?
S Is speech slurred?
T Time to call 999 if you spot any one of these signs.

Many people experience severe chest pain during a heart attack – but the symptoms can be different for different people.

Source: <https://www.ageuk.org.uk/>

Kinross Hub Dec 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, or The Social Prescriber southsocprescribers@pkc.gov.uk

Wed	Thu	Fri
<p>29th NOV 1.30pm to 4pm CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955333163 NOV</p>	<p>30th NOV</p>	<p>1st</p>
<p>6th 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 2pm -4pm PKC Social Work for signposting and support. 01577 867300</p>	<p>7th 10am to 12.30pm Welfare Rights will offer support and advice for accessing benefits and ensuring income maximisation 01738 476900 welfare@pkc.gov.uk 1pm- 3pm MindSpace Info on supporting mental wellbeing. 07928 859628 or 01738 631657</p>	<p>8th 10am – 12noon Community Listening Service: 01382 423 116 or 0796 777 1941, lay.listening@nhs.scot An opportunity to talk, particularly during stressful events at home or work, or after a bereavement or loss</p>
<p>13th 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 1.30pm to 4pm CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955333163</p>	<p>14th 10am - 12noon Home Energy Scotland offering impartial advice on energy use, keeping warm and minimising costs 0808 808 2282 1.30pm – 3.30pm PKC Employment Support Team Job advice and help those who have learning disability, acquired brain injury, mental health issues, autistic spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities. 07788 389659</p>	<p>15th</p>
<p>20th 10am to 12pm drop-in for HomeStart Breast Buddies group 01738 638847 1pm to 3pm Support Choices will be here to offer independent information and advice about getting social care and support 01350 729130</p>	<p>21st 10am – 12noon Older Peoples Mental Health Team here to support and advise on all aspects of mental health for the over 65s 01764 653173 2pm to 4pm Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07775 701630</p>	<p>22nd 11am to 1pm Social Security Scotland offering advice on their benefits –Adult Disability Payment, Carers Allowance Supplement, Child Disability Payment, Funeral Support Payment, Best Start Grants etc. 0800 182 2222</p>
<p>27th 1.30pm to 3.30pm CATH will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955333163</p>	<p>28th</p>	<p>29th</p>

LOCAL ADVICE HUB

THE ADVICE HUB IS a partnership between Kinross-shire charity 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.

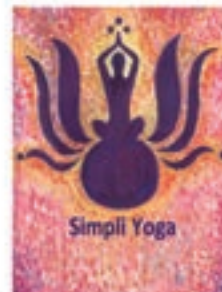
If you are experiencing financial difficulty during this time or feel you need support/advice please call Shona Fowler on 07896 280843 to have a chat or email shona.fowler@nhs.scot

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@brokennotbroken.org

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

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

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

Kinross Community Council News from the September Meeting

Present at the meeting on 26 September were CCLRs L McKay, W Freeman, H Phillips, C Collins, T Stewart and S Wells, Cllr D Cuthbert and Cllr N Freshwater, Mrs C Aird and 3 members of the public

Apologies: CCLRs E Leslie, M Wilson, Cllr R Watters and W Robertson and Police Scotland.

Cllr W Freeman declared an interest in the discussion about town twinning.

Police Scotland Report

86 calls to the Police from the Kinross area with 15 crimes being recorded since the August 2023 meeting.

Crimes Of Note (since last meeting)

06/09/2023 Tender counterfeit currency (Giacopazzis, Kinross)
Subject to live investigation.

15/09/2023 Theft by housebreaking (Seaforth Drive, Kinross)
Subject to live investigation.

Enquiries continue into the spate of vandalisms to cars in Kinross and this is currently subject to a live investigation. Traffic statistics Community officers are aware of regular areas where there are complaints about speeding in and around Kinross. These have all been added to their speeding matrix. Speed checks across the area will continue during patrols.

Potential Kinross Community Action Plan (Bruce Crawford)

Cllr McKay welcomed Mr B Crawford to the meeting and asked him to speak to the meeting.

Mr Crawford gave some background information, advising that in the late 1990s, Kinross Strategy proposals had been put forward and had been well supported in the community, and PKC had created a plan in 2017 but it had been decided that it was not granular enough.

In trying to improve the area, Mr Crawford advised that Kinross-shire Partnership had previously considered creating a plan but had stepped back due to The Big Conversation work but that the time was now right to reintroduce such a plan, the purpose of which is for members of the community to come together as one and to request funding from PKC to improve the services and introduce projects into the community and have shared ownership of these projects. He also advised that Government agencies are leaning on action plans to determine whether potential projects have support from communities prior to implementation.

In considering whether it was appropriate to create a plan, Mr Crawford advised that he had recently met with CCLRs McKay and Freeman, Cllr D Cuthbert and Lesley Campbell, STAR Group Senior Consultant, to determine who would be the most appropriate body to lead on the work in setting up of a potential Community Action Plan (CAP) for Kinross. Mr Crawford had also spoken to STAR Development Group (<https://stardevelopmentgroup.org/>), PKC's preferred organisation to undertake any such work.

STAR has extensive experience of working with rural and small-town communities to prepare CAPs. They originally designed the process of CAPs for communities approximately 25 years ago, and it has now become widely used as a way of communities becoming more proactive in shaping their own future.

Their process of CAP has won several awards for its approach to community engagement and more importantly communities have found the process a sound platform for delivering, successful projects, raising and allocating funds, developing partnerships, and influencing decision making, and as such, they believe that the

process of preparing the CAP is as important as the final Plan, and that it is done in a way that encourages participation, strengthens existing organisations, and forges partnership working. The resultant Plan is therefore truly community owned, and gives a mandate for Community Councils, Development Trusts, and other community bodies to deliver priority projects and actions.

If the decision to go ahead with a CAP was agreed, STAR (or another group) would be involved in the process for around six months undertaking several activities to produce the plan. These include working with a local steering group, undertaking a survey and analysing the results of this, arranging, and participating in community conversations (stakeholder/focus groups), the creation of a community profile (facts and figures, assets, activities, services etc), holding an interactive open day event to feedback results of the process and finally, the production of a CAP. This work obviously comes at a cost and in response to a question from Cllr S Wells, the meeting was advised that STAR (or another group) would apply to PKC for funding, as would KCC, and if successful, the funding would be paid to KCC to pay the group undertaking the work.

Mr Crawford advised that the deadline for submitting an application was fast approaching (14 October) and that KCC would need to move quickly. As such he had populated the application form to help KCC meet the deadline should they wish to go ahead with the funding application. Cllr D Cuthbert commented that if KCC did not apply for the funding, it would be given to another area. The CAP may also help with LDP3.

Cllr C Collins expressed his frustration at not having had the information prior to the meeting and also at not being invited to the initial meeting. While he was not going to object to KCC submitting an application, he said it felt like a fait accompli. Cllr Wells asked what happened now, should the CC vote whether to go ahead with the application, to which Cllr McKay agreed and asked the CCLRs present for their views with members agreeing unanimously that the CC should submit the funding application. Cllr Collins agreed with the decision, on the understanding that his concerns were noted.

Cllr McKay thanked Mr Crawford for presenting the information to the CC, with Mr Crawford confirming that he would be happy to help in this project in any way the CC felt. It was also noted that other CCs in the area could apply for funding.

Cllr Freeman agreed to submit the application on behalf of the CC.

Matters Arising

Wind Farm: it was noted that the company attended the Milnathort CC meeting on 28 September.

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Community Council News

CC Bank Account: there was currently £236 in the account, and it was agreed that CC would arrange wreaths for the Remembrance Parade and purchase a camera to cover the defibrillator with the remaining funds. Sourcing of extra funds ongoing. Quotes were to be obtained ASAP. In response to a question from Councillor H Phillips, the meeting was advised that the CC had been unable to spend the whole grant from PKC previously due to issues with changing the bank mandate signatories due to the retirement of the previous treasurer.

Kinross Town Centre

Councillor Wells advised that new parking signs had been erected at Curate Wynd and Mill Street Park advising that vehicles could not park for more than 72 hours consecutively, otherwise they were liable to a £100 fine. Councillor Cuthbert commented that the parking bays required to be marked out and agreed to contact PKC regarding this.

Councillor McKay and Councillor Phillips commented that the CC were not receiving notifications as often as expected and agreed to contact PKC to ensure that the email address was on their mailing list.

Councillor McKay also raised concerns about a drain cover in Springfield Road. Councillor Cuthbert agreed to investigate this concern.

Planning Matters

Applications Received

Prior to discussing the applications submitted to PKC, Councillor Collins advised that he had been successful in requesting extensions to submitting comments on three applications, namely 54-56 High Street, Burleigh Sands golf range and Loch Leven Fisheries Pier.

23/01349/FLL Part change of use and alterations to building to form 10 short-term let accommodation units, 54-56 High Street, Kinross.

This application is for bed-and-breakfast type accommodation in the High Street. In response to a question from Councillor Collins about access to the accommodation, Councillor Wells advised that this would be via the car park. Councillor McKay raised concerns regarding the lack of disabled access, and apparent lack of windows. It was also noted that ten parking spaces would be lost. After discussion it was agreed that Councillor Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

23/01413/FLL Formation of access road, land 60 metres southwest of Balfree Farm, Hatchbank.

An application had been submitted for an access road through woodland to the greyhound rescue centre and it was noted that this woodland was classified as 'ancient' (since 1750) and is therefore meant to be protected.

The CC discussed this application, noting that Kinross-shire Civic Trust had submitted an objection. The CC felt that the application did not match the land photography and that, while they supported the application in principle, there was enough room elsewhere in the car park. It was agreed that Councillor Collins would submit an objection on behalf of the CC.

23/01341/FLM - Mixed use development comprising golf driving range (class 11) with café (class 3), retail unit (class 1A), formation of vehicular access and parking, landscaping and associated works, land 240 metres northeast of Lethangie Waste Water Treatment Works, Kinross.

It was noted that the Kinross-shire Civic Trust had submitted a 'neutral' comment about this application and the CC agreed to the same.

23/01537/IPL Renewal of permission 20/00507/IPL (erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle)) at land to rear of 32 Station Road, Kinross.

23/01194/FLL Installation of replacement door at 64 High Street, Kinross.

23/01369/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse and erection of garage/workshop at Lochlea, Hatchbank, Kinross.

Planning Applications determined

22/01587/MWM Extension to quarry at Balado Quarry, Balado (Approved).

23/00997/FLL Installation of solar panels at 8-10 Piper Row, Kinross (Refused).

23/01131/IPL Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle) at land 50 metres north of The Stackhouse, Hatchbank, Kinross, (Refused).

23/01370/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse at 8 Gordon Place, Kinross, (Approved).

23/01070/FLL Siting of an above ground fuel tank and associated works at The Control Tower, Balado Airfield, Kinross, (Approved).

23/00762/FLL Erection of office/workshop building, formation of parking area, hardstanding and associated works at Land North of Macduff Place, Kinross (Approved).

23/01039/FLL Alterations and formation of balcony at Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, (Approved).

23/00794/FLL - Erection of replacement boundary fence and gate at land northwest of Old Cleish Road, Kinross (Refused).

Other Planning Matters

Councillor Cuthbert advised that PKC officers were currently monitoring the use of the recycling centre and the situation will be reviewed in due course.

Reports from PKC Councillors

Councillor N Freshwater advised that complaints had been received about rubbish piling up in the garden of a property in Mill Street. PKC have spoken to the tenant and asked for this to be removed. There is a VAS missing from Gairneybank – this has been reported to PKC but no response yet.

The issue of a pedestrian crossing in Balado has been added to the topics for discussion at the road safety meeting next month. An update will be given in due course.

The VAS in Gallowhill Road is still not working. Councillor Cuthbert is to chase this up.

Reports from CC Representatives

Councillor Wells – raised concerns around speeding at the lower end of the High Street. There were no speed limit signs on the road (20mph) and while a survey had been conducted, she had not seen any results. She also highlighted concerns about private parking signs which have been erected, by residents, in Millbridge Hall. These are not enforceable.

Councillor Collins advised that he had not yet sent the email about bin protection and would do so as soon as possible.

Councillor McKay advised that PKC arboreal officers are looking into what can be done about the trees in Gairneybank and at LLHC which had been cut down. An update will be given at a future meeting.

The railing at the bottom of Kinross Primary School at Bowton Road needs replaced. Also requested a 20mph limit in Bowton Road. PKC are looking at the parking situation at the school. The car park is regularly full of parents' cars. There is also an issue with cars parked on zig zags outside of the school. Concerns had been raised regarding a tractor travelling between Kinross and Milnathort at more than 40mph. To reduce vehicles travelling at speed, she wondered if it would be possible to purchase stickers and would email PC B Samson direct.

Councillor Freeman advised that Kinross-shire Committee were looking



for a CC representative to join the group. He is happy to continue in that role if the CC were content for him to do so. This was agreed, and Cllr Freeman will advise the CC if he is unable to attend meetings, as necessary.

Correspondence

Town Twinning Requests for Scotland

PKC have been in touch following a request from the mayor of a small town in the North of France which have submitted the request. The request was briefly discussed, and it was agreed that Cllr Freeman would obtain more information before a decision was taken. All other correspondence had been forwarded to the CC.

AOCB

Trees in Gallowhill Road – it was confirmed that the trees were not in a conservation area and had been ‘trimmed’ by a private contractor. Cllr N Freshwater to is chase up with Cllr W Robertson.

BBC Scotland Programme - Debate Night – an email had been received looking for audience members for recordings of the programme in October. Audience tickets can be obtained via www.bbc.co.uk/debatenight and click ‘Apply to the Audience.’

Hire of LLHC – Cllr McKay raised concerns about the cost of hiring LLHC which included it being overpriced (groups unable to afford the fees) and the inability to block book. Cllr Cuthbert asked for groups to contact him directly with their concerns.

LLCC Management Group – meeting on Thursday 5 October at 10am. CC to be represented.

CATCH to be added to the agenda for the October meeting.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be on 23 January 2024 at 7.30pm in the Masonic Hall. All are welcome.

Fossoway Community Council News from the November Meeting

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

Present at the meeting held on 7 November were: Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, A Cheape, T Lamb, N Marchant and G Pye; Assoc Cllr C Farquhar; Cllr R Watters and 17 members of the public.

Apologies: Cllrs D Cuthbert, N Freshwater and W Robertson.

Police Report

PC Ben Samson attended and reported on recent crimes. 3 October: Driver collided with another vehicle on the A91 Milnathort to Yetts o'Muckhart road and failed to stop or report. Driver charged. Between 5 and 6 October a theft by housebreaking at Moubray, Crook of Devon. On 12 October a driver failed to pay for fuel at Fossoway Garage. On 23 October there was a house breaking with intent to steal at Nineacres Camp Site, Crook of Devon.

With reduced speed limits now in force in Carnbo, residents are keen that speed checks will be done. PC Samson said it would be added to the list. Cllr Marchant reminded PC Samson that it was important to do them during school time.

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MoP asked about Knockhill traffic speeding along A823 and making noise. Police will add it to the list during events.

MoP observed that the B9097 is a training road for Police - a lot of bikers are exceeding the limit passing the 40mph Peat Gate area about 10.30am and back at 3.30pm. There are five blind entrances along the road. Cllr Bruce-Jones added that there are discussions with PKC about extending the 40mph limit and also making the sign bigger as well as possibly extending the 30mph limit and creating a footpath along part of the road's length.

Minutes Of The Previous Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and amended to include the reference to the open letter that the CC had received from Mike Barnacle regarding his concerns and objection to onshore wind farms in the Ochils. A copy of his letter was made available to those at the meeting and can be found in the November issue of the *Kinross Newsletter*. With this amendment the minutes were signed off.

Matters Arising

Craighead Wind Farm Orbit/Galileo, represented by Alex Orr, Jason Morin and Cris Thacker, gave an update on their application. The number of turbines has been reduced again to eight with a mixture of 180m and 200m tip heights. Since the total output would be up to 48MW the application can now be submitted to PKC rather than the Scottish Government, and a Pre Application Notice (PAN) outlining plans has already been submitted to PKC. Most site surveys have been done, along with baseline noise measurement.

There will be public meetings in Carnbo Hall and Dunning Hall with further meetings in January. The Community Benefit is still expected to be around £240k/year. Galileo are talking to Octopus Energy about a scheme for reduced power prices using some of the Community Benefit – more details later. In the New Year there will be details of a share purchase scheme – 10% ownership will be offered to the immediate community.

A MoP noted that existing sites elsewhere are currently having their turbines replaced with larger ones, and there are concerns about the possible recyclability of the old machines. Would this be an issue here? Mr Morin said that this scheme would have a planned life time of 40 years, and it's too early to know what materials would be used to construct the turbines. Mr Morin confirmed that any future replacement of wind turbines would require a new planning application.

Another MoP asked about how the turbine parts would get on site as access from the Devon Road would be very difficult – the plan is to access the site from Carnbo.

Cllr Bruce-Jones asked whether the Community Benefit is part of the Planning Application. It's not but Galileo would expect to agree a statement of intent in parallel with the application, however build will be some years after approval so it's hard to be precise.

More information about this site is available at www.craigheadwindfarm.co.uk

Wind Farms (General)

Mike Barnacle, via email, has reiterated his strong objection to any of the three proposed wind farms in the Ochils and is concerned that the CC will not represent his views. The CC is in the process of distributing a survey to gather the community's views on the two windfarms that are in the Fossoway District. The survey offers the opportunity for free text responses, and the CC can be emailed directly with additional views at fossoway.cc@gmail.com.

In addition the CC has created a wind farm information page on www.fossoway.org which covers all of the current Ochil wind farm proposals, and will have a link to the Friends of the Ochils group. When the survey closes the CC will collate all of the responses and present them to the Community in January 2024 when there will be further opportunity for comment and discussion. Finally the responses will be used to inform the CC's comments on all the wind farm planning applications. If any of the schemes are approved, then a group independent of the CC will need to be set up to handle the Community Benefit.

Community Council News

Cllr Bruce Jones noted that the Brunt Hill wind farm has also been reduced to 18 turbines.

Copies of the agreed EICS will be lodged at Carnbo Village Hall and Loch Leven Library.

A joint group of local PKC Community Councils that would be affected by the schemes is being set-up and will meet in January. One of their first actions is to receive a presentation from 9CC, a group of nine communities in Cumnock and Doon Valley area of Ayrshire who handle Community Benefit from wind farms (<https://9ccg.co.uk/>).

A MoP asked whether anyone is looking after the Ochils? Cllr Watters wondered if there is actually any connection between approvals made by the Scottish Government Energy Consent Unit and PKC that would consider cumulative effect.

Community Development Trust (CDT):

The next meeting is 15 November. A business case for the Community Asset Transfer of the Blairingone School is being prepared by a working group led by Marion Anness who reports that funding is being sought to enable preparation of a proper Business Plan to obtain substantial funding. One of the ideas is to turn the school into a respite centre. Renovation is intended to be done to a high level including green energy.

Community Action Plan and Local Place Plans:

Cllr Marchant is working with PKC officers on the development of a Local Place Plan (LPP), including demographic information provided by PKC, which would be considered as part of LDP3 preparation. It has been agreed with PKC that a joint funding application with the Fossoway CDT will be made to fund a consultant to help the development of a Community Action Plan (CAP). A LPP will be developed from the CAP which will be registered with PKC and inform LDP3. The LPP will be prepared before Sept 2024. Both the CAP and LPP will require engagement with the community. After LDP3 comes into force, any planning applications must be considered in the context of the LPP.

Road Safety in FDCC Area (Including A977 Mitigation and Carnbo):

The Carnbo VAS is now operating at 30mph.

PKC have advised that the Drum crossroads works will now be commencing Monday, 6th November. This is due to the contractor dealing with emergency work from the recent flooding which has delayed the works programme. It is expected that the works will take approximately five weeks, including the time required to install the traffic signal equipment. Residents have been lettered with this information. There will be an extension of the 30mph limit and a 40mph buffer added.

PKC have also advised that the main construction work at Crook of Devon School Road Junction has now been completed with only a couple of small outstanding jobs to be undertaken, including new road markings and general site tidying. There is some concern from the community about the lack of a link between the two sets of lights. It is likely that the proposed realignment of the junction by the Shell Garage will be dropped and the budget re-allocated to other schemes on our list.

A MoP asked why there are no 20mph limits in our area unlike in other Council areas. It was thought that it would not be possible to have a 20mph limit on the A977 itself, but PKC does have 20mph limits on other roads.

PKC have advised that an engineer has attended the Powmill and Kinross Green crossing and the audible signal at both sites should now be operational.

Fossoway Area Transport incl. Transport Group and 202 Bus Service:

Cllr Lamb reported that the 202 Service is now improved in reliability, timekeeping and performance with deployment of better vehicles. The challenge now is to restore the public's confidence in the service and help to improve the usage. A MoP asked if timetables could be published more widely – the CC intends to add them to Facebook and website.

A MoP noted that some of the buses have reduced connectivity and hence their ticket machines don't work hence passenger statistics (and revenue!) are lower than they should be. Discussions continue with the Glenfarg Community Bus Group.

Frequent Power Cuts in Fossoway District.

Cllr Bruce Jones had spoken to Mark Westwood, SSE Customer Relationship Manager, who advised that they have discussed this issue with the Network Integrity manager, and he has confirmed his awareness of the faults and provided cause for each. The Milnathort circuit has been problematic over the years, mainly due to how far it travels – it has four different circuit breakers meaning the customers at the end (which are the ones in question) will see every issue. However, over the years, SSE has carried out various works including installing new covered conductor and bird flight divertors to resolve the issues. The North Investment and Planning Manager has confirmed that it is SSE's ambition to refurbish every overhead line circuit during the next eight years. This will involve replacing rotten poles and replacing old conductors where required. Cllr Pye reminded the community about SSEN's Priority Services Register: available to over 60s, those with children under five or who are disabled. www.ssen.co.uk/power-cuts-emergencies/priority-services/

New Business

Traveller Community

Cllr Bruce Jones reported nearby residents have raised concerns regarding two recent fires this month both of which appeared to be burning of mobile caravans resulting in thick noxious smoke.

Cllr Farquhar is trying to re-establish a rapport with the Community although it might be difficult to achieve.

A MoP reported that the fence along the east side of the site is being dismantled and rubbish is amassing along the fence line.

The CC will write to PKC's Traveller Liaison Officer (Cllr Watters agreed to get their name) and also maybe Planning Enforcement as the boundary of the site was a condition of its approval.

Incineration of Waste, Crook of Devon

The PKC Environmental Protection Officer has responded and advised that the deposit and burning of waste at this site does indeed fall within their remit. They made an initial visit to the site this week and have spoken with the owner. They are currently investigating with a view to resolving the waste management issues on the site and will update us when they have more information. SEPA have also attended. Since the visits there have been no further fires.

Scottish Government Consultations

Democracy Matters Phase 2

Democracy Matters conversations have already started to explore whether far more decisions could be made by communities themselves. This is a key and connected part of the wider Local Governance Review which is looking across all of Scotland's vital public services to consider how power and resources should be shared between national and local government.

<https://consult.gov.scot/local-government-and-communities/democracy-matters/> Closes 28 Feb 2024.

Tackling the Nature Emergency: Consultation on Scotland's Strategic Framework for Biodiversity

This consultation is seeking views on a range of proposals related to biodiversity and tackling the nature emergency in Scotland.

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It covers The Scottish Biodiversity Strategy, the first five-year Delivery Plan and the proposed Natural Environment Bill. <https://consult.gov.scot/environment-forestry/tackling-the-nature-emergency/> **Closes 14 December.**

Community Council Business

Residents had asked the CC if PKC could advise on when Crook and Drum will get the new grey bins. Other than Powmill, everyone should now have one.

Meetings Attended:

PKC Planning Users Forum 25 Oct 2023

Cllr Marchant attended the meeting along with representatives from Community Councils, Kinross Civic Trust, Developers Agents, and Glenfarg Community Bus Group.

The aim is to have regular meetings with PKC planners as we develop LDP3, exchange views and get a better understanding of the planning system and how decisions are made. Topics discussed were the development of LDP3 and how planning applications are dealt with by PKC Development Management.

PKC confirmed that NPF4 policies now take precedence over PKC LDP2 policies and as part of the LDP3 process will be adopted by PKC. In the future PKC will only have policies that focus on specific local authority requirements and guidance i.e., the Loch Leven Catchment Area. LDP2 expires in 2027 and LDP3 will then be adopted. There will no longer be a Tay Plan.

Councillors' Reports

R Watters: The new Active Travel Plan does not mention Kinross shire in any way at all. Perth has 25 active travel routes that are being strategically developed and some paths simply stop at the Kinross shire boundary. When this plan comes up for consultation Cllr Watters encourages the CC and the whole community to comment on this omission.

Planning Matters

DPEA Appeal 21/02133/AML, PPA-340-2151 <https://www.dpea.scotland.gov.uk/CaseDetails.aspx?ID=122826> No decision yet.

Planning Applications

23/01265/FLL Siting of a container for storage use (in retrospect) at Waulkmill Park, Waulkmill, Crook of Devon, no CC comment.

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

The application has been revised to amend the storm drainage layout; the reception lodge has an air source heat pump; all lodges have a brown exterior; a right turn lane has been included on the A977; spaces for local visitor parking; a revised Biodiversity Management Plan – many of these changes were suggested in the CC's previous neutral comment.

A MoP commented that proposed drain size increase won't help as it only leads into smaller field drains; creation of the right turn lane would not significantly help with increased traffic and the plans require felling trees. The proposed translocation of rare flora would not enhance the biodiversity. There was further discussion from those present about whether it was realistic to believe that there wouldn't be a significant increase in traffic due to holiday makers going out each day, given the lack of facilities on site. It was also noted that since quarrying at the site stopped in 1980 and the rest of the site wasn't part of the quarry workings anyway, it may not be valid to describe this as a brownfield site anymore.

Since the community is divided between a desire to clean up the site, with some sort of development versus the impact of such a development on the environment, the CC decided to ask for a deferral of the application to allow further discussion at our meeting in December.

AOCB:

Jim Duffy, a member of the Hydro Fund Committee, said that the fund would welcome grant applications. John Wheatley has left the committee and Trudy Duffy can no longer act as the CC representative, so the committee would like more members.

Cllr Bruce-Jones mentioned that the Kinross-Shire Community Investment Fund has been re opened. There is about £8k left in it. Trudy Duffy is on the Committee. Details from cif@pkc.gov.uk

The CC received an email from Broke not Broken asking for our help in making the community aware of the good work that they do and with their agreement we posted information on our Facebook page.

The CC expressed their thanks to Trudy Duffy who has been a member of the CC since 2006 and the Chair since 2015. The CC presented Trudy with a cherry tree in recognition of her long service.

The next meeting of Fossoy and District Community Council will be held on Tuesday 5 December at 7.30pm in Carnbo Village Hall. All are welcome!

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council News from the October Meeting

Present at the AGM and meeting on 12 October were N Bingham, A Wanless, P Britton, M Thomson, K Heneghan, A Macrae, Cllr N Freshwater and 11 members of the public

Apologies Cllr Richard Watters, Cllr Dave Cuthbert, L Watson, Cllr Robertson.

Police Matters

From 14 September 2023 (last meeting) there have been 28 calls to Police from the Milnathort area and 1 crime recorded on Police systems.

Traffic units have been carrying out speed checks in the area and have issued tickets since the last meeting, most notable during speed checks on the M90. In the last month local officers from Kinross have been carrying out speed checks in Kinross, Milnathort, Powmill and Glenfarg. During this, tickets have been issued for mobile phone and speeding offences.

Actions From Previous Meeting

Liaise with Kinross CC to write a letter to PKC in support of the flood alleviation scheme and the benefit to residences and businesses in the area and the potential impact if there is a delay in completing this work – Neill updated this was in progress and was waiting on feedback from Kinross CC.

Correspondence

2023 Statutory Review of Polling Districts and Polling Places
In terms of Section 18(c) of the Representation of the People Act 1983 (as amended), the Council is required to conduct a review of polling districts and polling places in the Perth and Kinross Council area. The next statutory review of polling districts and polling places in Perth and Kinross commences on Thursday 5 October 2023.

As you may be aware, it is our practice to continuously review our

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Community Council News

polling arrangements and, where necessary, make amendments to ensure that all electors, including those who are disabled, have access to such reasonable facilities for voting as are practicable. In this respect I enclose a copy of the consultation document which details the current polling arrangements and draft proposals along with a copy of the formal notice of the review.

The consultation document can also be found on the Perth and Kinross Council website and hard copies can be viewed at the venues listed on the formal notice of review for public inspection. If you have any comments on the proposed arrangements please email these to elections@pkc.gov.uk or in writing to The Election Team, Perth and Kinross Council, 2 High Street, Perth, PH1 5PH by 5pm on Thursday 16 November 2023.

Third Sector Interface – NEW Funds Open For Applications

Both the Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund for Adults (CMHWF) and the Whole Family Wellbeing Fund (Microgrants) are now open for 2023-2024 applications!

The Communities Mental Health and Wellbeing Fund is for initiatives serving an adult population that promote a culture of positive mental wellbeing and resilience. The Whole Family Wellbeing Fund provides microgrants to promote accessible, holistic family support through prevention and early intervention approaches.

Do either of these funds sound like they could support your activities or vision for your charity or voluntary group? Details about application guidance and eligibility criteria are available on our website. <https://www.thirdsectorpk.org.uk>

Core Paths Update

The Core Path Group went out last month for what was the last cut of the year, but not the last outing.

There is plenty to do over the winter months in waymarking Core Path routes, infilling depressions and re-establishing Core Paths where necessary.

Planning

Burleigh Golf Range

The developer was present and was given the opportunity to respond to some of the points raised by the MOCC's response to the planning application. Members of the public then asked further questions to further clarify their comments and a number of the audience remarked that although the developer mentioned that they held 'two positive public meetings'. That maybe they were 'positive due to them being held at the golf courses and that it was for a golf driving range'. In future it might be worthwhile to come to the community council and provide a presentation and allow the public to ask questions in the same manner as a large number of recent large planning applications in the past.

The CC encourage that approach and welcome any future developers to reach out to the CC to attend future meetings and would encourage that the earliest opportunity this can take place then the better.

Windfarms

no updates on the planning applications. Neill updated on the Sustainability Group. The community council invited all Kinross-shire wide CCs, Glenfarg CC and Earn CC to a meeting to discuss how we could all possible work together with regards to any community funds that will be available to the impacted communities from future developments like windfarms and solar farms. This group is not to discuss the pros and cons of any development as that is the responsibility of the individual Community Council and their communities.

Comments And Questions From The Floor

Can anything be done about the overgrown hedges on South Street? PKC have already been notified and asked to trim them back.

Councillors' Reports

Clr Freshwater – The new opening times for the Recycling centre are now in operation, and we, the councillors are unhappy that there was no public consultation prior to the change, as there have been a number of responses on the changes from members of the public. Although the changes reduce the hours of availability of the recycling centre the council have thankfully not made any redundancies. There are no proposed changes identified in the Polling station consultation mentioned earlier.

Full Fibre broadband is now available across a lot of the area. This provides much higher broadband speeds, check online to see whether it is now available in your area. <https://www.openreach.com/fibre-checker>

Broadway partners: a provider of wireless point to point broadband has gone into administration. The business has now been taken over and the new owners have made reassurances that they will continue to provide service to the local community.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be held on 14 December 2023, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall.



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Portmoak Community Council Annual General Meeting

Tuesday 10 October 2023

Matters Arising

H54 note in last minutes for clarification 'The CC have asked the Cllrs to raise specific policy clarification with PKC Planning in respect of affordable housing provision, as this appears to be at variance within Portmoak, in comparison to surrounding Kinrossshire CC areas.' This point has not yet been clarified, particularly in relation to the novel self-build affordable housing plots posited for the H54 site. Chair to action and clarify the specific policy for this means of provision of affordable housing. PCC will qualify for a grant from PKC £287.34, to total exactly £700 at start of financial year.

Demit of Current Office Bearers, and Election Of Office Bearers

Chair – Andy Miller, *Proposed: D Morris, Secoded: K Donaldson*

Vice-Chair – Dave Morris, *Proposed: A Miller, Secoded: D Paterson*

Treasurer – Ann Davidson, *Proposed: A Miller, Secoded: D Morris*

Secretary – S McGregor, *Proposed: D Paterson, Secoded A Miller*

Chairman's Letter (Abridged)

ANOTHER COMMUNITY COUNCIL year, 2022 – 2023, has passed - and while we can perhaps finally look back on 'what we did during lockdown', every member of the Community will undoubtedly be feeling renewed pressure from the impact of the additional cost of living crisis. Hybrid Community Council meetings have continued, with a mix of both online and 'in-person' meetings. There is no doubt that, irrespective of format, Community engagement at the meetings remains limited. Hopefully the Portmoak Community Page and the *Newsletter* continue to represent an additional means of communicating information, minutes, events and issues of local importance. Sincere thanks to Cllr S McGregor.

PCC completed the 2022-23 year with five members, who represent all areas of the PCC catchment. We would however ideally like to fill all vacant CC allocation, so that as broad a spectrum of the community is represented as possible.

I would once again extend an invitation to any member of Portmoak willing to give up a couple hours per month to consult on issues arising and to try to make our community a better place to live.

It is unfortunate to report the frustration of both PCC and the wider Community that once again, recurring agenda items have not been adequately resolved. Progress has been made, despite it being slow. However, the progress is tangible, the items worth pursuing.

The Kinross-shire Local Committee has been renamed the Kinross-shire-Local Council and has evolved, following its trial. Meetings continue to be held every two months. With representatives from the CC's, Councillors and PKC Officers, the stated purpose remains to permit partial Local devolvement of certain PKC decision-making powers, to a more local level. PCC members agree, it continues to represent an excellent platform for issues which affect the whole of Kinross-shire.

Road safety and speeding continue to dominate the agenda. A significant issue remains the failure of PKC Roads Dept to implement the 40mph speed restriction order from Scotlandwell to the Bowhouse development on the A911, despite this being passed at the Kinross-shire Local Council Committee meeting in February 2022. Although assurances were received from PKC that signage placement would be implemented by the 'end of Summer 2023', the signage has not materialised.

The Portmoak Road Safety Priority List also continues to be a topic of frequent discussion. Despite efforts of PCC to prioritise this there has been an absence of return correspondence from PKC.


Widespread frustration remains within the community regarding the failure of speed reduction measures and signage. Many believe it is only a matter of time before a serious accident occurs. Following the acquisition of equipment, the Community Speedwatch project can finally press forward. There has been

good volunteer response and it is hoped that volunteer groups can be recruited. Once training has been provided it is hoped the Speedwatch campaign can be passed to individual co-ordinators. If you wish to be involved, please contact us (chair@portmoak.org).

Over the last year the CC have reviewed and discussed a number of Planning Applications and raised issues where perceived planning contraventions may have occurred. Individual representations have also been made and PCC welcome this. Of particular note is the enhanced consultation powers of the CC's in the Planning process. This does however place additional responsibility on the CC members to be attuned to local concerns. The CC would like to thank people in the community for conveying opinion the CC would strongly recommend they continue to do so. The LDP zoned H54 site in Scotlandwell continues to represent an application site of significant local concern and has extended beyond any reasonable planning consultation period. The policy clarification requested from PKC in this letter of last regarding the 'novel' self-build affordable housing provision and allocation on this site in comparison to surrounding Kinross-shire CC areas remains unanswered. This scheme has raised issues of environmental preservation, conservation village status, and issues of affordable housing provision.

The CC continue to participate at the liaison meetings for the Westfield Energy Recovery Facility. Issues regarding road signage, access road deterioration, vehicular movements are often discussed, and it is understood road safety signage is due to be installed.

The long-standing requirement to provide a safe public 'off-road' path connecting the villages of Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood does however appear to have taken a further step forward this year. Communication has been received from the Elders of Portmoak Church confirming their support for the Path initiative. The Woodland Trust have also given permission and positively endorsed the use of their land along the side of the A911. With regard to the lower path section from the Church to Scotlandwell, PCC have tried to contact the landowner for an



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update, but had not been successful. It is hoped that the project can be finally driven forward. The Paths Group in Portmoak continue to work on path maintenance and vegetation clearance. The proposed path link from Lochend Farm to the Heritage trail, which was delayed, appears to have been resolved.

The future of Portmoak Church and Car Park: PCC have received communication from Church of Scotland that a congregational meeting will be held in December where members will have the opportunity to vote on the church closure. It has been suggested that the CC organise a follow-up meeting for the community in early January, to raise and discuss ideas around the future use of the Church building. Any project would need to be made under a Community Development Trust. Given the lack of adequate parking provision and the increasing prevalence of local events, the potential loss of off-road parking provision has been raised as a significant local concern. PCC are also trying to discuss options for an extension to the Portmoak Church graveyard.

Given the recent flooding, the Portmoak Resilience Plan is in need of review. It is intended an outreach programme to previous contacts and co-ordinators be implemented to assist. The long overdue upgrade of the Play facilities at the Well Green in Scotlandwell have been agreed and it is hoped these will be implemented early in 2024. A replacement of the goalposts and scheduled grass maintenance have also been requested. PCC welcome the clear success of the Portmoak Festival and Gala and it is hoped this will continue next year. Congratulations also to Kinnesswood in Bloom for the fabulous placing in the RHS Village competition. PCC would like to extend thanks to all of the volunteers and groups who continue to maintain the Community woodlands, orchards, paths, gardens, flowerbeds, Hall, Well & Wash-house.

I would like to thank all of the current CC members and Cllrs for their patience and valued assistance over the past year. I would extend an invitation to all members of the Community, to continue raise issues and engage fully with any CC members – your opinion really does matter!

Portmoak Community Council News from the October Meeting

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

Apologies: Cllrs D Cuthbert and N Freshwater

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee Update

The next meeting of the KC will take place on 23/11/23. Cllrs D Morris and A Miller to discuss agenda in advance.

Road Safety Action Update

Bowhouse speed limit implementation is believed to be imminent, Cllrs W Robertson and R Watters confirmed that the works order for this had been initiated. The Chair had in passing spoken to residents of Bowhouse some of whom had expressed frustration that the speed limit had not yet been actioned and wondering what power the KC had that the project was taking so long to implement. Cllr W Robertson affirmed that the order was top of the list for action at Transport meetings. The Chair requested the assistance of the Cllrs in obtaining a specific timeframe from PKC. Cllr D Morris raised again the request for a painted yellow box at the bottom of Bishop Terrace, a school safety action which had also been agreed some three or four years ago and this had been raised with Daryl McEown at KC meeting earlier this year. Cllr D Morris had photos of vehicles parked right up to the red crossing strip on road and these obscured visibility for children crossing at the designated point. Cllr W Robertson requested D Morris to forward him the photo and he would raise this with PKC Roads.

Road Safety Priorities

The Chair flagged that PCC were still to receive a response clarifying the road safety priorities list that had been returned from PCC to head of PKC Roads several months ago.

Flood Debris Cleaning at Scotlandwell

Following communication from Cllr Robertson, the Chair had made enquiries and it appeared there were at least 16 responsible residents using the Sandy Lane, from where a large amount of the flood debris on the A911 road originates. There are problems firstly from old drain systems not coping, and secondly the sediment flowing off the hill blocking the drains. Funnelling water off Sandy Lane may be tricky but it would be useful for PKC Roads to have a site visit if possible. The debris on the road may create a problem as when dry, it creates a potential skid hazard at the junction corner. Cllr W Robertson commented that PKC are being responsive and coming out to clear drains and sweep roads, but ideally trying to find a solution to stop it happening would be better in long term. The Chair highlighted that this situation is exacerbated by a noted increase in severe weather events. Cllr D Paterson commented that silt lying on roads had recently caused flood water to divert across road away from a drain and into a resident's property in Scotlandwell.

Comment was made about flooding through Kinnesswood and along the Leslie Road. Cllr D Morris commented that even though drains were regularly cleared, during a heavy rainstorm the water picks up gravel and sediment so even clear drains fill up very quickly. D Morris felt there was work that could be done to make the Bishop Hill more stable and resilient. He had completed a response on Kinnesswood Long Term Forestry Plan and the felling of the sitka spruce plantations could lead to more rapid water run-off. D Morris had suggested that instead of replanting in the upper sections, the woodland should be allowed to regenerate naturally. Chair thought that surface water management formed part of the Kinnesswood Forest Plan and this needed to be checked. Lower down the hillside, at Bowhouse there was a block of woodland through which Cllr Morris had suggested a path could be constructed as part of a programme to connect to Bowhouse to Scotlandwell by an off-road walking and cycling route.

Speedwatch

PCC now have a list of names and a possible coordinator. There was a good response. Mark Craig from Police Scotland attended the meeting and suggested that experience had shown that initial numbers of volunteers tended to decline as the project progressed to the registration and vetting process. Police recommend Speedwatch volunteers do not work in their own areas as local frictions could occur in the event of someone local being caught speeding. This aspect had been previously discussed and there was still support for local campaigns. The Chair raised concerns about the sharing of telephone numbers as the volunteers would be managed through mobile communication. Cllr K Donaldson indicated that his wife was a Data Protection officer and could advise on an appropriate basic GDPR data protection wording. The Chair asked Mark Craig to clarify the registration process: delays could occur during the vetting process and getting individuals to supply identification and forms. These were sent to Tulliallan Police Scotland's Corporate Headquarters and then fed back to successful applicants. Training would be provided but not a certification. Once vetting and training was provided, police would check suggested areas for safety before speedcheck activities could commence.

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path

PCC will continue to try to communicate with the landowner and Chair will advise CC Cllrs and Secretary in next stage of correspondence.

Play Facilities at Scotlandwell Green

PCC had returned the consultation results to the landscape architect at PKC. Works are unlikely to commence until the new year.

Portmoak Church – The Future For The Church And Car Park:

A meeting to vote on closure of the Church was to be held at the Church on 10/12/23 which coincides with a normal church Sunday. A follow up public meeting is suggested following this in January 2024 to discuss next steps for the church building, grounds and car park. PCC felt the car park was a necessity to the community, Village Hall users and functions and for visitors to area. It was also necessary to discuss and work out what could potentially be done with Church building. It was not felt that closure was imminent.

Windfarm Action Group – report from meeting w/beg 02/10/23: Cllr K Donaldson attended a recent meeting. There are no planning applications submitted yet for the three windfarms, it is all in pre-planning. CARES (Community & Renewable Energy Scheme) this group reviews money that is available and distributes it to the communities. The objective of the Windfarm Action Group is to try to get CCs together to build a consensus of how to channel money. K Donaldson would circulate his notes from the meeting.

New Matters

Planning Forum Meeting on 25/10/23 in George Hotel

It was felt this was an important event to attend. The Secretary, D Paterson, and K Donaldson were available to attend this and would agree who would participate and report back.

Scotlandwell Shop and Disused Petrol Station

A resident had raised concerns about the condition of the petrol station and the old petrol tanks underground. Cllr D Paterson was keen to allay concerns about the disused petrol station. PCC had approached PKC for more information and had received a satisfactory response from the PKC Petroleum Officer as to the decommissioning of the site. The removal of any above ground items is down to landowner circumstances and the intended future use of the land. A further response from the Contaminated Land Officer at PKC confirmed that with regards to a former petroleum site, the Contaminated Land team would only investigate a site if we believed there was a high risk to human health. PCC consider the concerns have been adequately answered by the correct authorities.

Planning

New Applications

23/01355/FLL Extension to dwellinghouse, Greenside Of Arnot Leslie Glenrothes. No CC comment.

23/01471/LBC Alterations to roof Colmslic Main Street, Kinnesswood, Kinross. No CC comment.

23/01520/FLL Erection of a dwellinghouse, fence and gate, formation of driveway, parking, landscaping and associated work. Land 50 Metres North West Of Newlands Wood, Newlands Farm, Wester Balgedie, Kinross.

The applicant and landowner attended the meeting. The new build was a small home being built on the farm for a member of the family, as an affordable option to purchase of a house on the market. There were existing hut type buildings on the site. PCC noted review of the plans showed a small two-bed property was proposed. Woodland on the site will not be cleared. The applicant hoped a letter of Support from PCC could be provided based on creation of an affordable home. The Vice Chair proposed a letter of support regarding the creation of Affordable Housing provision and this was agreed. PCC also appreciated that the owner had come along to represent on the application.

Existing Applications

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

The Chair had written to David Littlejohn at PKC who had confirmed that the application would go before the Planning Committee. Chair had requested to represent at Committee to uphold the objections made about the provision of affordable housing by way of single plots for sale and other environmental issues.

Treasurer CC Accounts

Michael Bruce Way: £1677.24

PCC account: £527.95

Treasurer commented on the increasing balance in the Michael Bruce Way and suggested the Paths Group should perhaps look to purchase some equipment and use some of the surplus funds. Cllr W Robertson commented that Milnathort CC had applied to purchase their own flail and this could possibly be used by other CCs. Cllr D Morris confirmed that some funds would be used to repair the paths map in carpark in Kinnesswood, as although the map was fine, the mounting requires repair.

Councillors' Reports:

W Robertson: Lochend farm to Levenmouth Path. Discussions had been undertaken with the Gliding Centre about safety at the approach to the airfield over the area of the path from Lochend Farm shop over the culvert and onto the Levenmouth track. On a site visit the tow-plane had been observed to fly low enough that the trailing tug cable had hit the trees. The Gliding Club have revised tow plane safety rules and circulated these to TRACKS. These would also be sent to the Levenmouth landowner. The funds previously made available for the path had by necessity had to be returned due to the delays in progressing the project, but these would be re-granted so the path could be finished.

R Watters: has been working to get a banking hub agreed for Kinross. Criteria for the town to have a hub had not initially been met due to a basic test that failed due to the linear layout of Kinross along the loch side creating a smaller footprint that did not accurately count the number of residents or businesses within a 1km circle. Only 2900 residents had been counted in 1km circle and only 29 businesses, whereas in fact there were 60 businesses. Cllr R Watters had a meeting with the administrators who admitted that the methodology did not work well. FCA referral for consultation. Crieff is being assessed, and Auchterarder will qualify. A banking hub exists in Carnoustie.

The Chair expressed thanks to Cllrs for work in the last year.

Matters Notified To The Secretary:

Safety Barrier Upgrade Work at Friarton Bridge, Sun 15 – Fri 27 Oct: the bridge would have only a single lane and some delays should be expected at busy times.

Portmoak Village Shop – Now Under New Ownership: PCC commented it was good to see the shop continue as a business within the community and wished the new owners well with their new venture.

AOB

ARUP Report for development of walking and cycling routes: Cllr D Morris had circulated an ARUP report from Tactran grouping of the roads' authorities in the central Scotland council area on the development of walking and cycling routes. The report is in response to new money flowing out of ScotGov for active travel, reflecting a SG commitment of 10% of the transport budget for creation of active travel routes connecting communities to each other and to transport hubs. This is very important as it sets agenda for spending for years to come. Cllr R Watters had observed that within P&K, Kinross-shire seems to have been missed off the plan despite having a need for new paths to help connect rural communities for safe active travel. Cllr D Morris was to attend meeting on 11/10/23. PCC and Cllrs agreed the priority for the meeting should be: 1. Kinross to Ballingry with links to Kelty and Westfield; 2. Milnathort to Leslie; and 3. Milnathort to Glenfarg. Approximately £6.7M could be potentially available pro-rata. Year on year the funds will be huge, and we need to gear up to make sure the projects and funds are agreed as strategically important within Kinross-shire and in the wider picture also connecting the huge areas within P&K, such as Dundee and Angus, and enabling people to move from one area to another across boundaries,

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especially where there were sections missing. Cllr W Robertson commented on the benefits to an area in making walking and cycle routes: citing the recent survey on use of the Loch Leven Heritage Trail, the results had shown increase of users of the trail from 200K to 330K users. Visitors bring money to businesses in the area, and this is reflected in the shops and facilities locally.

Portmoak Hall AGM: the Portmoak Hall AGM had been brought forward to the 19/10/23. This will be in the hall at 7.30pm. Long standing members of the committee are stepping down, which leaves a problem of volunteer numbers to manage hall and fundraise. PCC would like to appeal to locals, perhaps from local user groups. The operation of KGV Hall Committee in Kinross was highlighted whereby a member of each user group must participate in the KGV Hall Committee.

Member of public flagged the approach of lambing time and observed that around Glenlomond people seem to be taking down signs and leaving gates open. When walking in the countryside the public need to take responsibility for themselves and their actions: keep their dogs on leads, pick up litter, and close gates. Cllr W Robertson commented that PCC had done a campaign of awareness in 2021. Another member of the public raised the issue of fly-tipping. The Chair suggested that the topic be added to the PCC November 23 meeting agenda for discussion and action points.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held on Tuesday, 12 December 2023, online via Zoom.



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Save smaller pieces of kitchen foil, scrunch them together into a ball with foil sweet wrappers and foil lids before recycling – this helps when picking it up.

Please do not put toothpaste tubes in your recycling, these must go into your green-lidded bin.



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<p>Plastics (Rinsed and Squashed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plastic drink bottles Plastic toiletry and cleaning bottles Plastic tablet and medicine bottles Pots, tubs and trays Lids and tops- attached Yoghurt pots <p>Soft plastics (loose, clean and empty)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crisp packets Empty plastic bags Empty black bags fruit and veg nets films, e.g. ready meal film lids bread bags sweet wrappers cling film bubble wrap <p>Metals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tins and cans Drinks cans Empty Aerosols Foil trays Pet food pouches Aluminium foil Metal jar lids Screw top lids on jars and wine bottles Foil takeaway containers Foil barbeque trays Foil sweet wrappers Foil milk bottle tops Foil freezing trays Cigarette and tobacco foil Cartons Fruit juice, milk, soup and sauce cartons 	<p>Paper (Clean and dry)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Newspapers Magazines, catalogues and directories Junk mail Letter and envelopes (including windows) Office/shredded paper* Paperback books (or donate to charity shop) Glitter-free, non-metallic wrapping paper Cardboard Large and small cardboard boxes e.g. detergent boxes, cereal boxes and packaging Brown corrugated packaging Toilet and kitchen roll tubes Glitter-free greeting cards <p>✗ No thanks! Do not put in recycling bins:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tissues and napkins Padded envelopes Kitchen towels Wallpaper Polystyrene Nappies Items contaminated with food Oil and paint tins Glass Toys Electrical items/e-cigarettes Textiles, clothing and shoes Toothpaste tubes <p><i>*Remember to shred any paper containing your identity details</i></p>
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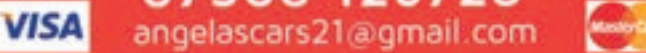
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“ A bit about me... ”

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

Clubs & Community Groups



Kinross Guide Dogs

www.guidedogs.org.uk

At time of writing, it's a soggy grey day in November. Next weekend we will hopefully be in full swing at the Festive market. Our stall will have the best ever Mystery grid, whose prizes will be giving lots of people some lovely early Christmas presents.

We again need to thank the many individuals that have given prizes and the businesses that have donated so generously:

Audrey T, No.98, The Courthouse, Complete Look, The Barn, Blush, Lucy Boo, The Kind Pantry, Tartan Kipper, Balance and Bliss and if I've missed anyone I apologise.

I also want to thank the hard-working team of volunteers that have collected so many prizes and created lots of craft items and will be staffing the stall.

Heather (aka the Tombola Queen) and her long suffering partner Will, Lynne, Jo, Fiona, Liz, Joyce, Grace and Elizabeth.

We also are hopeful that we may continue on our Support group with a new volunteer Coordinator, who will be welcomed along with new enthusiasm and ideas for our group. If any of you would like to volunteer and join our merry band, details of my contact email are in the volunteer page in the *Newsletter*.

The Guide dog pup is now 6½ months old and is looking cheeky and stunning. Her training is still in the early stages and despite some minor health hiccups, she is doing really well and growing like a mushroom. I hope some of you met her at the Festive market.

Wishing everyone a happy festive season and we'll see you all in the New Year.

Kinross Trishaws

Kinross-shire Trishaws have cycled 1000 miles this year! It's been a very mild autumn which has enabled us to continue a bit later in the year. We have really enjoyed the beautiful colours, the carpets of leaves, the low sun giving off faint warmth and creating long shadows, the red squirrels on show now the leaves have dropped off. We are blessed with lovely trails and enjoy all the smiles and chats with passers by, and cheery waves and toots from drivers.

We have been incredibly fortunate recently to have received a grant of £1000 from the Kinross Newsletter Fund. We are so thankful for this and all the recent support afforded to us in our recent GoFundMe campaign. Our rides are, and always will be free, but we have significant costs to maintain our fleet of three trishaws, insure them and licence them with Cycling Without Age Scotland.

We continued with our fundraising at the Festive Market – this time with an opportunity to name one of our trishaws for 2024. We are looking forward to finding out what the name will be!

Please follow our Facebook Page – Kinross-shire Trishaws – and look out for our adverts in January to sign up as a volunteer pilot.

If you would like to book a ride with us (it's completely free), please email KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com





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Kinross-shire Historical Society



On 20 November, Kinross-shire Historical Society met to hear a talk by Clare Hunter, a textile artist and curator of many years, based on her book *Embroidering Her Truth: Mary Queen of Scots and the Language of Power*.

Having grown up from the age of five in the magnificence of the French Court, becoming French Queen, then widowed at the age of 18, her return to Scotland was a big contrast. Being Catholic and female were both hindrances to her acceptance in Scotland. Later on, as a prisoner in England, the problems of Catholics and Protestants were also of major importance not least because of Mary's potential right to the English throne, a Catholic in another protestant country.

In the sixteenth century there was a lot of moving around, cross-cultural, geographic and upward mobility. Outward show was more important, clothes showed who people wanted to be and to be seen. Rich textiles were very important and hoarded like treasure. In Henry VIII's court, there were 50,000 yards of precious cloth. At that time there were several women in important positions who used fashion to effect situations using dynastic emblems and symbolism in their clothes. Visual imagery was important, delivering messages in clothes and hangings in properties.

Tailors and embroiderers created it all, the power of the ruler and the prosperity of the nation. They had to be skilled in cutting, stitching and construction. They were adept at recycling reusing fabrics. Court embroiderers could become rich.

In Protestant Scotland, the frippery of the Catholic faith was being done away with. By 1570 the General Assembly had banned fancy cloth, embroidery, embellishments and bright colours.

There are records of the sewing threads Mary was given whilst a prisoner in Loch Leven Castle but it was while she was imprisoned in England that sewing became an obsession, working with Beth Hardwick, her jailer's wife. Her correspondence was read and censored but her embroidery gave her an outlet for her anger and pain, and after her death 300 pieces of embroidery were found, not all finished.

Dr David Munro thanked Clare Hunter for the talk which gave a new perspective to the story of Mary Queen of Scots, much remembered in Kinross-shire, being told through her embroidery, textiles and clothes.

Town Twinning Association



At the time of writing, our AGM is due to take place just before the end of November and a report will be submitted to the *Newsletter* for publication next month.

Our Gacé families are very much looking forward to their visit next summer (end of July into the first week of August) when we will be celebrating 50 years of exchange visits. Many wonderful memories have been made over the last 50 years. Both twinning groups having become very close in terms of the appreciation of each country's Celtic origins, speciality foods, drinks and variety of tourist opportunities.



Three of our Gacé men in their traditional Normandy costume on one of their previous visits to Kinross.

Looking back to the original signing of the twinning charter between the two towns, signed by Kinross Provost Tom McBain and Gacé Mayor Msr Lelandais, the charter states that both communities commit to 'promoting cultural, tourist, social and economic exchanges in the interests of both populations.' The charter goes on to state that our twinning relationship should 'develop understanding, mutual respect and friendship between the inhabitants of Kinross and Gacé.'

We look forward to further developing the positive relationships we have with the added aim of re-starting links between Kinross High School and the two Gacé secondary schools.

Anyone interested in becoming involved in our twinning organisation is asked to get in touch with secretary David Munro either by telephone on 01577 862126 or by email at d_g_munro@hotmail.com.

Kinross Climate Cafe



On 7 November the Glenfarg Community Group presented an inspiring talk (or rather three talks) on the wide specs of environmental initiatives in their village.

Lindsay Spence opened the presentation with a very informative introduction on different projects initiated in the last couple of years. From Swap Shop events, through Tool Library to community owned wind turbines (under construction at the moment). The most dynamic development in Glenfarg has been linked with the Glenfarg Community Transport Group who initiated the Glenfarg Community Bus services (presented by Douglas) and an exciting new ebike share (by Tara).

Starting with the ebikes – three models have been obtained on loan for six weeks, which proved very popular with different users. People of different ages used them for recreation with family, shopping and even getting to work in Perth (regular users who decided subsequently to purchase their own bikes). The project also extended to build ebike shelters with a fund from Sustrans and to provide guidance on the use and bike care. The group is now waiting for a decision regarding a grant from Energy Savings Trust to further develop the project.

Glenfarg Community Bus success is well known in Perth and Kinross. Since October 2022, they have formed a charity providing a frequent, hourly bus service initially between Glenfarg and Kinross, currently extended to Perth (via Kinross) with possible bookable outings (a trip to the House of Bruar on 25 November or a concert outing to Perth on 20 December). We were also told that in January the community bus will take over the 55 bus route as Earnside decided to 'retire'. The service is run by 11 trained MIDAS drivers of three 16-seater minibuses and one 11-seater minibus, with an additional two minibuses providing wheelchair access arriving this week.

The bus service is not only frequent, but it can also have a flexible route and collect people from remote locations in the area. This can be arranged by ringing the service on 07394 317627 (more details available on Facebook @Glenfarg Community Transport).

Clubs & Community Groups

Group outings also can be booked on demand by contacting the above phone number.

It is very inspiring to see how much positive change has been happening in Glenfarg for climate mitigation. It is certainly a great place to go to and try the ebikes (on board the community bus) or even to visit the Glenfarg Reservoir, which recently became a habitat for beavers, improving wetland habitat.

Our Christmas meeting on 5 December will have Karena Jarvie with a Fairtrade story, a sale of zero-waste products by Sansaar, Christmas home-made gift swap and a swap shop (outfits, books, records, Christmas decorations). If you would like to take part in a swap shop, please bring your item (any donated item needs to be in a very good condition). Gift swapping involves bringing a home-made gift wrapped in recyclable paper/bag. Please remember to bring money for getting Fairtrade gifts or to pick up your zero-waste bargain. All are welcome to join in.

Our thanks go to all speakers presenting inspiring talks and the Loch Leven library staff, our very helpful host.

Contact Gosia Stanton by email at climatecafe@kleo.org.uk.

Kinnesswood in Bloom

Our AGM was held on Thursday 2 November. Jan, our chairperson, congratulated the group on another great year, particularly for their great success at the Britain in Bloom awards in London. Janice gave a summary of our accounts which were very healthy. A lot had been spent this year on replacing barrels and old plants. Some tubs will still have to be replaced next year. Plans for future fundraising were discussed. All the office bearers were unanimously re-elected.

The awards ceremony in London was a very successful and enjoyable trip and we came home with three awards and a number of certificates. Read all about it on p9 in this Newsletter.

Charlie Hardman, Project and Development adviser with Take a Pride in Perthshire visited the Michael Bruce garden. He was very impressed and we will be seeking further advice and looking at funding. We are waiting to hear about local funding to get our project started.

The project in the bus shelter is complete and we will be looking at putting up some of the beautiful Portmoak Primary School artwork from this year.



We have continued our Saturday work parties although these have depended on the weather. Benarty View and the War Memorial were tidied up on a weekday work party in time for the Remembrance Service on 12 November. Morag prepared a lovely wreath (pictured below left).

The Christmas tree will be going up on 15 December and lights installed along the street as usual. Thank you Brian for continuing the tradition of the shop providing electricity for our tree lights. Please come along and join in with the fun. We hope to have a new banner up on the wall beside the shop soon.

The wildflower board which was temporarily at Benarty View has been taken down and will be repositioned at the school.

The children of P6/7 spent a happy afternoon recently washing down the polytunnel inside and out. Black bag protective clothing was provided and it is now sparkling and ready for next year.

We are planning a Britain in Bloom celebration along with Portmoak Primary School on 29 November. This will be a chance for the children to see the trophies and for us to thank those who have contributed to the achievements of the last year. We are extremely proud of our partnership with the school both in gardening and art projects. Invited guests include Barry Fisher, Chief Executive and Juliette Camburn, Senior Officer, Community Initiatives, both from Beautiful Scotland and Jenny Williams, Senior Greenspace Officer and Elspeth Bruce Environmental Initiatives Officer, both from PKC.

Kinross in Bloom

November saw all the pansies and bulbs planted around the town. We have also ordered our summer plug plants which will arrive in April.

We held our AGM last month and, after seven years, Graham Barnett, our chairperson decided to stand down. He will continue to be a committee member. We would like to thank Graham for all his hard work over the last seven years.

On behalf of Kinross in Bloom thanks go to our committee members for all their unseen hard work, the watering volunteers who were out during the summer months, the Rugby Club who help us get the baskets up and down every year, the Men's Shed and Graham Sorbie for their work on getting Mungie's Statue finally finished and to all the members of the public who kindly express their appreciation of the work we do, as we are out and about. Thank you!

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday 7 February 2024 and anyone can attend. Office bearers in Kinross in Bloom for 2024 are: Chair, Dave Dickson; Secretary, Susan Mitchell; Treasurer, Aileen Sorbie.

If you would like to help in any way (formally or informally) please contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com.



Kinross In Bloom 200 Club

November Draw

1	No 76	Myrtle Urquhart
2	No 9	Maureen Blair
3	No 69	Elaine Sparling
4	No 50	Cath Mearns

December Draw

1.	No 9	Maureen Blair
2.	No. 68	Graham Sorbie
3.	No. 55	George Mitchell
4.	No. 27	Kathy Crabb



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 5 December, Airth to the Pineapple

Starting from Airth village, this is a gentle walk on level paths and tracks throughout. We pass through a mixture of woodland and lakeside heading for the magnificent and historic Pineapple, before returning to Airth. Walk to be followed by our Christmas lunch.

Tuesday 19 December, Lochore Meadows Circular

This is an easy circular walk on the reclaimed land of Lochore Meadows. We will have mince pies at coffee break and stop for lunch at the Lochore Visitor Centre after the walk.

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.

Sunday 10 December, Falkland Circular

From the centre of Falkland we pass by the Stables, then take a track to Craigmead. From here we skirt around the hill, heading up to the Tyndall Bruce monument. Booking is essential.

Saturday 23 December, Kinross and Burleigh Circular

This is a circular walk from Kinross Pier passing Burleigh Sands, Burleigh Castle and on through the community woodland. The walk is fairly level, apart from one short, steep slope down and then up again. Booking is essential.

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

Kinross-shire u3a

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home

U3a is open to semi-retired and retired people and the joining fee is £10. We currently have a number of varied groups who enjoy activities such as book club, military history, poetry, scrabble, genealogy and famous Scots. We also meet at Kinross Parish Church on the first Tuesday of each month.

In May we hold our AGM but, each month from September to April, we offer a talk to our membership from an invited speaker. If you are interested, come along to a couple of our talks, get to know us and get a taste of what u3a is all about. We would love to meet you.

On Tuesday 5 December we will have a representative from Alzheimers Scotland providing us with an informative talk on the subject. Doors open shortly after 2pm and the presentation will start at 2.30pm. Tea, coffee and biscuits will be served afterwards.

Once again, our thanks go to Arthur Lloyd for last month's presentation on 'The Wild and Not So Wild West'. Arthur shared one of the journeys he and his wife have made around the USA and showed us the many beautiful and scenic photographs that were taken on route.

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

If you are interested in joining us, further information is available on our website or Facebook page. Alternatively, send an email to mbs21@btinternet.com.

Kinross Garden Group

We had a very informative talk from John Hancox of Scottish Heritage Fruit trees. He certainly has a busy life setting up orchards for schools and community groups as well as private ones, and he was very happy to answer peoples personal questions about fruit tree growing.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 14 December at 2pm (doors open at 1.30pm) in the Parish Church in Kinross. Greg Kenicer from the RBGE will talk about 'What's in a name? Flower Names in Scotland'. We will also be giving out information and taking numbers for the January festive lunch which should be held on Thursday 11 January. Membership fees are £20 for the year and £5 for visitors. If you are new to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts, you will be made very welcome.

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



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Clubs & Community Groups



Festive quizzes, mince pies, sausage rolls and a tippie or cup of tea. If you enjoy photography and would like to give our club a try or, if you would like to learn more about Kinross Camera Club and our activities and events, please contact secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk.

All abilities are very welcome and you don't need a fancy camera and lots of gear. You are very welcome to join us for an evening to see if it's for you.

Our featured photograph this month is this beautiful winter scene 'Icy Rocks' by Lynda Millar taken from Ross Priory on Loch Lomond.

Kinross and District Art Club



www.kadac.co.uk

The painting sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays in November continued to be well-attended.

On Friday 3 November, we welcomed the renowned wildlife artist Michelle Hewitt for the final demonstration of the KADAC year. Tom Sutton-Smith, the club's professional adviser, invited Michelle to demonstrate how she works in soft pastel to create her beautiful, wildlife artworks. During the presentation, Michelle worked on creating a badger within some undergrowth. Over 20 members attended and observed how she created a watercolour background then built this up with the soft pastels. She explained and demonstrated how to create the fur on the badger before developing the surrounding foliage. Michelle's presentation was engaging, informative and amusing. Members were well-entertained and well-informed. Michelle gave members the opportunity to ask questions and took time to share her expertise in her answers. Members were also able to browse through some of her artworks before everyone went home feeling inspired. More information on Michelle Hewitt can be found on her website at <https://www.scottishwildlifeartist.com/>

At the time of writing, members are preparing for the AGM to be held on Tuesday 21 November. We are also looking towards the last painting session of our autumn session on Friday 1 December.

Over 20 members have signed up and ordered their Christmas lunch, which will be held on Tuesday 5 December at The Kirklands Hotel. This annual event is always a delightful way to bring the end

Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com
facebook.com/KinrossCClub

Our Thackery and Creative Digital competitions take place in the hall this month and will be judged by Kenneth Goodfellow from Dunfermline. Members are invited to submit a panel of three individually mounted prints on a set theme. The chosen theme for the Thackery Competition this year is 'Transport'. Our Creative Digital competition gives us the opportunity to think out of the box and to challenge our inner creativity. It is always an evening to look forward to.

The final meeting of the year is our fun-filled traditional seasonal get-together in the hall to get us all into the Christmas mood.



An example of Michelle Hewitt's soft pastel work – 'The Gossip'.



Clubs & Community Groups

of KADAC's busy and creative year to a close and highlights the cheery camaraderie of the club.

The first two painting sessions of 2024 will be held on Tuesday 9 January and Friday 12 January.

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

Kinross Centre

Here we are nearly at the end of November already. The year has flown in so quickly! We have had so much rain in the last few weeks that we are starting to get a bit concerned that all our feet are going to become webbed.

It has been another busy month in the centre. We have started the celebrations for our 40 year anniversary month and we began with a halloween party. Everyone was dressed up and we played party games including dooking for apples. We also had musical bingo; music always gets the toes tapping and lifts the spirits.

We recently enjoyed an 80s-themed party as the centre was opened in 1983. The centre was decorated with bright colours and a few ghetto blasters to remind us of all the things we had in the 1980s. Staff and service users dressed up in a variety of neon colours, leg warmers, tutus and much more. David gave us his version of a Tom Jones number that was appreciated so much by some of our service users that they were throwing 'undergarments' at him (yes, it was what you are thinking!). We played 'play your cards right' (our version of the 80s game show), where there was much hilarity as the rivalry between the teams heightened.

We have a fantastic quiz, a celebration lunch, and a concert all to come in the next few weeks.

We are extremely grateful to the volunteers who pilot the trishaws and who are still coming along when the weather is dry to give our service users a lovely afternoon going round the town seeing all the changes as the leaves fall from the trees. This is a fantastic service and we very much appreciate their support of the centre.

We are also now getting ready for our Christmas events. On 14 December we will have our Christmas lunch and on our carol concert will be held on 19 December. This is open to everyone and will be followed by hot mince pies, tea and coffee. We hope you can join us.

May we also take this opportunity to say a great big thank you to all the staff, volunteers and committee who go that extra mile for us. We don't know where we would be without you! Thanks also to the whole community for their continued support of Kinross Centre. We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

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.

Common Grounds

We continue to be busy at both Tuesday and Saturday coffee mornings. It is always good to see new friends and we hope they feel welcome and continue to join us as often as possible.

A project lunch was held on Tuesday 15 November and was very successful indeed. Our speaker Louise Johnstone gave a most interesting talk and presentation on a project based in Tanzania which started in a very small way, teaching and selling pots for a living. It has grown to provide school buildings and staffing for a primary school as well as senior pupils. A medical clinic is now established for the community to use. Despite the Government causing many difficulties for the establishment to thrive, they have overcome these challenges, and the education is now one of the best in the region.

Our chosen charity for November is The Good Shepherd Network. This charity supports Bapty School in Kabyle, Uganda and is also providing funds for a medical centre on Lake Bunyoni. This is much



needed for 5000 households who live nearby and who originally had no health facilities at all. Thanks to donations and the hard work of many people, the project (Save a Life) has been able to build a medical centre with good quality health care. Help is still required to complete the construction but, in the meantime, it is able to provide much needed care to the community. Money though is still needed to provide equipment, staff quarters with kitchen, also for the medical centre and both land and river transport for the patients to attend the hospital.

We are holding a Christmas craft sale on Saturday 2 December in the guide hall, as well as having a stall at the craft evening on 8 December in Milnathort Town Hall from 6-9pm. Everyone is welcome to attend either or both days. We are producing a calendar for 2024 and it will be on sale for £5.

We will be open on Saturday 23 December when we will hold our Christmas raffle with raffle tickets on sale from the beginning of December.

We look forward to seeing you all soon for friendship and a good chat. For more information contact Elaine Matthew on 07854460248 or Gaylor Hoskins on 07976553502.

Portmoak Film Society



West Side Story – Portmoak films Christmas treat!

The audience for our November film was literally riveted to their seats by 'Gravity', Alfonso Cuarón's 2013 tense space thriller with its stunning space visuals and dramatic soundtrack. Our new audio-visual equipment provided surround sound. It was a completely enveloping experience, and the filmgoers gave it top marks.

We have a real treat in store for our pre-Christmas film on Saturday 9 December; Steven Spielberg's 2021 hit 'West Side Story'. It is his remake with a modern twist of the 1961 original which defined the genre of film musicals, telling the Romeo and Juliet story of young love against a background of gang warfare on the streets of 1950s Manhattan. Critically acclaimed for the colourful music and dance scenes, it is a breath of fresh air on which to end the year. As it is almost Christmas, there will be home-made mince pies and a raffle afterwards!

A diary date for the New Year is 'Till' on 13 January 2024.

All films are shown at Portmoak Village Hall in Scotlandwell. Doors open at 7pm and films start promptly at 7.30pm. A season's membership is available for £40 covering all eight films, or you can pay £6 on the door.

Refreshments are served after the film. Regulars and newcomers welcome!

For further information, contact Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.





CATCH – Loch Leven

Energy costs and interest rates are putting a huge strain on household budgets, affecting everyone.

As PKC look towards how to implement the Scottish Government targets for transition to a non-carbon-based economy, achieving NetZero in a socially just way, they have published their Local Heat and Energy Efficiency Strategy. Along with all councils in Scotland, this is a key step to quantify what needs to be done and what it will take.

The headlines are quite shocking. The recent surge in gas prices has doubled the number of households in fuel poverty, afflicting over 60% of homes across the county. This is where more than 10% of income is spent on energy, reducing available money for other housing costs, or indeed food and clothing. The squeeze is hurting.

The PKC strategy talks of two strands of activity; a major insulation programme to reduce demand and the transition to renewable energy sources.

While newer-build homes perform better, some two-thirds of properties require significant work to bring them up to modern EPC standards, estimated to require some £900 million over the next 10 plus years. As it relies significantly on each household requesting grants and loans to implement their own upgrades, this will be a long, slow road to reduce poverty and carbon emissions. Many have enough debt already.

Even then, with an average investment of £20K per house in insulation, about 25% will not reach compatibility with domestic heat pump technology, which is the preferred low carbon heating choice of the government, reflected by the PKC.

An alternative approach to domestic heat pumps is covered by the PKC strategy; that of using district heating networks. District heating brings several potential advantages compared to a single dwelling heat pump, including:

- *Minimal change required within the home. Existing wet radiators will still work fine, with the boiler being replaced by a simple and reliable heat exchanger bringing warmth from pipes laid in the street.*
- *Using plant and energy storage of industrial scale, significant efficiencies can be gained. For example, bulk purchase of electricity to drive big heat pumps, timing this when renewables are productive, and prices are low. With the right level of storage, heat can be provided when our homes need it.*
- *Resilience is provided by having a variety of heat sources on the network, so if something makes one route more expensive, or it breaks, you shift to another. As new technologies emerge, they can be deployed fast, and you do not get stuck with a big personal investment in something which has become quickly out of date.*

- *As an infrastructure investment, long term loans can be secured over 25-40 years making the cost for each consumer stable and predictably low. There are large grants available to support such schemes. Variable fuel cost is moved into stable, fixed capital costs, reducing the monthly total.*

The PKC LHEES strategy identifies district heating potential centred on council buildings in town centres. This is partly about the concentration of heat demand, but also about the ability to contract and control. Serving domestic housing and small businesses brings contract and billing complexity. It is worth noting however that in Kinross and Milnathort, some 24 of the postcodes use gas above the 'viability threshold' for anchor loads to seed a district heating system, if viewed as collective (i.e. a street rather than a building). This is a community wealth building opportunity beyond the current ambition of the PKC LHEES document.

This brings us to a key point. If we act together, all expressing desire to evolve a scheme which will serve our local community, then it could happen. If we were in Denmark, it would already be up and running, effectively, covering and delivering for the whole community. Eliminating gas would stop about 10,000 tonnes of carbon emissions each year. The pressure on our climate is obvious and we can shift the needle in the right direction. District heating networks can be implemented quickly, they are not novel. The technologies, methods and experience all exist. Just like historical support for solar panels, there may be best financial offers for a good scheme going early rather than later.

The community group CATCH-Loch Leven has been working to explore and detail how a district heating scheme might work here in Kinross and Milnathort, out to the limits of the 30mph signs, reaching the whole community and bringing broad benefits.

A key question from potential partners and funders is 'does the community want this?'. Clearly cheaper heating is a good prospect, but there is a need for folks to speak out in support. If we demand action with a clear voice as a community, then it is much more likely that something good can be delivered.

Please talk to others about this concept and help to spread the word. Please visit our website and send a supportive message by email to info@catch-lochleven.org. Rather than just in the centre of Perth, or Edinburgh or Glasgow, why should we not have cheap, stable, and green energy here to heat our homes and businesses?

CONTRIBUTORS
PLEASE SUBMIT YOUR ITEMS
WELL BEFORE THE DEADLINE

Clubs & Community Groups

Loch Leven Community Library

www.culturepk.org.uk

Tel: 01577 867205.

Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.



Opening Times

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

See Notices for Christmas Opening Hours.

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

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 Loch Leven Community Library.

IT support sessions

Are you struggling to make sense of the digital world? Would you like to learn more about your tablet, phone, laptop or any digital device? Why not pop into our IT support sessions for one-to-one support? You could learn how to send emails, download apps, surf the internet; topics covered will 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 Library and anyone interested in attending a session can book a time slot by phoning the library.

KHS Lunchtime Concert,

Tuesday 12 December, 1.30-2pm

Come and listen to Kinross High School musicians as they present a free lunchtime concert for our community.

Christmas Family Singalong,

Saturday, 16 December, 11-11.45am

Join us for a musical Christmas event that's perfect for the whole family. £3 per person. Booking essential. Babies under 6 months can join the event for free.

Let the festive spirit take over on this singalong adventure filled with the sounds of bells, whistles, guitars, and drums. Friends of the library, Malcolm and Alan, are here to sprinkle some Christmas magic, making this a morning to remember. We've got the perfect playlist to get you in the holiday mood, bring your friends and family along with their singing voices as we create unforgettable musical memories.

Christmas Family Fun Day, 10am-12.30pm

We'll be starting the day with our 10 am bookbug session with a special Christmas twist, followed by a morning of arts and crafts for children of all ages. This event is suitable for children of all ages. Our bookbug session is aimed at babies and toddlers. Please note all children under 8 must be supervised by an adult. Donations are welcome. To book for our bookbug event please get in touch with the library.

Activities in your Library

Come along to our free Thursday morning get together (10am-12noon) with your needles and pins for a morning of crochet and knitting, a chat and hot drink. Or come along on a Thursday afternoon at 2.30pm-4.30pm to try your hand at one of the ever-popular board games including Scrabble, chess and snakes and ladders. No prizes, no pressure, just fun and a warm drink.

Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District



Our November meeting was very well attended. We started on our first programme in celebrating 100 years of Inner Wheel and we hope to complete many tasks in the coming months to acknowledge the centenary.

In November we gathered together 100 books and are now selling these as one of our first initiatives. Another idea is to collect at least 100 coins for our charity Wateraid, which we have supported for many years.

Our speaker at the November meeting was Ian Lindsay from Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA). He gave us an insight into the work of this charity and the need to continually support such a worthwhile cause. Ian stayed with us for a well-earned cup of tea.

Our December meeting will be our Christmas lunch and there will be a small pause before we recommence our meetings in January and continue with our 100 initiatives.

All guests and visitors are welcome at our open meetings. Please contact Tricia Lucas by email at triciacciw@btinternet.com for further details.

Kinross Partnership Networking Breakfasts



On Wednesday 1 November we hosted our Networking Breakfast Meeting at Loch Leven's Larder. Local businesses and groups shared 'their story' with fellow networkers and we were delighted to welcome Nan Cook BEM from the Kinross Centre as our guest speaker.

Nan told us how the centre offers socially isolated members of the community a wide range of activities with the aim of encouraging members to live independently in their own homes for as long as possible and to feel a valued part of the community. The range of activities includes a wholesome three course meal, sit and chat, arts and crafts, table games, health and wellbeing activities



including seated exercise sessions, concerts, tea dances and day outings.

Our guest Speaker on Wednesday 6 December at 7.30am is local financial advisor Kieran Fowley. If you would like to join us please email kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com or call/text Richard on 07999 510500.

The Rotary Club of Kinross and District

www.ribi.org

We have had a busy programme of meetings and events and expect to be particularly busy in December!



Recent Meetings

John Ross, Associate Member, gave us a fascinating history of watches at a breakfast meeting in October. Although 'timepieces' have existed for thousands of years, the wristwatch evolved throughout the twentieth century, from an elite possession to common ownership, from fashion statements to investment pieces. John has a fabulous collection which illustrated his talk.

Rotary is International

In October, Eric Williamson, past president of our club, returned to tell us about his trip to Chicago in the summer, as a guest of an old friend who is presently president of Rotary International. Eric visited the World headquarters and was reminded of the history of our organisation, from the origins in 1905 when Paul Harris formed the first group of four members which would develop a vision of humanitarian service. From small beginnings, there now are 1.4 million Rotarians in 35,000 clubs, in 220 countries and geographical areas!

This year, the president is Gordon McNally, a member of the South Queensferry club, and the Saltire is flying over the world headquarters for the first time. Gordon's theme for his year in office is 'Create Hope in the World'. His initiatives include 'peacebuilding',

'prioritising mental health' and 'empowering girls'. In our club, in our relatively small community, we strive to meet these goals.

Indeed, at a meeting in November, members were delighted to congratulate Brian Timms (pictured) on receiving the Paul Harris Award. This is the highest accolade in Rotary, presented to an individual who has shown outstanding service and commitment. Brian is a past president of our club, long-standing secretary and has fulfilled many roles over his time in the club. The award is a great tribute to his dedication.



Shoeboxes

Our recent international participation has been with the help of many members of the community. As always, we have had a superbly generous response in filling up shoeboxes, especially from Kinross-shire schoolchildren.

Supporting our Community

Our speaker on 6 November was Jackie Lyon of The Stephen Lyon Organisation (TSLO), set up in 2021 in memory of her son. This organisation, led and staffed by volunteers, is 'Mental Health Awareness and Suicide Prevention' for people aged 16 and above.

Jackie told us that they 'encourage talking about thoughts of suicide without shame or embarrassment'. She reminded us that we all have a key role to play, of the importance of building meaningful relationships and to be attentive and alert to changes in someone's behaviour and normal patterns and routines. Our club is proud to



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support the work of this vital organisation, including some of the proceeds from our Race Night fundraising event.

Young Chef

You may have been watching the recent series of 'Masterchef' with its tears, tantrums and timing issues. On Friday 17 November, Kinross High School pupils competed for the Rotary Young Chef Award with exemplary calm, competence and culinary flair. Judges Andrew Scott (Heaven Scent), Daniel FuTong (The Grouse and Claret) and Carolyne Poller (Rotary) were treated to a feast of delights. Every single candidate produced two dishes each of high quality; indeed, Andrew and Daniel proclaimed some well worthy of serving in their restaurants.

Final results were: 1st Jocelyn (pictured above with Jo Middlemiss and Sarah Rankin), 2nd Ruari, 3rd Eve. Jocelyn and Ruari will now proceed to the next round. Good luck!

Many thanks to our judges, who provided excellent feedback and advice, to Sarah Rankin who presented the prizes, and to Catriona Cairney, Kinross High School, who set up the event so efficiently.

Young Writer

Entries are invited for this session's 'Rotary Young Writer Award', the theme of which is 'Rebuilding'.

The competition is open to all young people in Kinross-shire in the following age groups*:

Junior: up to and including 10 years; Intermediate: 11-13 years; Senior: 14-17 years.

**Entrants must not be over the upper age parameters for each group on 31 August 2023.*

The task is to produce a written or typed story in prose entitled 'Rebuilding'. The written entry could be fiction or non-fiction, prose, or a poem, as long as the piece relates to the theme. The rules are as follows:

- Up to 550 words for prose entries.
- Up to 40 lines for poetry entries.
- All entries need to be legible and preferably typed (Word document).
- No pictures or drawings to be part of the entry.
- No photos as part of entries

Entries should be sent to us by Monday 19 February 2024 via email to secretary.kdrc@gmail.com.

We look forward to receiving entries. Kinross-shire young people have enjoyed great success in this competition in recent years, some progressing to the national final. Good luck to all our young writers!

Santa is On His Way!

Our favourite community event of the year, Santa has agreed to come back to Kinross-shire as he always receives such a warm welcome! So, our sleigh is ready, we have a group of willing volunteers, and we will be visiting neighbourhoods at weekends throughout December. See Santa's full schedule on p21.

The Elf Service will be collecting cash donations on the night. Donations can also be made online at Just Giving: search for [kinrossantasleigh2023](https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kinrossantasleigh2023). Keep an eye on our Facebook page for further information and updates.

Festive Wishes and Contact Details

We hope to see many of you over the next weeks as we are out and about at events in the community. Very best wishes to you all during this festive season. If your New Year's resolution is to do something new and make a positive difference, why not come along to one of our meetings and find out more? Contact secretary.kdrc@gmail.com for further details.

Santa Claus is coming to town in December

- Fri 1st Kinross South
- Sat 2nd Kinross Central, (south).
- Sun 3rd Classlochie, Gairneybridge, Cleish, Drum, Crook of Devon, Middle Balado
- Fri 8th Kinross Central (north)
- Sat 9th Kinross North (Lathro)
- Sun 10th Milnathort
- Fri 15th Balgedie, Glenlondon, Kinnesswood
- Scotlandwell
- Sat 16th Mawcarse, Cuthill, Drunzie, Duncruevie, Glenfarg

Remember that all runs are weather dependent, so like our Facebook page to get up to date information on the night

Facebook.com/Kinross & District Rotary club

We are still hoping to have a tracker on the sleigh, but it will be different to the one we had in previous year. Follow us on Facebook for more information

There will be collectors out this year, but you can also donate by going to our JustGiving page

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kinrossantasleigh2023?utm_term=MVnqWrXda

Milnathort Bridge Club

Last month we took part in the SBU Sims Competition and were proud to have one of our members, Bob Robertson and his partner, placed fourth throughout Scotland. The club is playing another round within this league on 4 December so hopefully Milnathort will feature in some of the top placing again.



At the time of writing and after a lapse of three years we look forward to a welcome return of our match against Dollar club on Thursday 23 November when we will be vying to retain the Ellacott Trophy. This was an annual event with Dollar before Covid-19.

We are delighted to have some of Willie Young's students attending the weekly meetings. Fiona Doig has attended regularly over the past few weeks and found the pressure of club bridge not too daunting so hopefully more will follow. Well done Fiona and well done Willie, your work is coming to fruition.

Results

North/South

23 October

Sandy Greenhill/Nicol Tomney

30 October

Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley

6 November

Catriona Marshall/Betty Wilson

13 November

Helen Todd/Bob Robertson

20 November

Helen Todd/Bob Robertson

East/West

Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley

Linda Bayne/Suzie Ballantyne

Morag Ridings/Alison Houston

Liz Pottie/Jessie Mitchell

Sandy Scholes / Jean Bennet

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

The orchestra, led by Dougie Flower, presented a joint concert with the Tullis Russell Community Band led by Denise Ward on Wednesday 29 November at the Loch Leven Community Campus. The orchestra will now have a break until Wednesday 10 January (rehearsals are from 7.15pm to 9.15pm at the campus).

Leven Voices

The Choirs Together concert on Tuesday 21 November, 7pm at Loch Leven Community Campus, showcased local choirs Leven Voices, Kinross Parish Church Choir, Hillfoot Harmony and the new local Cantie Choir.

They provided a great programme covering a wide range of musical genres and singing styles. Leven Voices will have a break now until Tuesday 9 January (sessions are from 7.30pm to 9.30pm at Kinross Parish Church).

If you like to join the Kacophony orchestra or Leven Voices in the new year please send an email to info@kleo.org.uk.

Events in the New Year

Big Burns Bash

This will be a fun informal event with a lovely two course meal, highland dancing and a wee bit of light hearted poetry.

It will take place on Saturday 27 January from 7pm at Kinross Golf Club. Tickets are £30. For more information visit our website or email info@kleo.org.uk.



Catherine Savage taking a Bible reading at the remembrance service

Kinross and District Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association



It has been a busy month with Andrew Robertson winning the Battalion badminton championship trophy and members

participating and parading at their annual enrolment service in the Parish Church and the local Remembrance Parade. Members also enjoyed a Halloween party with prizes issued for best fancy dress and best pumpkin.

The battalion swimming gala was next on the list of activities at the end of November. The company are also going to see the Wizard of Oz pantomime in Dunfermline before the Christmas break.

We are looking for any former members who still have items of uniform belonging to the company. Please return them to either the church office or the church centre.

Meetings take place on Friday evenings in the church centre. Our anchor section is open to boys and girls in P1, 2 and 3 and meets at 6-7.15pm. Our junior section is open to boys and girls in P4, 5 and 6 and meets at 7-9pm. Our company section is open to boys and girls from P7 to S6 and meets at 7-9.30pm.



Andrew Robertson winning the badminton championship trophy.

KYTHE

www.kythe.org.uk

Exploring Mental Health and Transforming Young Lives

Have you seen Roman Kemp's recent eye-opening documentary into the mental health crisis affecting young people? Watch the documentary online with BBC iPlayer. Roman's findings highlight the need for support for young people in their communities.



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Discover the impact KYTHE has made in the lives of young individuals in our Annual Activity Report. Read about Sam, Alex and Ellis by visiting our website.

Be a part of the change to support KYTHE in Transforming Young Lives. Your involvement can make a difference. Together, let's create a community where every young person feels seen, heard, and supported. For more information on how you can get involved, visit our website or contact us at office@kythe.org.uk



Kinross Cubs

The cubs had a great time despite the rain in mid-September as they completed a variety of clues to explore the different services available in Kinross. We then returned to the hall to dry off and play some games to end the evening. On the same evening we also said goodbye to one of our young leaders, Gareth, who is leaving us to join the army. All the best for the future Gareth!

The following week we were out and about again having lots of fun at Lochore Meadows. The cubs worked in teams doing some orienteering around the trails. They showed great team work and all groups completed their trails in the allocated time.

As we approached the end of September the cubs were getting creative by making fruit kebabs and designing posters to promote Kinross for their Local Knowledge badge. On the same evening, we were also delighted to invest our new cubs. Congratulations to Mason, Rory, Bruno, Matthew, Oliver L, Hudson and Oliver G who were invested into the pack.

Congratulations are also due to Callum who was presented with a special recognition award for working hard and being kind and helpful last term. Bravo! Our final meeting before the October

break was great fun as the cubs were building campfires and then roasting marshmallows and starbursts. Also, the cubs had a pack forum as they discussed ideas for activities next term.

Please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.

Kinross Beavers

The beavers visited RSPB Vane Farm in September for their Explorer badge. A big thanks to Anna from the RSPB for showing us around Vane Farm. We had great fun searching for insects in the grass area and the woodland before finishing off the evening with pond dipping.

At the end of the evening, we said goodbye to Hudson who is moving to cubs. We hope you enjoy the next stage of your scouting journey. We also said goodbye to Hudson's grandad Calum who is also moving to cubs to join the cubs leadership team. Thank you for everything you have done for the beavers over the last two years.

The following week the beavers were joined by the Portmoak cubs as both sections came together to do a sponsored walk from Burleigh Sands to Kirkgate Park for Kinross Trishaws. The weather held as well so we all had a great night.

Our penultimate week of the term saw us welcome Caroline who spoke to the beavers about how to keep their teeth healthy. The beavers were also given a free toothbrush and toothpaste to take home with them. Thank you Caroline! On the same evening, the beavers were also learning about good and bad food as they made fruit kebabs. Lastly the beavers reflected on our sponsored walk for Kinross Trishaws. A huge thank-you to everyone who obtained sponsorship; the beavers raised a massive £414.50!

This term we have been delighted to welcome four new beavers and, at the end of September, they were invested. Congratulations to Duncan, Max, James and Bernard.

We have also been delighted to appoint new lodge leaders and assistant lodge leaders. Congratulations to Alistair, Matthew, Fraser, Struan, Jack and Callum. Bravo! Finally, congratulations to Sammi who was presented with a special recognition award for working hard and being kind and helpful last term.

The beavers had an enjoyable final meeting of the term at the start of October as they were tackling a series of problem-solving challenges. Thank you to our young leaders for organising.

We then ended the evening by presenting the beavers with the badges they have achieved this term. Congratulations to Leo who was presented with his Chief Scout's Bronze Award after completing all six challenge badges and four activity/staged badges.

Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.





Kinross Squirrels

The heavy rain in mid-September meant a quick change of plan as we had to meet indoors for our planned mini sports day. Working in teams we took part in some throwing games trying to get the furthest and most accurate throws. We then played 'the floor is lava', working together to figure out how to get the team across a lava field. We saw a variety of clever ideas and great teamwork from each team. After we all made it safely across, we then had a caterpillar race to see who could shuffle together as one the fastest. Well done to everyone for such great teamwork and to the red nest for winning with 13 points.

We had much better weather the following week as the squirrels were continuing to learn about their local community. They did a scavenger hunt around Kinross, working in teams, trying to find a variety of local services such as a fire station, butchers and a post box. A great time was had by all.

At the end of September, the squirrels started work on the Story Time badge. They designed their own bookmarks, coloured in pictures of their favourite character and used their imaginations to create their own story in their groups. We had time for some games as well.

At the end of September we were delighted to welcome our new squirrels who have joined us this term. Congratulations to Chrissy, Rory and Murray who were invested into the drey!

As we moved into October, we had a brilliant end to the term as the

squirrels were building campfires before roasting marshmallows and starbursts. We ended the evening by presenting the badges the squirrels had achieved this term. Thank you to our parent helpers who have helped to support the section throughout the term, it is very much appreciated by the squirrels leadership team.

Are you interested in helping at squirrels? Please email kinrosssquirrels@outlook.com for more information.

Crook and Drum Growing Together



Following our meeting in October with the Tayside Biodiversity Partnership, we met with Penney's Wood members and Fossoway Primary School to think about how the children can be involved in projects for nature in the village. We have gained four more members for our group from this; please get in touch if you would like to know more about our environmental plans.

We have also saved some of the plants from tubs to protect them over the winter, and planted them with new daffodil bulbs. Recent works to install traffic lights and a new pavement at the School Road junction unfortunately damaged the grass by the village hall. The bloom group worked hard to remove some grass at the front of the hall and tidy plants around the war memorial, installing new gravel around it, funded by the hall committee. Spring bulbs were also planted here and along the verge towards the Shell garage.

Ladies from the Fossoway Creative Crafters group made over 100 woollen poppies which were attached to netting to create a veil flowing down from the memorial for Remembrance Day, as can be seen in the photo. Many thanks to everyone who helped with enhancing this area, now and for the future.



Poppies at Crook of Devon Hall

We are also planting 2000 native daffodil bulbs supplied by PKC Greenspace along the back of Waulkmill Park, with the help of the Community Payback Team. This extends our wildflower planting at the orchard area behind the graveyard, forming a 'beeline' of early flowers for bees and other pollinators.

We will be holding a workshop to make your own fresh Christmas wreath, this year using ecofriendly woven willow rings, cost £20. This will be in Crook of Devon Village Hall from 2 -4 pm on Sunday 10 December, followed later by community carols in the hall/carpark there. To book a place please contact Amanda on 07963 476803. The workshop is likely to be very popular.

Thank you to everyone who supports our work. Wishing the volunteers and all of you a restful and happy time over the festive season.

You can follow our news on our Facebook page and the Fossoway Forum group.

Contact Amanda James on 07963 476803 or by email at amandajames1577@gmail.com.

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

October Draw

1st No 96 Charles Seamman, Scotlandwell

2nd No 41 Patricia Perry, Kinnesswood

3rd No 60 Fiona Drysdale, Kinnesswood



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Left: Whittlers in Kilmagad Wood

Right: Lothians Conservation Volunteers with Trevor Paterson, bottom right



Portmoak Community Woodland Group

www.portmoakcw.org.uk

It's Christmas tree time again in Portmoak Moss, and Portmoak Community Woodland Group are looking forward to welcoming you to this popular event at 11.30am-2.30pm on Sunday 10 December.

This is now a well-established item on the calendar, when everyone has a chance to come and find a tree to take away, as well as enjoy our festive fayre and hot drinks. We invite donations for the trees and baking but there are no fixed prices. Just what you can afford and in cash, please, as we are not yet digital in the wood.

We usually manage to find a few wee conifers, if children want their own, and we will have a selection of pre-cut trees to save you the trouble of plowtering about on what is now a very wet site, thanks to all the bog restoration that we have been doing.

Speaking of which, we have had a lot of help this past month, from volunteers coming to pull birch saplings out of the peat dome. Trees take a lot of water and quickly dry out the peat, so we try not to give them a chance.

Staff from the Scottish Environment Protection Agency very kindly used an official, corporate volunteering day to give us a hand. It is their second visit this year.

A few days later we were joined by the Bog Squad and a team from the Lothians Conservation Volunteers who put in hours of hard slog to clear a wide area. Trevor Paterson from the LCVs was as enthusiastic as ever.

He said, 'It's wonderful to be back for the second time, at least, this year. We're seeing better weather and a much healthier, wetter bog. The management regime is paying off'.

Another returning visitor was Kiri Stone, who followed up her successful 'women whittling' sessions last June with four hours of whittling in Kilmagad Wood on Sunday 12 November. This time, instead of mushroom-shaped key fobs, they made spoons from small logs and, in the process, learned how to use axes, mallets and special knives. Very impressive!

That same weekend members of our group had a stand at St Paul's episcopal church in Kinross, to celebrate the fact that Kinnesswood artist, Anne Taylor, was displaying art inspired by the Moss at a lovely exhibition there. It was a chance for us to talk about the Moss and sell calendars featuring Michael McGinnes's beautiful photos.

Please come to our meetings which take place every third Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm in The Well Inn, Scotlandwell.



Kinross High School



Our value of compassion is brought to the fore this term as we launch our annual hamper appeal for Broke not Broken. We are supporting our young people in S4 to achieve in their prelim examinations. We remembered others in our Armistice assemblies. We are reminding young people to be kind to themselves and others.

Eco Schools Green Flag

Kinross High School was recently awarded its second green flag for environmental initiatives. Two years ago, during the height of COP26, Kinross High School gained its first green flag due to the hard work of the eco-committee of the time. This hard work has been continuing and Kinross High School had its green flag status renewed in November 2023 for another two years.

Edinburgh Zoo Trip

Higher Biology had the privilege of attending some educational lectures and a tour. They learnt about animal behaviour and students were asked to gauge the social status of individual chimps in the Budongo Trail exhibit. They managed to get eyes on some rare taxidermy and skeletal specimens which were fascinating. The tour focused on the unique adaptations that led to the evolution of Greater One-horned rhinoceros, rock-hopper penguins, koalas and gelada baboons. The students and staff all had a fantastic time and would like to thank our wonderful guide, Jess, for a lesson to remember!

Language in Parliament Event

Higher English pupils visited the Scottish Parliament to take part in the 'Languages in Parliament' day, with Kinross High School representing PKC at this event. Despite the early start, the pupils were engaged and participated enthusiastically in three different workshops. The day started off with a tour of the parliament, which included a visit to the Debating Chamber, followed by the workshops. These gave pupils an insight into how official records of parliamentary debates are written, how legislation and laws are passed and finally they were given some tips on how to write a good speech.

Science Success

There have been a number of external speakers in Science recently. Soon we welcome Dr Mansel from Heriot Watt university to speak to S3 Chemistry about the history of the periodic table.

We were really pleased to have our work accredited by Education Scotland who awarded the school the STEM Nation Award, the first school in Perth and Kinross to achieve this.

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'I Read For...'

In 2023 we were awarded funding from the Scottish Library and Information Council. We set up a book group and used literature to explore the theme of anti-racism. Throughout the session, pupils involved have worked with guest speakers, an author, a digital media consultant and on their presentation skills. Our work has culminated in the creation of a video, and we were delighted to premier this in the Loch Leven Community Library.

Expressive Arts

Higher and Advanced Higher Drama pupils were lucky enough to attend 'A Streetcar Named Desire' at Pitlochry Theatre.

S2 pupils have been working on props design for their Sinister Scotland project – we have had some very interesting homemade props dropped off this term!

National Library of Scotland

Advanced Higher English enjoyed a trip to the National Library of Scotland in Edinburgh. They were very lucky to have a behind the scenes tour to see some of the 34 million print items in the collection and were amazed by the fact that the library is on 13 floors.

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Netball

Well done to our S2 netball team for taking their third win in the first round of the Scottish Cup. They played great netball resulting in a 23-14 victory against Perth Academy. They have finished in first place within Perth & Kinross region and will now proceed onto the second round.

Debating

Congratulations to Heather and Nayyarah who competed in the heats of the Donald Dewar debate at Kilgraston School. They had the difficult task of proposing the motion "This House believes performance enhancing drugs in sport should be allowed" when they debated against Crieff High School. They have been put through to the next round. Well done, girls.

Higher Geography Field Trip

We took Higher Geography classes to Edinburgh to carry out field work. Their aim is to see how the city has changed in recent years and there has certainly been a lot of change. Pupils will write up their findings after their prelims in January. It will be interesting to see what they find out!

Climate Change Conference

Some keen geographers attended PKC's annual climate change conference. They took part in workshops which allowed them to see ways that different local organisations are helping to reduce climate change. Their favourite speaker was 'Lesswastelaura' - a young woman called Laura Young, who spoke about her campaign to ban disposable vapes. She really inspired young people to take actions on topics which concern them.

S2 trip to Dynamic Earth and Edinburgh Dungeon

We took 80 S2 pupils to Dynamic Earth and the Dungeon in Edinburgh over two days. Pupils enjoyed learning the different stages in the journey of Planet Earth. They also experienced a real iceberg and had fun trying to see how long they could touch the ice for! One of the highlights was the flight simulator. Pupils had 3D glasses which brought the biomes to life; they were met with treetops, sharks, swarms of flies and a rhino among other amazing creatures.

In the Edinburgh Dungeon, pupils were given the chance to hear stories of the spooky and gory history of Edinburgh. The actors were brilliant in conveying the stories and there were a few pupils and teachers who were also part of the performances (most unwillingly!).

Dates for your diary

KHS and PKC Culture are presenting a free lunchtime concert on Tuesday 12 December at 1.30-2pm in the library.

Our popular Christmas Concert takes place on Tuesday 19 December. Please add this date to your festive celebrations so that you can see the talents of our young people. Tickets are available at the school shop; you will find a link to the shop at the Kinross High School website www.kinrosshighschool.org.uk.

Clubs & Community Groups

Kinross High School Parent Council

Linktree: linktr.ee/kinrosshsparentcouncil

Find us on Facebook

Do you remember when you were at school and trying to work out what career you wanted to follow? Was that a difficult choice, or did you always know what you wanted to do? Well, if you thought it was hard then, can you imagine just how difficult it is today given the wide array of opportunities available?

To support our young people, the Parent Council at Kinross High School is planning to hold a careers fair with a difference! This will be an event where our young people can informally gain practical advice from parents, friends and representatives of local businesses about the jobs they are doing. Let's call it a 'Reverse Parents' Night'.

It will be a chance for our young people to find out more about jobs and careers from those 'at the coal face'; people with practical hands-on experience in those jobs. They will be able to find out what people enjoy about their jobs (and what they don't!), any qualifications they needed and experiences they've had. We're also exploring ways of recording this type of information as a resource to be used in years to come.

The event will only be successful if we have loads of volunteers for our young people to speak to from as wide a range of careers and jobs as possible; from practical hands-on roles (for example, in the construction industry, catering and hospitality, beauty/cosmetology, childcare, mechanics) to those which require further qualifications (for example medicine, engineering, business, law, marketing and sales, and everything else that we have not thought of). The greater the range of careers, the better for our young people.

To help our young people make one of their biggest decisions, please support the event either in person or by providing information about your career. Scan this QR code to register your



interest in this event or drop an email with a note of your current and recent job to kinrosshsparentcouncil@gmail.com. And tell the young people you know about this!

The Reverse Parents' Night will take place on 6 February from 6.30pm at Loch Leven Community Campus.

Many thanks for your support!

Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

Wishing you a Fair Christmas

When you are planning your Christmas presents and your festive meals, please consider buying as many items that have the Fairtrade mark as possible.

From chocolate and coffee, to bananas and wine, when you buy items with the Fairtrade mark, then you know that the farmers and producers have been paid a fair price and are being supported to farm as sustainably as possible.

There is a wide selection from shops



and supermarkets as well as the church offices and websites such as www.trueorigin.org.uk. You will enjoy delicious produce and you will be making a positive difference.

Broke Not Broken

Over the past year we have continued to see stresses and strains on local households and increases in service use. This article outlines changes that have been made to address the increased need across Kinross-shire.

Foodbank

From January to September 2022 we saw 1424 deliveries being made compared to 1761 in 2023. In 2022 we supported 3862 people, 1888 of whom were children, and in 2023 we supported 4609 people, 2117 of them were children. That is a 23.6% increase in deliveries, a 19% increase in people and 12% increase in children having to access food support in the home. These numbers are going in the wrong direction.

On average we spend £1018.91 on food and vouchers per week in order to meet the demand we face by the numbers of people being referred to the food bank.

We see a split of approximately 25% people receiving food vouchers and 75% receiving food parcels. It is clear that cash support provides more dignity and is preferred by households, is more useful and more flexible.

Energy Support

Since January 2023 we have delivered over £10,000 of energy support to people in the Kinross-shire area in the form of direct payment to their energy providers. This includes purchasing oil, gas cylinders, payments to pre-payment meters and payments direct to energy accounts. We continue to work with The Heat Project in giving energy advice, advocacy and clearing debt. This is funded by the Arthur Margaret Thompson Trust (AMTT) and Rumbling Bridge Community Hydro Project.

Parent and Tots group

This group now operates over two sessions and runs with a baby bank as part of it. The baby bank began as monthly support and now runs fortnightly. It gives parents an opportunity to access free formula, nappies, wipes and weaning foods at a cost of approximately £650 per month. This group is funded by the Community Mental Health and Wellbeing fund from the Scottish Government (CMHWB).

Tuesday Trips

This year we have added a breakfast element to the Tuesday Trips after observations by volunteers and community link workers that families were eating their packed lunches straight away. This has been welcomed by the families on the trips but has meant an additional cost of £110 per trip. Funded by both AMTT and Food in Holiday Programme from PKC.

Women's Group

With the attendance of between 15 to 25 women at each fortnightly session, we have seen a steady focus on requests for support with mental health and anti-anxiety activities including wellbeing retreats, meditation and crafts as well as accessing cultural events. Events have included wellbeing days, meditations, sound bathing, games night, and quiz night is coming up soon. Funded by Women's Fund Scotland and CMHWB.

Counselling

Our counsellor continues to be very busy supporting clients and people referred by the mental health nurse. She is based at the health centre and also provides sessions by phone. A change over the past year has been the counsellor referring clients in for foodbank and additional support through other services. Counselling costs, on average, are £1500 per month. Funded by AMTT and CMHWB.

Winter projects

To try and mitigate the costs incurred to households we run specific projects coming in to winter including winter warmers and Winter clothing, funded by Community Investment Fund PKC.

In addition, the Christmas hampers contain a mix of food treats, books, clothing, and bundle of vouchers for local shops. This year we have no funding for the Christmas hampers despite the fact that referral agents for this include HSCP, schools, council tenancy support officers and community link workers, social workers, health visitors. We are currently raising money for this through a just giving campaign.

www.justgiving.com/crowdfundingbrokennotbrokenxmshampers
Hamper packing will be at Green Hotel on 3 December this year.

This year two coaches will attend a local panto with families who have accessed Tuesday Trips over the past year, including afternoon tea in a box. This event is full and there is a waiting list. It is funded by the PKC Community Investment Fund.

Funding

We have benefitted from some excellent volunteer support enabling us to claim back over £3500 in gift aid. We have also secured funding for three years for core funding through Gannochy Trust, some of which will be used to bolster our staff roles, hopefully taking some strain off trustees and volunteers who put in a huge amount of time and energy on operational day-to-day issues. We will also be able to access support from Cranfield trust who match us up with a volunteer management consultant who help us ensure we are working in the best way possible.

People

Whilst we use statistics, data and numbers to show the level of need in our community, they do tend to hide the fact that each number is a person, a family, a child. Each number is one of your neighbours, someone shopping beside you in Sainsburys, someone walking beside you in the park, someone waiting at the school gate beside you. So here are some stories from your community, who used our services this year:

‘Having kids can be expensive when on days out and I don’t often take them out by myself as my wee boy can be hard work at times. Attending these trips is great for me as it is lovely to be around other families and not feel like I’m alone with the children.’

‘Carrie [our counsellor] has been great support. Invaluable through an immensely difficult and challenging time. For me, and sincerely, I wouldn’t be here without her!’

‘I love working with lots of different women – some I already knew but got to know better and some I didn’t. And the group introduced me to working more creatively and pushing me out of my comfort zone in terms of art and storytelling. I like the focus on mental and physical wellbeing and that we get there through supporting each other, having a laugh, co-operating and collaborating. I think it’s good for us and good for our children to see us taking time for

A winter warmer pack



ourselves, having fun with other women, being valued for being ourselves.’

Soroptomist International of Perth

<https://sigbi.org/perth>

At our November club meeting, held via Zoom, President Jean Black welcomed members and guests and asked Programme Action Officer Gameeda Barnard to introduce our guest speaker, Catriona Scott, Deputy Manager of the Rape and Sexual Abuse Centre, (RASAC P&K). We learned that there are 17 Rape Crisis Scotland centres, located from Shetland/Orkney right down to the Borders. The first one opened in Glasgow in 1976, Edinburgh opened in 1978 and Perth in 2006, occupying their present premises at 16 King Street, Perth.

The organisation supports women aged 18 and over, as well as young people aged 12-18. Areas of support include therapeutic support, young people support (12-24), family support, justice advocacy, crisis support, a helpline and befriending group support.

Survivors of rape and/or sexual abuse and their supporters have a safe and confidential space to heal from the trauma of sexual violence. They offer prevention awareness services, schools workshops, community workshops, youth group workshops, campaigning and events, professional training and RASAC youth ambassadors. There is a referral form on the front page of their website. This is a secure form and goes straight to the support team. For further information contact 01738 626290 or secure support via support@rasacpk.org.uk and info@rasacpk.org.uk.

President Jean invited Gameeda Barnard to give the vote of thanks. Gameeda also reminded us of the 16 days of activism concerning violence against women, which begins on 25 November and ends on human rights day on 10 December. For further information regarding this and any other aspects of Soroptimism, email siperth@outlook.com or visit our website.





Flower brooches proudly displayed at Powmill SWI

Glenfarg SWI

At our November meeting, president Linda Martin welcomed members and guests and introduced our speaker, Margaret Folan, who had brought along a few beautiful floral displays to give us ideas and tips for our workshop.

Tables were festooned with a huge variety of greenery including holl with red berries, ivy, spruce, pine cones and clippings from many shrubs and trees. Within half an hour, members had created attractive and varied table decorations, some adding candles and ribbons to make their designs original and different.

President Linda gave the vote of thanks and then announced the competition results as follows:

Poppy (any craft)

- 1. Sylvia Wall, 2. Sheena Chisholm, 3. Linda Martin

Slice of Gingerbread (not buttered)

- 1. Margaret Scott, 2. Liz Yull, 3. Linda Stuart

Flower of the Month

- 1. Sylvia Wall 2. Margaret Scott 3. Lillias Johnston.

Glenfarg SWI meets on the second Thursday of each month between September and May in the village hall, starting promptly at 2pm and ending at 4pm. Visitors are welcome (£4) and please bring your own cup.

Floral table decorations at Glenfarg SWI



Powmill SWI

At the September meeting we had Donna McBeath who guided us through a card-making workshop using tweed off cuts, buttons and feathers. September competition results were as follows:

Cheese scones

- 1st Tricia Greer, 2nd Donna McBain, 3rd Debbie Carter;

Homemade card

- 1st Debbie Carter, 2nd Donna McBain, 3rd Mary Wilson;

Single bloom Sharon Buchanan.

At the October meeting we welcomed Joyce Petrie who patiently led us in the art of Kanzashi flowers. After a bit of folding, tucking, glueing and stitching a beautiful flower brooch was completed. October competition results were as follows:

Favourite brooch

- 1st Tricia Greer, 2nd Anne McKay, 3rd Maz Thorn.

Homemade jam

- 1st Donna McBain, 2nd Mary Wilson, 3rd Anne McKay.

Autumn colours in a vase

Mary Wilson.

At the November meeting we welcomed Marlene, an image consultant from Style School Scotland based in Milnathort. Marlene gave us an insight into her lifelong passion for clothes and how the right outfit can boost your confidence. She showed us how to transform a scarf into different forms and styles to suit any occasion.

At style school Scotland Marlene and Adele offer many services such as colour confidence, bespoke shopping, personal styling and wardrobe workouts as well as being agents for the French range of clothes, Elora. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed Marlene's talk and her enthusiasm for styling and clothes. Here's hoping for Christmas.

November competition results were as follows:

Greatest number of items in a matchbox

1st Mary Wilson (50), 2nd Sharon Buchanan (48), 3rd Tricia Greer (39);

Banana loaf: 1st Mary Wilson, 2nd Donna McBain, 3rd Wilma Sim

Pot plant: Mary Wilson.

Carnbo SWI

President Heather Dennis welcomed members and guests to our November meeting. After business we had a craft corner night.

Angela Browning demonstrated gift wrapping, Mhairi Lavender had a hands on Needle felting session and Linda Band demonstrated making fudge and peppermint creams.

Sheila Reid gave the vote of thanks.

Flower of the month: 1st Flora Douglas, 2nd Molly White

A craft item made in your favourite craft:

1st Lyn Willsher, 2nd Mhairi Lavender

Our next meeting will be on 18 December: Christmas Lunch at the Kirklands Hotel. The Christmas competition will be a crafted tree decoration.

Milnathort SWI

We met in Milnathort Town Hall at 2pm on Thursday 16 November when our president, Jean Paterson, welcomed members. It was good to see everyone as our October meeting had been cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions!

We had received the sad news that Agnes Sharp, an honorary member, past president, secretary and long standing member, had passed away. A sad moment for all of her SWI friends.

After various business items, reminders of forthcoming events and information regarding our Christmas meal, Jean introduced Lesley McLaughlin.

She gave an exceptional floral demonstration of a Christmas wreath and vase with lights topped with an array of Christmas foliage and decorations.

There was good interaction between members and Lesley, as she is known to quite a few members. Jean thanked her for coming along to our meeting and giving us tips and ideas for our own floral attempts.

We had a very successful sales table, which boosted our funds a little. After refreshments the competitions were judged with results as follows:



Powmill SWI Card-making workshop

Handmade Christmas tree decoration

1st Aileen Hunter, 2nd Denise Stephenson, 3rd Grace Drysdale;

Flower of the month

1st Denise Stephenson, 2nd Grace Drysdale, 3rd Cathie Cochrane.

Our January meeting will be held on 18 January at 2pm in Milnathort town Hall. Speaker yet to be confirmed and there will be refreshments, sales table and raffle. Members £2, visitors £4. We hope to see everyone in the New Year.

LOOK OUT FOR THE JANUARY NEWSLETTER
On sale first week in the New Year!

BIG BURNS BASH

Saturday 27 January 2024

Kinross Golf Club 7pm

Tickets £30

KLEO is delighted to bring back the highly successful 'Big Burns Bash' as part of this year's Winter Festival. Like last year it will be a special celebration of the life and works of Robert Burns and of the talent within our very own local community.



A fast-paced, really fun, informal event with all the favourites including Address To The Haggis, Toast To Lassies etc and so much more.

There'll be a lovely two-course meal, highland dancing and wee bit of lighthearted poetry. Fantastic musical performances will come from a range of professional and amateur talent.

Keep an eye on www.kleo.org.uk for further details.

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The Golden Girls left to right: Sarah, Anne Mac, Ann M, Wendy, Linda

Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>

We begin by going back to the heavy rain and flooding at the beginning of October where the Aviemore half marathon and 10k still went ahead. Splashing around the trails in the half marathon were Leigh Verdoot, Allison Callaghan and Simone Young. Anne Mac had slightly better weather at the 10k the following day but well done to all for braving the conditions.

KRR took full advantage of the weather the following weekend when it was cold, crisp and sunny. A total of 27 took part in events up and down the country.

Uncharacteristic conditions then for the East District XC league at Beveridge Park with 11 KRR in action, the ladies running 5.5km and the men 8.2km.

On the same day were the Bennachie Ultra races in Aberdeenshire. In the 30km race, Millie Brown posted 2:58.26 to place 4th female finisher (11th overall) whilst in the 50km, Billy Webster clocked 6:40.52 to place 8th Supervet.

Gill Lopez travelled south to the Lake District where she opted for the 15km Lakeland Trail Helvellyn Challenge crossing the line in 1:40.52.

A change of gear from ultras to 1 mile efforts and it was the Hartley relays, held this year at Cochrane Park in Alva. Due to the date being on the middle weekend of the mid-term break, numbers were down on previous years but KRR still managed to enter 1 mixed team (Val Findlay, Laura Reilly, Mike Atkinson, Christina Atkinson and Rashmi Shah) and our team of The Golden Girls (the team sheet said 313 years young), Sarah Eaton, Ann Malcolm, Linda MacEachen, Wendy Turnbull and Anne Macintyre).

To complete a busy weekend of running, 4 KRR made their way to the Netherlands to run the TCS Amsterdam marathon and half marathon. Marathon man John Beveridge posted 2:54.04 with Barry Smith crossing the line in 3:25.33. In the half marathon, Sami Smith finished in 1:39.43 and Catherine McAdams in 2:11.18.

Then came Storm Babet. It was a difficult time for many and races were cancelled, some at short notice. However, a few events still went ahead. The women's 10k in Edinburgh was one

such event and 6 ladies from KRR completed the course so well done to Wendy Turnbull, Lynn Beveridge, Linda MacEachen, Simone Young, Michelle Murray and Jane McGee.

KRR hosted the Path of Condie at the end of October. Who would have thought at 11am when the rain was battering down and the runners and marshals were in for a soaking, that we would have been able to do the prize-giving outside? Such is the change in the weather that just a couple of hours later, the sun was shining as president Ann announced the winners!

Congratulations to our male and female winners, both from Fife AC, Ben Kinnimonth 1:18.18 and Laura Gibson 1:24.49. Laura also smashed the female record by over two minutes! Not surprisingly, Fife AC also won both the male and female team prizes.

Thirteen members of KRR also took part in the race so here is a rundown of finishing times. First home for the men was Alex Reilly 1:29.59 while Lorna MacDonald led the ladies home in 1:37.46 and 3rd female overall. Matt Newton 1:33.03, Iain Watson 1:37.23, Sandy Freck 1:38.15, Dave Mudie 1:44.25, Rashmi Shah 1:44.38, Allan Kemp 1:44.49, Ally Sinclair 1:45.45, Mike Atkinson 2:04.24, Millie Brown 1:44.48, Judith Dobson 1:54.18 and 1st FV60, Claire Alison 1:59.17. Great times on a challenging course!

Thank you to everyone for their help and support and for the

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Sports News

local residents who gave their support to our runners and marshals on the day.

Wendy Turnbull was flying the KRR flag solo at Lochore 10k and finished 5th V50. The following weekend at the Auchterarder Chilli 10k trail race, Barry Smith was first KRR home, followed by Sami Smith, Karen Ritchee, Hannah Campbell and Wendy Turnbull.

Templeton 10 mile road race in Dundee is a popular race where 14 KRR toed the start line for the penultimate club championship counter and collected a ream of prizes for their efforts. The ladies trio of Gillian Gordon (2nd FV40) Kirsty Gray (3rd FV50) and Claire Allison scooped the 3rd female team prize, supported by Lucy Fraser, Laura Reilly, Allison Callaghan, Ann Malcolm (2nd FV60) Val Findlay (3rd FV60) and Hannah Lopez.

Not to be outdone, the men's trio of Scott Strachan (1st MV50) Alex Reily and Matt Newton (3rd MV40) secured 2nd placed team, supported by Duncan Gray and John Myerscough. Wine, beer and sports vouchers a-plenty.

Amongst other races in early November were Martin Hill in the Run With The Wind 10k, Ben Ross in the Scurry Around Tentsmuir trail half marathon with Wendy Grieve opting for the 10k race, and at the National Short Course XC in Lanark, David Scott flew around the 4K course in 14.18.

Special mention to Len Zabek who completed the Wooler trail half marathon to make it 5 out of 5 trail half marathons completed in the Outlaws Ultimate Trail Challenge.

On a beautiful cold but crisp autumn morning, 4 KRR travelled up to Glen Clova for the annual half marathon. The weather obviously helped as our runners all clocked good finishes ably led home by Euan Boyle 1:29.39 followed by Martin Hill 1:34.19, Caroline Jones 1:35.38 (3rd VF40) and Karen Mitchell 2:01.45. Thanks to Gavin Orr for his duties as bag man!

Finally, we finish on Stephen Freeland's epic adventure out in Morocco at the Ultra X 110km; a 2 day ultra marathon. Stephen completed day 1 (60km) in 9:32.32 and day 2 (50km) in 8:51.47 for a combined race time of 18:24.19 to finish 10th MV40. We are exhausted just reading about it so many congratulations Stephen and a well-deserved rest is in order.

If any of these races have inspired you to take up running, we meet on Tuesdays for an organised speed training session and on Thursdays for a social run. The club welcomes all abilities so, whether you are new to running, experienced, looking for some new routes, or even just to meet new faces, there is something for everyone. If you are interested, then why not visit our website and get in touch.

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Hockey Team: Men's Second X1

Kinross Hockey

Kinrosshockey.org



Good to see both squads of the Kinross adult men's section out training on what seemed to be the coldest evening so far this season. They all seemed very happy but that is probably because it was at the start of the session! This particular training session takes place on Tuesdays at 7.30-9pm. For those sharp-eyed individuals, yes, we too are wondering where the hockey sticks are in the photo.

The club has training on every evening Monday through to Thursday for ages from 7 to whatever. Sessions are separated into appropriate sections, ages and abilities. To enquire please check out our website or email Kinrosshockey@gmail.com.

Kinross Golf Club

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



Christmas Lunches

1-23 December (inclusive). 12-4 pm. Pre-order essential.

Saturday 16 December Christmas Party Night, 7pm-12am. Glass of bubbly on arrival and three course meal (menu to be confirmed). Entertainment from Two's Enough.

Saturday 31 December Hogmanay Dance, 7pm-1 am. Glass of bubbly or bottle of beer on arrival and three course meal (menu to be confirmed). Entertainment from Pinnacle.

100th Birthday Celebrations

Kinross Golf Club held a reception in the clubhouse on Sunday 5 November.

It was attended by past and present members to honour former lady captain, Madge Malcolm, who celebrated her 100th birthday on Wednesday 1 November.

Madge joined Kinross Golf Club in the late 1950s and has seen many changes over the years from the original 9 holes to becoming 18 holes in 1974 and, finally, 36 holes in 1991. Madge was one of the founding members of the ladies section who secured equal rights for ladies back in 1974. To celebrate Madge's



Club Captain Scott Michie with Madge.



long association with the club and her very special birthday we are gifting a bench in her honour. Madge was presented with flowers by Anna Jackson who was 12 years old on the same day.

Madge has enjoyed playing many sports during her lifetime and still managed to play golf three times a week well into her eighties. Nowadays she loves to play bridge.

Ladies Section

Congratulations to Jennifer Jackson (pictured left) who won the Ladies Handicap Championship (McEwan

Trophy). The runner-up was Jean Graham (pictured right).

Gents Section

The Centenary Cup was played on Sunday 17 September. Gary Duncan beat Colin Wilks on 19th hole. The after-match celebration!

A prize giving evening was held to present all this seasons winners with their trophies. The trophies were presented by the captain's wife Mary. This was preceded by a two course meal and there was a dance after the prizes were presented.

Club Champion James Scougall



Junior Section

The Junior finals were part of the club finals day on 23 September. Congratulations to our new Junior Champion Robbie Hepburn, Handicap Champion Lucy Moran and 9 Hole Champion Isabella Jackson. Also, well done to our runners up Joe Ponton, Calum McGee, and Kiera McBurney.

Robbie Hepburn, Lucy Moran and Isabella Jackson



Kinross Otters

We finished off October with a two-day meet at Michael Woods in Glenrothes for the Warreder Age Group Meet.

On Day 1, we had our more senior swimmers attending and it was great to see continued improvements in stroke technique, turns and especially in pacing. This meant we saw a lot of personal bests, including Charlotte for a the 400m Free Style, which also doubles as a SNAGS consideration time. Ewan swam as a reserve for 400m Free Style, he swam in the second fastest heat against some super speedy and older competitors and was rewarded with a 22 second PB. Jessica hard work in training paid off with a day of PBs and getting under that elusive 1:10 in her 100 Freestyle and Isla had confident and effective racing in all strokes.

On Day 2, our younger swimmers were competing. Coaches Patrick and Lisa were overwhelmed by how well our swimmers performed with 96 swims in total, which had 77 personal bests, 40% of which showed an improvement of over 5 seconds. Special mentions go to Mhairi for her determination in her 1st 100IM, we were so proud of her! Ewan S for his time of 37.11 for his 50 FR, what a cracking race! And, Phoebe for taking on her very first gala and smashing it!

The Angus Pentaqua on 4 November was held in Montrose. All of our swimmers competed in 5 events each (hence the name PENTaqua!) and there were personal bests galore. Even for those who competed last weekend in Glenrothes! Medal winners include: Euan S, Ewan S, Kaiden and Molly. Also a special mention for Amy D for 4 fantastic swims and large PBs and Ariana for swimming well despite being unwell all last week.

As always, a huge thank you to our Coaches and great parents who volunteered on poolside!

Finally, we look forward to welcoming swimmers, parents and guardians to our Club Championship Presentation on Friday, 15 December at the Community Campus.

Milnathort Golf Club

37 South Street Milnathort, KY13 9XA
01577 864069

www.milnathortgolfclub.co.uk



The annual prize-giving was held on 18 November. A full list of prize winners is detailed below.

Ladies Section

Sporting Chance Shield: Caroline Marshall/Gwen Tate

Sporting Chance Shotgun Challenge: Margaret Mitchell/Deirdre Calderwood

The Lady President's Centenary Trophy: Gillian Pemberton/Jackie Sneddon

Lady Captain's Trophy: Lenore Kyle

The Stark Quaich: Margaret Johnston, runner-up Caroline Marshall

Seniors Trophy: Fiona Stewart

Rosebowl Trophy: Helen Payne, runner-up Lindsey Kidd

Robert's Trophy: Tracey, Kendrick Brown/Lucy Moran, runners-up Jan Gibson/Sonia Graham'

SGL Qualified: 1st Sheila Travers, 2nd Alexis Crawford, 3rd Aileen Wood

April Medal: Lucy Moran;

May Medal: Caroline Marshall

June Medal: Jennifer Walker

July Medal: Jackie Sneddon

August Medal: Mandy Jones

September Medal: Jackie Sneddon

Montgomery Medal Overall: Aileen Wood

Montgomery Medal Rd 1: Lizzie McConnell

Montgomery Medal Rd 2: Sheila Travers

Montgomery Medal Rd 3: Aileen Wood

Sports News

Montgomery Medal Rd 4: Aileen Wood
Montgomery Medal Rd 5: Caroline Marshall
Montgomery Medal Rd 6: Catriona Marshall
Francis Millennium Trophy: Margaret Johnston, runner-up Gaylor Hoskins
The Donaldson Cup: Lucy Moran, Lauryn Henry
Hot Putter: Margaret Fleming
Gold Foundation: Carolyn Hamilton
Gold Eclectic: Jackie Sneddon
Silver Eclectic: Jennifer Walker
9 Hole Stableford Summer League: Helen Wilson, runner-up Cath Ferrier
18 Hole Summer League: Jennifer Walker/Caroline Marshall, runner-up, Eileen Lumsden
9 Hole Strokeplay League: Helen Wilson.

Gents Section

Club Champion: Iain Brown, runner-up Russell Melrose
Committee Shield: Iain Simpson, runner-up Cliff Megginson
Donaldson Trophy: Bob Tolson, runner-up Iain Simpson
Dziennik Trophy: Errol Campbell, runner-up Iain Simpson
Swan Trophy: Keiran and James Hampsey
Dearing Trophy: Ian McDermott and Richard Baty
Harvey Trophy: Christine and Dougie Cleeton
Kinnimonth Cup: Jim Marshall, runner-up John Blakey
Thistle Trophy: Iain Brown
Orwell Trophy: James Hampsey
Stewart Cup: Callum Gillan
Autumn Cup: Kenny Mewse
Summer League: Jerry Cant
Centenary Trophy (Mixed & Juniors): Deryck Scott
Boe Cup Family Foursomes: Ian McDermott and Colin McRae.

Junior Section

Raeburn Trophy, April Medal and Most Improved Junior: Lucy Moran;
Committee Trophy, Gardner Trophy, Junior Stableford, May Medal, Montgomery Cup, June Medal, Summer League, Junior Masters Trophy, August Medal, Handicap Championship and Junior Order of Merit: Douglas Brown
Scratch Championship: Liam Hannah.

Other News And Information

Our quiz night was a great success. Thank you to Raymond for being quiz master and Marion for all her help.

The winning team was Jill Simpson, Mandy Spear and Gail Kinmond. Well done ladies.

From 27 November to 23 December the clubhouse is offering a festive menu. Bookings are now being taken for lunches.

Dinner and private parties available by arrangement. Bookings can be made via the bar or by emailing office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk.

The Christmas party night will be on Saturday 9 December at 6.30pm onwards for buffet, drinks, quiz, raffle and karaoke! Members and guests are welcome. Over 18s only.

The dress code is festive jumpers and there will be a prize for the best jumper.

To book or for more information call 01577 864069 or email office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk.

Kinross Volleyball



We held a very successful Halloween fun tournament with members playing three-a-side games and teams being changed after every round of matches.

The Perth District volleyball league competitions at premier and recreational league levels have seen the men's team having a good start to the season. They are sitting third in the premier league and second in the recreational league.

The youngsters of Kinross High School have had a difficult start to the season due to player non-availability but they are improving every Sunday night. Members are now looking forward to their annual Christmas fun night which will follow a similar format to the recent Halloween competition.

Training continues in the large games hall at the campus on Monday evenings at 8-9.45pm. This is open to new members who are keen to play one of the world's most popular team sports.

Kinross High School are planning to enter a senior boys team and a senior girls team in the national Scottish Cup competition. The

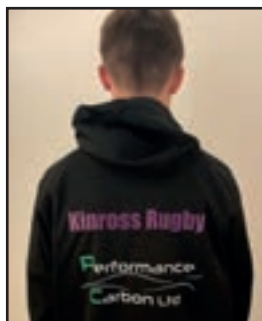
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opening rounds take place in January and February culminating in a national final on 19 April.

Perth & Kinross Schools plan to run a schools competition in Perth at the end of May.

Kinross Rugby



Youth Section

Our U15/16s were recently the proud recipients of leisure strips from kind local sponsors. Thanks to Sharon Thomas at Lighthouse Perth, Alan Ferguson-Walker at Fife Mitsubishi, Pete Chumley at Performance Carbon, Matt Evans at Business Agility Coach and Mark Wallace at TriFit Kinross-Shire.

Robert Allan, our Youth Convenor, said, 'As a youth rugby section, we are always developing and striving forward into uncharted territory and

to have such amazing support from these people, we are very grateful.'

The striking and practical jackets, trousers and t-shirts carry the logos of all the sponsors as well as the importance of the 'if in doubt sit them out' principal of concussion protocols endorsed by Kinross Rugby club and Scottish Rugby Union.

The squad is competing well in the Inspiresport Caledonia U15 and U16 combined club league this season and the players and coaches alike are looking forward to future games in which they can travel in comfort and style with a proud team spirit in how they look.

Our youth and women's sections were fortunate to be recently visited by Dr Julie Savin, Balbirnie Oral Care Ltd, Glenrothes to measure up, mould and fit personal gumshields for several players. Dr Savin said,

'Delighted to help the Kinross guys and girls teams with their mouthguards. Sport is so important to maintain fitness, head health, friendship and fun, especially for teenagers. So happy to look after those lovely smiles! A mouth guard prevents impacts related to fractured jaws, jaw joint injuries and avulsed front teeth (they don't grow back). We have evidence from boxing that they also decrease the frequency or degree of head injury following lower face blows/ knocks, enabling strong, safe play.'

It's certainly good to watch the youth players with their gumshields in and properly fitted for a change instead of hanging off their ears or out their socks! Thank you Julie.

Kinross-shire Cricket Club

The 2023 cricket season certainly sent down a few surprise deliveries this year. The club arranged a mixed set of fixtures featuring 100- format mid-week games, Sunday friendlies at T20,

T30, 40-overs and the annual David Roe Memorial test timed match. Rain was an ever-present challenge as most of the matches planned in July and early August fell victim to the weather.

There were some real highlights during the year. David Campbell's maiden 60 not out against Glasgow's Clydesdale CC, Fraser Laing's 50 on debut against Doune CC, James Ross's 127 against Edinburgh South all showed that we have depth in batting.

The mid-week Hundred against Dundee High School FPs showed the full range of skills and challenges. KCC bowled and fielded to the highest standard we have played in a long time. Ant Drew took 5 catches and ran out behind the stumps as DHSFP were all out for 62 in only 89 balls. With such a low total to chase the openers were advised to take it easy with no need for silly dismissals. The loss of 5 wickets in the first 3 overs for only 7 runs put KCC very much on the back foot. In stepped Ant Drew and steadied the ship taking us to the 63 runs mark with 5 balls to spare and 6 wickets down.

The annual awards were held in the excellent Raj Mahal restaurant in early November. The winners are as follows:

David Roe Spirit of Cricket: Sally Darrah

Oliver Middlemiss Trophy: Fraser Darrah

Catch Of The Year: John Ross

Fielder Of The Year: Anthony Drew

Richard Oldham Memorial Award For Best Bowling Performance: Joe Jennings

Bowler Of The Year: Ivan Groenewald

Best Batting Performance: James Ross

Batsman Of The Year: Fraser Laing;

Player Of The Year: Fraser Laing.

The 2024 season is already being planned with a tour to Belfast on the books for the early season. The proposed Perth & Kinross mid-week championship looks to add another layer to our season, and everyone is looking forward to winter training and indoor league in the new year.

Full details can be found on the club Facebook page.



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LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Fossoway and District Community Council

We seek to co-opt one or two members to the council. We are looking for individuals who would be willing to take on some admin tasks. Please phone Trudy on 07584 127906

The Potager Garden

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

Broke not Broken

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

Greyhound Rescue Fife

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

KLEO

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

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven

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

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

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

Swansacre Playgroup

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

Kinross Heart Start

Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

Light Up Kinross

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

Common Grounds

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

Seamab

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

SSAFA

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

Kinross-shire Day Centre

We are looking for volunteers to serve meals and help with day trips and activities, such as bingo and singing, for a lively bunch

of over-aged teenagers (over 65s). Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

Milnathort Town Hall Committee

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

Volunteering with Aberlour!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to support Aberlour, Scotland's Children's Charity. Visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer, or contact Shonagh on 07864 625069/shonagh.ferguson@aberlour.org.uk.

SPARKS

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

Scotland's Gardens

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

Duke of Edinburgh

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

Interested in Guiding?

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

Friends of CHAS Kinross

Do you enjoy meeting people? Making a difference? Planning fun and creative events? Then please think about Friends of CHAS – Kinross. They'd love for you to join them. If you'd like to learn more please contact community fundraiser Lyndsay Stobie at: 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 are looking for a volunteer coordinator to take over to help run our small fundraising group and fundraising volunteers. You will be made very welcome. 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. We have several volunteering roles available. Contact Daryl on 01577830346 or email kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk

Kinross in Bloom

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

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven

Volunteer with the Education Team at RSPB Scotland's Loch Leven nature reserve! For more information, contact the Learning Officer on 01577 862355 or email lochleven@rspb.org.uk.

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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NatureScot Loch Leven NNR

Coming In To Roost



Waxwing



Nuthatch

OVER THE PAST FEW weeks we have been lucky enough to have spotted waxwings outside our office in the Pier car park, around Kinross and along the heritage trail. These fantastic birds have migrated to the UK for the winter from breeding grounds in Northern Europe and Russia, mainly in search of berries. They are a very distinctive bird, with a prominent crest, black eye-mask, yellow tail-tip and wing-tips, and you may also hear their high pitched trilling 'bzeeee' call when flying overhead. Always a good idea to check tree tops for them, and they can be found in flocks of sometimes over a hundred.

We've also been experiencing plenty of typical British weather, with lots of rain and high winds. During storm Babet there were at least 13 large trees down over the heritage trail that were cleared, but we always appreciate any information regarding trees down during bad weather so we can ensure we keep the trail clear.

Our weekly volunteers have been busy with winter jobs, such as tree planting, grass cutting and helping with new fencing. There's also been work clearing brambles from woodland areas, and coppicing trees in order to let in light and space for new trees to grow. They are a great help, and are out working with us whatever the weather, which has been highly appreciated the past few weeks!

I'm Sally, the new Reserve Officer at Loch Leven, having started here in October. I started straight off the back of a season-

al post on the Isle of Noss in Shetland of which I completed three seasons. I've opted for quite a change of scenery from life living with just one other person on an idyllic island covered in seabirds and surrounded by wild blue seas, back to civilisation and working at the beautiful Loch Leven, covered in wildfowl and surrounded by woodlands. So far I've been enjoying my time here, keeping busy with plenty of practical work around the reserve, and seeing my first ever waxwings! I'm often working around the reserve so if you ever see me feel free to say hello.

Other wildlife highlights we've had recently have been long-tailed ducks, Slavonian grebes, crossbills, nuthatch and hen harrier. We have seen the usual winter spectacle of pink-footed geese coming in and out of the loch to roost, along with whooper swans and greylag geese. Other birds coming in to roost in big numbers over winter are starlings and pied wagtails, which roost in reed beds. We're also still enjoying our usual red squirrel sight-

ings, and often spot them burying nuts, which they do in preparation for winter when food might be scarce.

To keep updated with what's going on the reserve have a look at our social media (Facebook, Instagram and Wordpress blog - @LochLevenNNR), and feel free to get in touch with any of your own as well.

*Sally Reay,
Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer*

Weather



Recent Weather Reports From Kinross

October 2023

Total Rainfall	261.2mm/10.44in	
Heaviest Fall	45.8mm/1.83in	(20 Oct)
Total Sunshine	97.6 hrs	
Sunniest Day	8.7 hrs	(22 Oct)
Max Temp Average	12.23°C	
Highest Temp Average	10.76°C	(9 Oct)
Min Temp Average	4.25°C	
Lowest Temp	-3.5°C	(22 Oct)



Feeding Feathered Friends



IT'S HARD TO BELIEVE that we've almost reached the end of the year, but as we move into winter, we wanted to continue having a look at the other ways in which we support nature conservation by talking about our shop. Having had Christmas stock in since July (madness we know!), it's great to see everything coming together now and feeling slightly more normal as we move into the festive period. Our team have been working hard creating amazing seasonal displays from recycled pallets to highlight our gorgeous range of decorations. In addition to creating displays using recycled materials, as a conservation charity, we strive find new ways in which we can reduce our environmental impact. We are currently in the process of changing a lot of our packaging to recyclable and compostable packets to eliminate the use of single use plastics. This can be seen in the wrapping of our cards and bird food as well as in our range of plastic-free giftwrap and Christmas crackers. Our conservation work can also be seen in our ethically sourced, organic chocolate and coffee, as mentioned in last month's piece.

As winter moves in, we have started to notice just how quickly our bird feeders are being emptied by all our hungry feathered friends as they start to try and bulk up to keep warm. From ground feeding birds, like robins and wood pigeons, to the feeder clingers, such as goldfinch and blue tits, it can be tricky to work out what is the best food for different species. Our friendly and knowledgeable (if a little kooky!) staff, are always on hand to provide guidance and advice on just how to support nature in your green spaces, so that helping nature at home can be made simple. Why not pop along and speak to the team about how you can help nature in your own greenspace?

In addition to advice on how you can help nature at home, our team also have a vast knowledge on our range of binoculars and telescopes. If you missed out on coming along to see us during our designated optics weekends, don't worry! Our team are available any time during the week while our centre is open and can help you find the perfect set of binoculars or telescope for whatever stage you are at on your nature watching journey and for any budget range. As part of our redevelopment project, we also have a new accessible viewing deck so that you can try out our optics to ensure you find a pair that works best for you.

Finally, another way in which we help nature through our shop, is with our book-cycle. Our book-cycle allows people to donate their old books to us so that they can be reused by other people helping to prevent waste and extending the life of the products. If you are looking for gifts or the perfect festive read, why not pop along and take a look at our selection? Also be sure to keep your eyes peeled for our special Second-Hand Book Sale events where we have an even larger selection of books on offer for you to browse.

On behalf of everyone here at RSPB Loch Leven, we hope you all have an amazing Christmas and we look forward to seeing you all again in 2024!

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Farming



WE ARE WELL INTO the shorter days and longer darker nights of winter now and summer seems like a distant memory. All the cattle have been brought into their winter accommodation and I think they are quite glad to be there. In their last week outside, they were a bit restless but there was plenty of grass for them to eat and they were in two of the drier fields of the farm with a decent bit of shelter, which was just as well considering the storms we have had. It does seem to have been an autumn of extremes with exceptionally heavy rainfall on several different occasions, although I think we have been fortunate and missed the very worst of the storms, here in 'newsletter' country. The conditions may have seemed bad enough here but other areas were definitely more seriously affected.

The potato harvest I help with for the local barley barons went remarkably smoothly, considering the deluges of rain in October. After a shaky start we were able to take advantage of ten consecutive dry days and get the healthy crop of Maris Piper tatties safely gathered in with only a couple of minor mishaps along the way. The harvester seemed to be working very well (as was the operator!), flying along at record speed. It certainly kept us busy in the tractors and trailers carting the loads of full boxes of tatties back to be stacked in the shed. It was the day after the tatties were finished and the day before the rain started again that we got our last bit of silage baled for the season after mowing it later one night a couple of days beforehand and it turned out to be in remarkably good condition, considering the time of year.

I am currently helping our local Christmas tree magnates bring in

their harvest, which is a very different process to be involved in, certainly for me. I have done this for a few years now (although not as many years as I have helped with the tatties) and I always find it fascinating how labour intensive a process it is to get a tree from field to shop floor, as each tree is handled individually at least five times by the time it leaves the field in a pallet. The weather hasn't been too bad so far for getting this job done, which is good because it's pretty miserable out in a Christmas tree field with wind and rain lashing down, although since I am one of the older members of the team I am generally tucked up in the cosy forklift with the heater on, moving pallets of trees from the netting and palletising machine back to the yard to be loaded onto trailers!

Meanwhile, here at backward farm, the annual cycle goes on. We are now fully into the winter routine of feeding and bedding the cattle as they are all inside. The rams have been among the ewes for a few weeks now and as far as we can tell, seem to be getting on with their job quite well. We have decided to split the lambing a bit this year so there will be some lambing in March, which will be the first time for a few years we have done that. The rest will lamb in April.

The pigs are getting on with their usual task of rooting about and they don't seem to mind the rain too much but it does make the daily task of feeding them more difficult and they need straw put in their arcs more regularly during winter.

The run up to Christmas is a busy time for the retail side of the farm with all the preparations required to fulfil orders as they come in as well as attending Christmas markets.

A very happy Christmas and a good new year to everyone.

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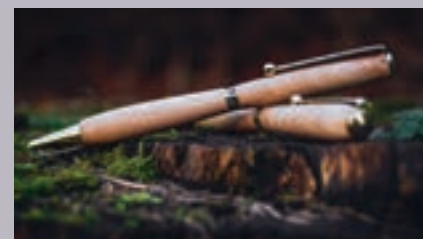
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PUBLIC HOLIDAYS We will be closed Mon 25th, Tue 26th & Wed 27th Dec and again the following week. Mon 1st, Tues 2nd & Wed 3rd Jan 2024. May we take this opportunity to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

We would also like to thank all our service users, committee, volunteers and the whole community of Kinross and surrounding areas, for your continued support of Kinross Centre.

Weekly Programme For December 2023

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (4 Dec ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes	1.30pm
	Big Quiz (can be teams or individuals)	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (5 & 19 Dec ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Singing Group (12 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes (7, 14, 21 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Carol Concert (19 Dec ONLY)	1.45pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Games: quizzes, Scrabble, dominoes (NOT 29 Dec)	1.30pm
	Craft Group (13 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Reminiscence Group Garden Room (NOT ON)	NOT ON
Thursday	Chiropody Service (7 Dec ONLY)	10am-1pm
	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Christmas Lunch & Concert (14 Dec ONLY)	12.00pm
	Games: Indoor curling, quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
Friday	Exercise Class with Kenny from Live Active	2.00pm
	Football Memories ALL WELCOME (8 & 22 Dec ONLY)	11am-12pm
	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Bingo	1.30pm
	Life Story Books	1.30pm
	Board Games	1.30pm



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

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

KINROSS CENTRE

64 HIGH STREET KINROSS KY13 8AJ

TEL/FAX: 01577 863869; Email: kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm

Dominoes; Exercises; Lunches Daily



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Kinross-shire Churches Together



Kinross Parish Church Church of Scotland

(Charity no SC012555)

Following Christ |

Spreading the Word | Serving the Community

10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship

Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri. Otherwise operating remotely. Leave phone message or email.

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

Assistant Minister: Rev Austin Wicks

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

(check website for Christmas arrangements)

Sundays

9.15am Choir Practice

10.30am: **Morning Service**, gathering song about 10.25. For young people: Junior Church (age 4 -11) meets in the Upper Room from 10.30 then joins in at the end of the service. Within the church there is a corner for parents with babies and toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services.

Sunday morning services are also available online: live on YouTube and



Facebook. Thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD.

6pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom

6pm: **Crossfire**, church centre during term time. P7 upwards

Mondays

8pm: **House Group** – Bible study and fellowship.

Tuesdays

10am: **Stepping Stones for babies, toddlers and carers.**

2.30pm: **House Group**

Wednesdays

9.30am: **House Group**

11.15am: **Midweek Service**, at the church centre.

1.30pm: **Craft Group**

7.45pm: **Men's House Group**

8.00pm: **Women's House Group**

Thursdays

10.30am: **House Group**

11-12pm: **Table Talk** – chat on Zoom.

Fridays

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association, (Church Centre during term time)

6 – 7.15pm **Anchor Section** (P1-P3);

7 – 9pm **Junior Section** (P4-P6);

7 – 9.30pm **Company Section** (P7 – S3)

7 – 9.30pm **Senior Section** (S4 – S6).

OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS:

December

Fri 1 **5.30pm: Youth Dungeons & Dragons**

Sun 3 **10.30: Quarterly Communion Service** Special collection for the Salvation Army. Afternoon tea for members to celebrate 135 years of the Kinross Guild.

7pm: NEW: Sunday @ 7 informal worship designed

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- particularly for older teenagers and young adults or those unable to attend the morning service, but everyone is welcome
- Mon 4** 8am: Guided **Silent Meditation**
7.30pm Adult **Dungeons and Dragons**
- Sat 9** 1– 4pm: **The Big ADVENTure** – All children welcome. Parents can stay or leave. Activities, snacks, songs and the Christmas story
- Sun 10** 7pm: **Sunday @ 7**, see December 3 above for details.
2.30-4pm: **Let's Sing**. All welcome but particularly aimed at those living with dementia. Tea and a Christmas sing-song
- Mon 11** 2-4pm: **Board Games Afternoon** – Next meeting 8 January.
- Fri 15** 5.30pm: Youth **Dungeons & Dragons**
- Sat 16** 11am: **All Friends Together** for adults with learning difficulties
- Sun 17** 10.30am: **Nativity Service**
- Mon 18** 6.30pm: **Service of Quiet Remembrance and Thanksgiving** especially for those missing a loved one at Christmas
- Thu 21** 9pm: Evening service of **Compline**
- Sun 24** **CHRISTMAS EVE**
10.30am: **Service of Lessons and Carols**
4.30pm: **Crib Service** for families
11.15pm: **Watchnight Service**
- Mon 25** **CHRISTMAS DAY**
10.30am: **Christmas Morning Worship**
- Sun 31** 11am: **United New Year Service** at Cleish Church (no service at Kinross Parish Church)

Cleish Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: **Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)**

Tel: **01577 842128**

Email: estenhous@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: **Christine Maclure**

Email: maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website : www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

We look forward to welcoming you to worship with us in Cleish Church.

DECEMBER

- 3 Dec – First Sunday of Advent**
11.15am Morning Worship. Traidcraft Stall.
- 10 Dec** 11.15am Morning Worship
- 17 Dec** 11.15am Morning Worship 'A Christmas Celebration'
- 24 Dec** 11.15am **Christmas Worship**
- 31 Dec** 11.00am Joint Service of all Kinross-shire Churches in Cleish Church.

Refreshments are served in the Young Room every Sunday after worship

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.

10.00am Portmoak Church; 11.30am Orwell Church

Joint family services with the Praise Band will be held on the first Sunday of each month (except Jan), in Orwell Church at 10:30am. Messy Church will meet on Sat. 2 Dec from 4-6pm at Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, fun, and food.

Dates For Your Diary

- 3 Dec** Joint family service in Orwell Church at 10:30am
No morning service at Portmoak Church
- 7 Dec** Ashley House Service at 2pm.



- 10 Dec** Joint communion service in Portmoak Church at 10:30am followed by a meeting and vote on the closure of Portmoak Church. **No morning service at Orwell Church.** Ashley House Carol service at 2pm
- 15 Dec** Oasis Ladies Group meets in Portmoak New Room from 10:15am-12 noon. Christmas Carols with Rosemary. Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 1:30-3:30pm
- 17 Dec** Carols at the Cross at Milnathort Town Hall at 6pm.
- 24 Dec** Carol Service in Portmoak Church at 6:30pm
Watchnight Service in Orwell Church at 11:30pm
- 25 Dec** No services on Christmas Day
- 31 Dec** United Kinross Network service in Cleish Church at 11am. No service in Orwell or Portmoak.

The Church Office and Shop is open 10-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity number SC013157)

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

www.cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk

Minister: **Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128**

Email: estenhous@churchofscotland.org.uk

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

Email: aclassicsoul@aol.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.

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

DECEMBER

2 Dec

Christmas Bazaar 1pm – 4pm

Entry: £3 for adults and £1 for children, includes tea/coffee, mince pies and shortbread, served until 3pm.

Community Carol singing – 3pm

3 Dec – First Sunday in Advent

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship led by Rev Beverley Stevenson. Refreshments and the Fairtrade Stall will be available after the service

10 Dec – Second Sunday in Advent

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship led by Rev Beverley Stevenson.

17 Dec – Third Sunday in Advent

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship

A Christmas Celebration led by Gordon Brown

24 Dec – Fourth Sunday in Advent

9.45 am Sunday Morning Worship led by Rev Gaston

5pm – Family Christmas Eve Service

11pm – Watchnight Service

Carols from 11pm, service starts 11.15pm.

31 Dec – Joint Service with Kinross-shire Churches To be held at Cleish Parish Church at 11am

REFRESH THURSDAY

Thursdays, 2-4pm in the Church Hall

(closed 21 Dec and 4 Jan but back on 11 Jan)

Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea and coffee. All are welcome.

FILM NIGHT

Fri 1 Dec 7.30pm in the Church Hall

Book Club : The Next Chapter (12)

This sequel follows our four best friends as they take their book club



Churches

to Italy for the fun girl's trip they never had. When things go off the rails and secrets are revealed, their relaxing vacation turns into a once in a lifetime adventure. Starring Diane Keaton, Jane Fonda, Candice Bergen and Mary Steenburgen.

Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether, all are welcome

FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

The group meets every **Friday 9.30-11.30am**, in Fossoway Church Hall. Join us for snacks, play and blether.

FOSSOWAY CREATIVE CRAFTS GROUP

Meets on **Monday evenings from 6.30pm** in the Church Hall. Please bring your own craft and join us.

FOSSOWAY HOUSE GROUP

Our House Group usually meets every **Thurs evening at 7.30pm**. For more details please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268.

FOSSOWAY YOUTH GROUP with KYTHE

Calling all 11-19 year olds, come along and join us on **Sunday 10 Dec** for our **Christmas Party** 7pm – 8.30pm

All are welcome at any of our meetings and services. If you would like any more information, please contact Anne McKay, Session Clerk, 01577 840093.

HALL BOOKINGS

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms, please contact **Mrs E Black 01259 742046**

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY
Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.
Tel: 01577 863795
Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com



You can also find us on Facebook
www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

Fr David and the congregation at St Paul's look forward to welcoming to you to our Episcopal worship services and other outreach and social activities. We recognize how scary it can be to cross the threshold into an unfamiliar place, so you're assured of a friendly smile and any help you need for you and your family to feel comfortable.

Our Sunday and Wednesday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. These are usually Eucharists (worship with Communion, sung with hymns on Sundays). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

The church building is open every day from 10-4pm for private prayer and the opportunity to light a candle.

We will provide regular updates on the website concerning our schedule of worship. Please do refer to it regularly. Although we don't insist that people wear face coverings, you are very welcome to do so if that helps you feel safer in public spaces.

Our Meeting Room is hosting one more *Arts@St Paul's* exhibition of visual arts and crafts, on 9 & 10 December.

Our services are also broadcast from the church building as livestreams via Zoom (please email us to be sent weekly links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal Sung Eucharist e-booklets and the weekly pewsheets.

Events and Services in December

Sun 3

10am: All Saints Sunday Eucharist with indoor sparklers!

Wed 6

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Sun 10 (Advent 2)

10am Sung Eucharist and lighting the second Advent candle
6pm Advent Carol Service by Candlelight

Wed 13

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Sun 17 (Advent 3)

10am: Sung Eucharist and lighting the third Advent candle
Wed 20

10am: Midweek Meditative Holy Communion

Please see our special colour advertisement for details of this year's Christmas services @ St Paul's.

NB There will be no midweek Communion on Wed 27

Sun 31 (Christmas 2)

10am: Sung Eucharist

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com



Loch Leven Church will be hosting the following services in December:

3 Dec: Christmas Nativity in the Loch Leven Community Campus (10:30am)

10 Dec: Christmas Carols at Loch Leven's Larder, with refreshments (3:30pm)

17 Dec: Community Christmas Carols at Kinross Parish Church, with refreshments (4pm start)

24 & 31 Dec: No services

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

CAROL SERVICE: 4pm Sunday 17 December

Gospel Meeting Sundays 4pm. **Toddlers' Group** Thurs 9.30-11am; **Explorers** (Primary School) 6-7pm. We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All welcome.

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus answered, 'I am the way, the truth and the life.'



Sunday mornings we come together at the Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

Refreshments and a blether from 10am; pre-service prayer time at 10.15am with the service starting at 10.30am-ish.

As the Holy Spirit leads us, our service includes the reading of the Word, prayer, ministry, communion, praise and worship, and Bible-based preaching/teaching.

Everyone is welcome, all ages, so please come and taste and see that the LORD is good.

Alternatively you can join us interactively via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 895 3312 2460

Passcode: 461728.

We also have Bible Studies in small groups through the week; Mondays online via Zoom and Tuesdays in person.

The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

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

'Like' our page to be kept informed.

Search for **Kinross Newsletter** or go to:

www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter





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References Available



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See booking for more sessions in holidays



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Christmas Puzzles



Christmas Crossword

Find The Santas!

We think we've hidden 20 Santas in the pages of the Newsletter (we lost count...)



Can you find them all?

ACROSS

1. Pumpkin or mincemeat
3. Santa's ride
6. Celebration
8. Newborn
9. Northpole crew
13. Word of praise
14. Words on a Christmas card
17. It's opened on Christmas

DOWN

1. Alternative word to 17 across
2. Christmas drink
4. Christmas dinner centerpiece
5. Dec. holiday
7. Christmas warmer
8. "Jingle _____"
10. Christmas tree
11. O. Henry's "The Gift of the ___"
12. What carolers do
15. French Christmas.
16. Snow glider

Christmas Riddles

If then end of the year is on December 31st, what is the end of Christmas?

When does Christmas come before Thanksgiving?

Two mums and two daughters went out for Christmas dinner and each ate one portion. Only three portions were eaten in total, how is this possible?

If it takes five elves, five minutes to make five dolls, then how long will it take 100 elves to make 100 dolls?

On Christmas Eve, when Santa leaves his workshop at the North Pole, what direction does he travel?

If you have a three litre jug, a five litre jug and an unlimited supply of mulled wine, how would you get exactly four litres without estimating

Christmas Riddle Answers

The letter 'S' as it's the last letter in Christmas so comes at the end.
 In the dictionary.
 It was a Grandmother (who is a mother), mother (who is a mother and a daughter) and daughter who went out for dinner.
 It takes one elf five minutes to make a doll, meaning it would take 100 elves making 100 dolls at the same time five minutes still.
 South. The only way to travel from the North Pole is south.
 Fill up the five-gallon jug then fill up the three-gallon jug with water from the five-gallon one, leaving two-gallons left. Pour out the three-gallon jug. Transfer the water from the five-gallon jug to the three-gallon jug. Fill up the five-gallon jug and use it to fill up the remaining one-gallon in the three gallon jug. You will be left with four-gallons in the five-gallon jug.

Christmas Crackers



What do angry mice send to each other at Christmas?
Cross-mouse cards!



What type of key do you need for a Nativity play?
A don-key!



How does Santa get his medicine when he's ill?
Through the National Elf!



What do monkeys sing at Christmas?
Jungle bells!



How you can tell that Santa is real?
You can always sense his presents!



What do you get if you cross Santa with a duck?
A Christmas Quacker!

Christmas Anagrams

Casual ants?
 Anagram wine ya?
 Knife scanner?
 Archery mm stirs?
 Ole ugly?
 clad rave tanned?
 Drastic charms?
 Hurl pod?
 Its omelet?
 Him sweetener?
 Is a tin poet?

Miss Chatterer?
 Fit garishly?
 Campers nests shirt?
 Off the sane pest?
 Cars rims thinned?
 Pe sequence sh?
 Scent thus?
 Amber gardening?
 Deplored, he is the odder runner?

Christmas & New Year Holiday Arrangements



Recommended Last Posting Dates

Beat the rush! Get your letters & parcels in the post on time. For full information, go to www.royalmail.com/greetings

United Kingdom

Monday 18 December: 2nd class, Royal Mail Signed For® 2nd Class

Wednesday 20 December: 1st class, Royal Mail Signed For® 1st Class, Royal Mail Tracked 48®*

Thursday 21 December: Special Delivery Guaranteed

Friday 22 December: Royal Mail Special Delivery Guaranteed (Guaranteed Saturday delivery for an extra fee)

International Standard

Tuesday 5 December: Africa, Asia, Australia, Caribbean, Central and South America, Far and Middle East, New Zealand

Wednesday 6 December: Cyprus, Malta

Thursday 7 December: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Eastern Europe (except Czech Republic and Poland), Greece, Germany, France, Iceland, Ireland, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey

Friday 8 December: Canada, Czech Republic, Finland, Italy, Poland, Sweden USA

Loch Leven Library

Closed Saturday 23 December until Thursday 4 January
Reopening Friday 5 January at 10am.

Kinross Day Centre

25 & 26 & 27 December Closed
1 & 2 & 3 January. Closed

Loch Leven Health Centre

25 & 26 December Closed
1 & 2 January Closed

RSPB Loch Leven

Please note, the trails, toilets and hides will remain open throughout the festive season!

24 December - 31 December:

Visitor Centre and Shop 10am - 4pm, Cafe 10am - 3pm

25 & 26 December Closed

1 & 2 January Closed

3 January - 23 December:

Visitor Centre & Shop 10am - 5pm, Café 10am - 4pm

Rowlands Chemist, Kinross

18 December - 22 December 9am - 6pm

Saturday 23 December 9am - 5pm

24 & 25 December Closed

Tuesday 26 December Open 2pm - 4pm (Emergency)

Wednesday 27 to Friday 29 9am - 6pm

Saturday 30 9am - 5pm

Sunday 31 Closed

Monday 1 January Open 2pm - 3pm (Emergency)

Tuesday 2 January Closed

Wednesday 3 January Normal opening hours resume.

Davidsons the Chemist, Milnathort

25 & 26 December Closed

1 & 2 January Closed

Kinross Sorting Office

25 & 26 December Closed

1 & 2 January Closed

Milnathort Post Office (Giacopazzis)

Sunday 24 December 7am - 10pm

Monday 25 December closed

Tuesday 26 December 7am - 7pm

Wednesday 27 December 7am - 8pm

Thursday 28 December 5.30am - 10pm

Friday 29 December 5.30am - 10pm

Saturday 30 December 5.30am - 10pm

Sunday 31 December 7am - 9pm

Monday 1 January 9am - 5pm

Tuesday 2 January 7am - 7pm

Wednesday 3 January 7am - 8pm

Thursday 4 January 5.30 - 10pm

PKC Waste Collections (Wheelie Bins)

There will be no domestic or commercial collections on 25 and 26 December 2023 or 1 and 2 January 2024

Unless notified directly by letter, the following will apply:

Collections due on Monday 25 December will take place on Saturday 23 December

Collections due on Tuesday 26 December will take place on Sunday 24 December

Collections due on Monday 1 January will take place on Saturday 30 December

Collections due on Tuesday 2 January will take place on Sunday 31 December

There are no scheduled garden and food waste collections after Friday 22 December. Collection dates will return to normal from Saturday 6 January.

Real Christmas trees can be chopped up and added to your home compost bin, chopped up and placed in your brown-lidded bin (if you have a Garden Waste Permit) or taken to your local Recycling Centre. Real or artificial Christmas trees presented as excess waste will not be uplifted.

Severe Winter Weather

In the event of severe weather it may not be safe for refuse vehicles to visit all areas. If your bin is missed please leave it out for 48 hours and the Council will attempt to return for it. If the Council is unable to return, please re-present on the next scheduled collection day. If you have excess waste or recycling, please use local Recycling Centres or Recycling Points www.pkc.gov.uk/recyclingcentres.

Recycling Centres

All Recycling Centres will be closed on 25 and 26 December 2023 and 1 and 2 January 2024. Opening hours otherwise remain the same over the festive period.

Special Uplifts

The last special uplift collection will be Thursday 21 December 2023.

Normal collections resume on Wednesday 3 January 2024.

SAVE THE DATE

23th March 2024, 10am – 3pm
Loch Leven Community Campus

Better Place to Live Fair



organised by Kinross-shire Partnership and Loch Leven Campus Partners

2023 event was a huge success – 2024 will even better

More information coming soon

booking forms for tables will be available in January from
pauline@thegreyhouse.co.uk



Join us!

Kinross High School and Culture Perth & Kinross presents a free lunchtime concert for our community.

Loch Leven Community Library

Tuesday 12th December 2023

13:30-14:00

FREE

The Stephen Lyon Organisation is a community-based charity with the mission of preventing suicide.

We offer support and advice, for people struggling with life's challenges.

We are here to help you navigate through difficult times and find solutions that work for you.

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Or

Email: info@slo20.com

Charity No: SC050446.



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MILNATHORT TOWN HALL COMMITTEE

MILNATHORT CROSS

SUNDAY 17TH DECEMBER AT 6PM

BRING YOUR VOICE
TO SING ALONG WITH US
AND SHARE IN REFRESHMENTS

DONATIONS TO LOCAL CHARITY
PLEASE BRING A TORCH

Rotary Club of Kinross and District





Santa Claus is coming to town in December
 Fri 1st Kinross South
 Sat 2nd Kinross Central, (south),
 Sun 3rd Classlochie, Gairneybridge, Cleish, Drum, Crook of Devon, Middle Balado
 Fri 8th Kinross Central (north)
 Sat 9th Kinross North (Lathro)
 Sun 10th Milnathort
 Fri 15th Balgedie, Glenlomond, Kinnesswood
 Scotlandwell
 Sat 16th Mawcarse, Cuthill, Drunzie, Duncreevie, Glenfarg

Remember that all runs are weather dependent, so like our Facebook page to get up to date information on the night

 [Facebook.com/Kinross & District Rotary club](https://www.facebook.com/Kinross & District Rotary club)

We are still hoping to have a tracker on the sleigh, but it will be different to the one we had in previous year. Follow us on Facebook for more information

There will be collectors out this year, but you can also donate by going to our JustGiving page

https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/kinrosssantasleigh2023?utm_term=MVnqWrXda

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

ALL PROFITS GO TO LOCAL GOOD CAUSES



Children's Hospices Across Scotland

Recycle your Christmas tree for CHAS



We will collect and recycle your real Christmas tree. It's a hassle-free way to dispose of your tree, while helping children with life-shortening conditions and their families.

Register now for your Christmas tree collection.

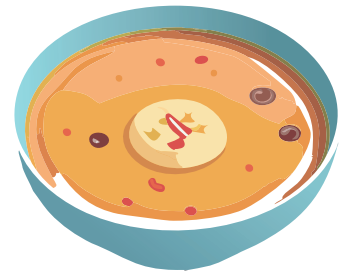
Visit chas.org.uk/xmas-trees or scan the QR code. For 2024, we'll only be collecting from the KY13 postcode.



Children's Hospices Across Scotland (known as CHAS) is a Scottish charity. SC019724 regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR).

Muckhart Primary School
Parent Council

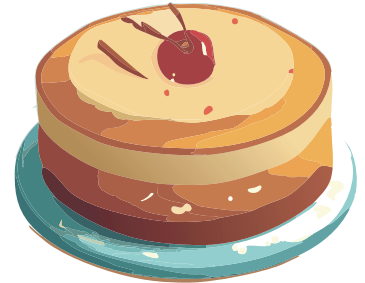
Soup & Sweet



Coronation Hall, Muckhart
Sunday 14 Jan 2024
12-2pm

All proceeds go to Muckhart PS Parent Council.
All welcome.

Contact Katie on
07580 074051 for
more information.



Adults £5
Kids £3



Sporting Memories Clubs are friendly, fun and easy to join

Join your local Sporting Memories club!

This club is ideal for those aged 50+ living locally who have the time and would like to:

- Make friendships with people in your local area
- Enjoy fascinating conversations about sport, local history and so much more
- Take part in fun and inclusive activities
- Provide a supportive session for those living with dementia and other long-term conditions

Every Tuesday 10.30am - 12 noon
Kinross Curling Club, Green Road, Kinross, KY13 8TU

Contact gary.waddell@sportingmemories.uk / 07941 123278



Milnathort filmhouse at Milnathort Town Hall

Saturday 16 December

Guarantee Your Seats By Booking Your Tickets Online Today



3.00pm
Doors Open at 2.30pm

All Tickets **£4.00**
Reserve tickets at Heaven



8.00pm
Doors Open at 7.30pm
Over 18s Only - BYOB

Scent's Winter Market, Town Hall, Friday 8 December

Tuck Shop With Lots of Treats and Drinks

Information and Online Booking at milnathortfilmhouse.com



Notices

MOBILE LIBRARY 13, 27 December

(Fortnightly, Wednesdays)

Kinnesswood (Opposite Shop)	09.30 – 10:00
Portmoak Hall	10:05 – 10:20
Scotlandwell (Leslie Road)	10:25 – 10:50
Levenmouth Farm	11:00 – 11:20
Hatchbank Rd (Gairneybank, Kinross)	11:40 – 12:00
Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:45
Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	15:00 – 15:30
Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:45 – 16:15

Contact us by phone on 01577 867205
or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

GRANTS FOR GOOD CAUSES

Kinross Community Council
Newsletter Limited (KCCNL),
Charity No. SC040913



All profits from the *Kinross Newsletter* are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are:

31 March and 30 September

More information is available on the kinrosscommunitycouncil.com website. Applications may be downloaded at www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/contact-us

BANK OF SCOTLAND MOBILE BANKING

Service operates fortnightly on a
Tuesday 10am to 1pm

11 December 2023
At the Green Hotel, 2 Muirs, Kinross

www.bankofscotland.co.uk/contactus/mobile-branch/perth.html#kinross

STEPPING STONES



**Weekly in Kinross
Parish Church 10-
11.30am.**

**Stepping Stones is
for parents, carers,
babies and toddlers.**

ALL WELCOME

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

A MESSAGE FROM NATURESCOT

FROM SEPTEMBER, there will be some changes on the loch for water access users. **We will be asking for no water access on the loch until April.** This means no kayaks, paddleboards, swimmers or any variation on those!

This is to protect the massive population of wintering wildfowl we get on the loch at this time of year. Loch Leven NNR is an internationally important habitat for wintering birds, and we must do everything we can to protect them from any disturbance.

Thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Kinross-shire Fund



The Kinross-shire Fund was established in 2006 to make the area a better place to live,



by making grants to a wide range of local charities, organisations and projects which make a positive difference to the community.

To date, over 50 organisations within the 73 square miles of Kinross-shire have benefited from an award, with beneficiaries ranging in age from pre-school to the elderly. The Fund is managed by Foundation Scotland and is currently open for applications, with deadlines quarterly on the first Monday of February, May, August and November each year.

Full details, including how to apply via our online application link, can be found at:

www.foundationscotland.org.uk/programmes/kinross-shire-fund

Notice of Kinross Partnership AGM 2023

The Annual General Meeting of the Partnership will be held on **Wednesday, 6 December at 7.30pm** in the Green Hotel, Kinross.

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Chairperson Report
3. Adoption of Accounts
4. Appointment of Directors
5. AOCB



**Are you aged 70 or over?
Do you live in Orwell Parish (Milnathort)?**

We are in the process of planning various activities at Christmas time and beyond, and are trying to ensure that anyone eligible to join us doesn't miss out on an invitation.

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.

P&K SCHOOL TERM DATES 2023-2024



Term ends: Friday 22 December 2023

Christmas holiday: Monday 25 December 2023 - Friday 5 January 2024

Spring term 2024

Term starts: Monday 8 January 2024

In-Service day: Wednesday 14 February 2024

Occasional holidays: Thursday 15 February and Friday 16 February 2024

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* Facebook Page for the latest information.

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
January	Friday 8 December	Saturday 30 December
February	Friday 12 January	Saturday 27 January

KINROSS GARDEN GROUP 2023/24 Season

**Thursday 14 December, 2pm
Parish Church, Kinross**

**Greg Kenicer, RGE:
'What's in a name – flower names in Scotland'**

All welcome to join us.

THE GAELIC SOCIETY OF PERTH

The Gaelic Society of Perth will hold their final ceilidh of the year at St. Matthew's Church, Tay St, Perth on Friday 15 December 2023 at 7.30pm.

We have a great line up of performers, including the MGM Calum Angus MacDonald, the brilliant piper, Katie Duthie and the Gaelic song and instrumental group Gleusda. Admission is £5 for Members and £7 for Non-Members – for an evening's entertainment plus refreshments!

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary on 01577 864589, on our website www.gaelicsocietyofperth.com or like us on Facebook – we are Gaelic Society of Perth.

GLENFARG FOLK CLUB

**The Club meets every Monday evening
in the Gateside Memorial Hall**

Doors open 7:30pm. Music starts at 8pm prompt.



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)*

Notices

**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

**PLEASE NOTE HOLIDAY OPENING
TIMES MAY BE DIFFERENT**

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8am-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Baby & Toddler Groups

Monday

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

Tuesday

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall
9.45-11.30am

Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

Wednesday

Breast Buddies
Health Centre 10-12pm

Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers
Village Hall 9.30am

Muckhart Babies and Toddlers
Church Hall 9.30-11am

Thursday

Montgomery Toddlers
Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

Friday

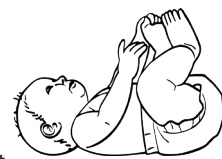
Loch Leven Babies and Toddlers
Masonic Hall, Kinross 9.30-11.30am

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers

Crook of Devon
Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Medical

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252
NHS 24	111
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219

Police, non-emergency 101

Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0845 600 8855

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm)
01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and
Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline (*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)	01738 476173*42*
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0871 200 22 33

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

Community Councils

Kinross: Chair: Lynne McKay, 01577 531076
Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort & Orwell: Chair: Neill Bingham
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Email: cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com

Kinross Community Councillors

Bill Freeman	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Lynne McKay	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Tom Stewart		
Michael Wilson	16 Acremoar Drive, Kinross	01577 861181
Emma Leslie		
Chris Willsher		
Sharon Wells		
Brian West		

Have a look at our website www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller	Chair	E: Chair@portmoak.org
Dave Morris	Vice-Chair	
Ann Davidson	Treasurer	
Sue McGregor	Secretary	E: secretary@portmoak.org
Dave Patterson	Member	
Kenneth Donaldson	Associated Member	

Have a look at our website www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

CLlr DAVE CUTHBERT (*Independent*)
Tel: 01738 475110
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

CLlr 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: wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

CLlr 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 Packaging
Books	Fluorescent, LED & Long Life Light Bulbs	Rubble
Bras		Scrap Metal
Bulky Goods	Fridges & Freezers	Soil
Car Batteries	Garden Waste	Stone
Cardboard	Glass	Telephone Directories
Cartons and Paper containers with metal ends	Household Batteries	Textiles (Clothes & Shoes)
Cooking Oil	Large Domestic Appliances	Timber
Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE - remove & recycle batteries separately)	Non-Recyclable Waste (General Waste)	Car Tyres (maximum two per day, strictly household only)
	Paper	

Free compost available (subject to availability).
A maximum of 2 x 25kg bags per day

Diary

December

- Fri 1 **Santa visits Kinross - see News to find out when Santa is in your area**
- Sat 2 **Common Grounds Christmas Craft Stall**, 10am-12.30pm, Guiding Hall, Church Street, Milnathort.
- Mon 4 **Cleish and Blairadam Community Council meets**
- Tues 5 **Fossoway and District Community Council meets**
- Tues 5 U3A talk from Alzheimers Scotland
- Wed 6 Kinross Partnership's Networking Breakfast, Loch Leven's Larder
- Wed 6 Kinross Partnership AGM
- Sat 9 The Big ADVENTure 1-4pm, Kinross Parish Church
- Sat 9 **Portmoak Film Society shows West Side Story**
- Sun 10 Let's Sing! aimed particularly at those living with dementia, Kinross Parish Church
- Sun 10 Kinross & Ochil Walking Group - see club entry for walk details
- Sun 10 **Christmas Tree Day Portmoak Moss 11.30am-2.30pm**
- Sun 10 **Wreath-making workshop – Crook of Devon**
- Sun 10 **Santa visits Milnathort - see News to find out when Santa is in your area**
- Tues 12 **KHS Lunchtime concert – library**
- Tues 12 **Portmoak Community Council meets**
- Thurs 14 **Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets**
- Thurs 14 Garden Group Meets, Kinross Parish Church
- Sat 16 **Milnathort Filmhouse Double Bill: Home Alone and Little Women**
- Sun 17 **Carols at the Cross, Milnathort**
- Mon 18 Service of Quiet Remembrance, Kinross Parish Church 6.30pm
- Tues 19 **Kinross High School Christmas Concert**
- Fri 22 **P&K school term ends**
- Sat 23 Kinross & Ochil Walking Group - see club entry for walk details
- Sun 24 Service of Lessons and Carols, Kinross Parish Church 10.30am
- Sun 24 Crib service, Kinross Parish Church 4.30pm
- Sun 24 Watchnight Service, Kinross Parish Church 11.15pm
- Sun 31 United New Year Service at Cleish Church for all COS congregations 11am



The Kinross Newsletter

is available from:

Greens of Kinross	High Street, Kinross	Buchan's Garage	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Baillies	High Street, Kinross	Kinnesswood Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Sainsburys	Station Road, Kinross	Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Giacopazzis	Lathro, Kinross	Fossoway Garage	Crook of Devon
Keystore More	Green Road, Kinross	Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Giacopazzis	New Road, Milnathort	Powmill Stores	Powmill
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort	Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie
Heaven Scent	South Street, Milnathort	Glenfarg Village Shop	Glenfarg