



Kinross Newsletter

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Contributions

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

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Letter From The Editor

NOW THAT January and its 31,0567 squillion days of darkness and rain is finally behind us (or was it just that me that felt that way?) it won't be long until we have lighter nights and longer days. The snowdrops have started to push through which always makes me a little more cheerful, or perhaps 'less bloody grumpy,' as those who know me well might say.

Editing the *Newsletter* means that I am often reminded that there is always something to look forward to and always progress to celebrate. There is a lot going on at the moment in Kinross-shire, and plenty to get involved with. The idea of a flag

for Kinross-shire has been floated and is awaiting your response. What do you think? Should we have an official Kinross-shire flag to promote and celebrate our identity as a community? See p12 for more information, and don't forget to write to us at editor@kinrossnewsletter.org with your views, too.

There are plans for a public meeting at the end of February at the Campus regarding Portmoak Moss and the tree-felling proposals we reported on last month. At the time of writing, the date has not been confirmed.

If you have a little time to spare in the winter months, see p84 for the latest list of volunteer opportunities. Being a volunteer is very rewarding and not only will you be helping someone else, you will undoubtedly feel the benefit yourself.

I'm delighted that the Better Place to Live Fair is returning in March. It's a great opportunity for clubs and groups to celebrate their achievements and to sign up new members. If you have a club or group that would like to have a table make sure to book a space early. If you are new to the area or just curious to find out more, go along; it's a great day for the community to get together.

Every year I discover more groups that I didn't know existed, and usually they are delighted to find out that they can send us their club reports for free every month!

If you have new neighbours, why not drop a copy of the *Newsletter* off to them as a way to introduce yourself?

Hannah Collins, Editor

About The Kinross Newsletter

The *Kinross Newsletter* has been informing and supporting the community for nearly 50 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

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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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PKC: Perth & Kinross Council
CC: Community Council

ClI: Councillor
CClI: Community Councillor

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Can We Trust The Woodland Trust?

THIRTY YEARS AGO, we did. A 1995 poster and appeal from the Woodland Trust asked our community to pledge money to 'Help save your local wood forever..... to help us safeguard the future of Portmoak Moss for all time', to allow 'free access to a wonderful wood.... to join a project to benefit you and your children', so that 'all our woods are safe from future threats in perpetuity'.

We did so, willingly and gratefully, only to find that 'forever.... in perpetuity.... for all time' is not what it seems: 30 years later we find that the Woodland Trust are moving forward with proposals for felling almost all the woodlands they pledged to protect, as part of their raised bog restoration project.

The arguments they put forward, for preserving and restoring the raised bog are clear – and if Portmoak Moss did not already have an important role to play in the community there would be few grounds for challenging them. But it does have such a role – and if the plans go ahead one habitat, an existing, valuable and valued habitat, is to be destroyed on the grounds of speculative benefits to another.

Portmoak Moss in its current form provides a much-appreciated and well-used leisure and exercise facility – it offers low level, sheltered, easily accessible walking to the two nearest villages, Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood, and parking facilities for the many walkers, birdwatchers, wildlife enthusiasts, photographers and others who come from further afield. It provides ideal walking for those with any mobility issues.

They come to the Moss not because it is a peat bog, but because it provides a popular, sheltered and attractive low-level woodland walk. It is a significant and much-valued community asset, as well as one that provides a habitat for red squirrels, roe deer, brown hares, woodpeckers, sparrowhawks, owls, buzzards, kestrels, woodcock, jays, wood pigeons, tree creepers, siskins and redpoll, as well as some fine stands of native woodland trees. If these proposals are implemented, it will become instead an open peatland habitat. None of these other habitats will survive the proposed developments.

The area, and the facilities it offers, will be changed very significantly indeed over the short term, with many/all of the informal paths impassible while the work is in progress; and what will remain when the work is completed is uncertain, except that it will be altered beyond recognition.

The 'change.org' e-petition 'Stop the Woodland Trust felling at Portmoak Moss' gained well over a thousand signatures within days of its launch, a significant indicator of the community's disquiet. It is growing daily. One of the comments eloquently summarises the community's concerns:

'I support peatland restoration. I do not support doing it in a way that erases a living, breathing community space. Portmoak Moss is not an abstract "land management unit" on a map. It is a working ecosystem and a deeply valued public place ... The quiet, sheltered paths, the sense of calm, the wildlife, the feeling of being held by the trees — that has been a constant in my life, and in the lives of many others. The current proposal treats community wellbeing as collateral damage. It prioritises a single environmental objective while underplaying the loss of established woodland habitat, wildlife corridors, and a space that people actively use for mental health, connection, and quiet restoration. Once felled, this is not something you simply "replace". There are alternatives: phased or partial peat restoration that retains mature woodland where it already provides ecological value; genuine co-design with the local community, not consultation after decisions feel baked in. Portmoak Moss already works — ecologically, socially, emotionally. Any plan that treats it as disposable is not restoration. It's reduction. We can do better than this. And we should.'

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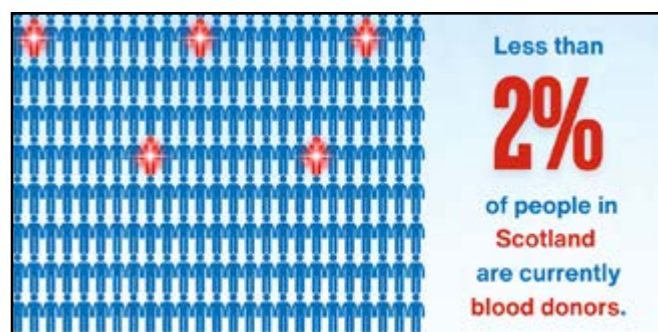
ARE YOU PASSIONATE about improving your local community? Fossoway Community Council is looking for new members. Join us, help shape local initiatives and ensure everyone's voice is heard. Whether you are a long-term resident or new to the area, your ideas and energy can make a real impact. Get involved, be the change, join us today!

For more information contact: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Jill Hampson, Fossoway CC

If you click today on the Woodland Trust website, you are greeted with 'Woods and trees are essential. For people. For wildlife. For life. That's why we're here.' That's what we understood then. That's what we hope for now.

Charles Weedon, Kinnesswood



Please Give Blood!

THE SCOTTISH NATIONAL Blood Transfusion Service (SNBTS) is calling on people across Scotland to register as a blood donor, as new figures show the number of people actively donating has fallen from around 3% of the population to under 2%.

Every day, Scotland needs around 450 blood donors to meet the needs of patients in hospitals across the country. However, fewer people are donating than before, and that puts pressure on Scotland's blood supply. I am urging both new and returning donors to come forward to help ensure lifesaving blood is always available.

The fact less than 2% of the population are actively giving blood is a concerning trend. In the last 10 years we have seen a drop of 24% – which is just under 30,000 donors. We are also seeing a particular challenge around younger people coming forward. The blood supply has been maintained by our regular donors giving more often, but we really need new donors, or those who have not given for some time, to come forward.

We know that a key reason for this decline is simply lack of awareness about the importance of blood donation. We are pleased to have patients from across Scotland supporting our campaign – they are a reminder that the need for blood can impact any family. We also know that people want a greater choice in when and where they can donate. To meet this need, we have had more than 900 community collections this year, visiting 248 communities across Scotland. We are reaching out to young people via schools, universities, and communities across Scotland.

Please book your appointment by calling 0345 90 90 999 or book online at scotblood.co.uk

Debbie McNaughton, SNBTS

Windfarms – A Two-County Policy Approach?

READERS WILL RECALL my recent *Newsletter* contributions highly critical of PKC in the handling of the approved Brunthill and Craighead Windfarm applications. The former was approved by the Reporters Unit after PKC failed to give it priority attention and the latter was not recommended for objection despite strong representations from the community who were denied a right of audience at the committee.

The above contrasts with PKC's approach on recent windfarm applications in Perthshire; Glentarken north west of St Fillans in September '25 and 19 turbines at Glen Lednock north of Comrie in January '26; in both cases PKC recommended objections based on landscape impact.

PKC do not defend the landscape of the Ochils in Kinross-shire despite the Government Reporter highlighting the significant cumulative landscape impact of approving Craighead in advance of the alarming recommendation on Brunthill not to object despite the effect on the Loch Leven basin and tourist heritage trail facility of 21 large turbines.

The windfarm jamboree in the Ochil Hills is set to continue, Clackmannan CC are to object to a 13 turbine proposal above Alva on landscape impact but 5 of these are in PKC who have 'not commented'. In my view, PKC can be accused of a total dereliction of duty when it comes to defending the landscape policies in place for the Ochils. I restate the John Muir Trust warning on windfarms' effect on our hill landscapes in October '25 viz 'the approach to renewables is piecemeal; cumulative impacts are hidden and our planning system is blind to the steady creep of industrialisation disguised as site by site approvals'!

There are 12 wards in PKC (either 3 or 4 members) and 40 councillors. Kinross-shire Ward has 4 members, whilst the Planning Committee of 11 members has 2 from Kinross-shire. We are always exposed to this democratic deficit of being outvoted on any issue, which has often happened. In my last council term to May 2022 I managed to secure agreement to an Area Committee for our shire but it appears to be 'a talking shop' with no real power, especially no planning powers which PKC were strongly against granting!

I plan in February to examine my files from 23 years as a Councillor for Kinross-shire and produce a paper highlighting some of the examples of PKC's decisions against community representation that substantiate this 'democratic deficit'. This could support a campaign for Kinross-shire to achieve either a) a more powerful area committee with planning powers (almost certainly vetoed by PKC) or b) a declaration of UDI/secession from Perth by petition to the Scottish Parliament. I will be writing to organisations and some residents in March to see what support there may be for this and would welcome any feedback to this plan of action.

Finally, in relation to LDP3, Fossoway CC, working with FCDT Ltd (Fossoway Community Development Trust) in 2025, have produced a Community Action Plan (CAP) and a Local Place Plan (LPP) for our area that should be referenced by PKC when producing LDP3. Alongside this (and different to previous development plans I think) PKC have produced the outcome of their 'Call for Sites' in Kinross-shire Ward from developers and landowners. It is basically a 'wish list' for large further housebuilding in the shire and PKC will evaluate each site for suitability, in advance of community consultation. Although Fossoway's CAP and LPP will be referenced in this exercise, it is unclear how many other CC areas of the shire have produced the same in the development plan timescale. I strongly suggest PKC's targeted approach to be very pro-development of our shire and have absolutely no confidence the authority will protect us from such without strong representation from communities and local members. I have met with KCT (Kinross Civic Trust) regarding this 'wish list' which involves over 300 houses in Crook of Devon, around 1000 in Kinross and 250 in Milnathort, 200 in Kinnesswood

Thanks!



A Great Big Thank You!

ALMOST TWO YEARS ago we took the lease on at 55 High Street, Kinross and opened our card, gift and balloon shop, Celebrations.

I would like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who has supported Celebrations over the past two years. Your custom has been truly remarkable, and many of you have become regular customers during this time.

As our lease at 55 High Street, Kinross, is coming to an end, we will soon be closing our doors. However, we will continue to offer helium balloons, banners, and badges from our new location at No 77, Loch Leven Laundry. Unfortunately, we won't have the space to sell cards and gifts.

Our last day at the current location will be Saturday, 14 February, so there is still plenty of time to pick up your Valentine's cards and balloons.

Thank you once again for your support. Kinross is indeed a very special place.

Richard Scott, Kinross

and over 100 in Scotlandwell, mostly on agricultural land (a needed natural resource!).

Given the housing development already experienced ahead of phasing between Kinross and Milnathort in LDP2 and proposals for development west of Kinross and the motorway, I strongly suggest to residents to get involved in the community consultations that will emerge on this (little detail as yet) and also contact their local members because 'if you don't oppose house-zoning at this stage you can forget objections in principle once a site is in the plan'.

Michael Barnacle, Kinross-shire Councillor (1999 – 2022)

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PUBLIC MEETING FOR THE MOSS

OVER 2000 PEOPLE HAVE now signed the petition opposing the large-scale tree felling in Portmoak Moss by the Woodland Trust. A second public meeting is planned for the end of February, although the exact date has not yet been confirmed.



Angry and upset communities in Scotlandwell, Kinnesswood and Kinross have called for a halt to plans to fell tens of thousands of trees at Portmoak Moss. The proposal would see the removal of woodland as part of a peatland restoration project.

More than 2000 people have signed the petition calling for a halt to the current plans, meaningful consultation with the community and the development of alternative plans. The Moss is widely used by local residents of all ages. Petition organiser, Heather Paterson, said: 'Portmoak has lost its garage, shop and church recently. We don't have many accessible, sheltered spaces where you get a bit of fresh air and meet people and pass the time of day. Peat restoration has its place but so does our well-being as a community. This woodland is special to us and this plan will alter that permanently.'

A meeting was held in the Moss in January, convened at the request of the local Councillors following closure of the initial consultation period advised by Woodland Trust on 12 January 2026.

The meeting attendees included all four local Councillors, three senior members of the Woodland Trust – including the Director for Scotland, the Paths and Access Co-Ordinator from PKC, a member of Portmoak Woodland Group, a Portmoak resident representing the Proposal Objection Group, and the Community Council Chair.

Portmoak CC stated, 'All parties acknowledged this represents an extremely important, emotive and locally sensitive issue. ...

and have agreed 'something' requires to be done' – however, there was significant opposition to the wholesale clear-fell and peat restoration proposal. All agreed the process demanded a bespoke extraordinary meeting.'

This meeting is likely to be held at the Campus but a date has not yet been confirmed. While campaigners recognise the importance of peat bog conservation, they argue the current plans would destroy existing wildlife habitats. The woodland is home to red squirrels, roe deer, owls, woodpeckers, brown hare, bats, goldcrests and many birds of prey.

Objections have also been raised by the Eastern Lowlands Red Squirrels Group (ELRSG) about the impact of large-scale felling on an already isolated population at Portmoak Moss.

Hollie Sutherland, ELRSG said: 'Independent red squirrel surveys at Portmoak Moss indicate signs of a healthy and well-established population, with multiple dreys and feeding areas. Large-scale felling would inevitably displace most of these squirrels. In a landscape with very limited habitat corridors and on-going pressure from grey squirrels, this plan places the local red squirrel population at real risk of collapse.'

The community contributed financially to the purchase of Portmoak Moss by the Woodland Trust in 1996, on the understanding that they were helping to preserve local woodland. But, this is not the first time there has been debate about the future of the Moss. Karen McDonnell, Portmoak Woodland Group's longest-serving chair, remembers the challenges that were ahead 30 years ago:

'Then, as now, the energy and enthusiasm of our people underpinned progress and the working relationship between the WT, PCWG and many volunteers from within and outwith our community have paved the way for where we are now in 2026.'

The purchase price of the Moss was £80,000 with £10,000 raised by the community and another £10,000 of 'matched funding' from PKC. The rest came from WTS.

Karen says: 'Had we failed to raise the funds we can only contemplate on what might have been, yet we continue to shape the way forward for this space with competent advice from specialists.'

Kinnesswood resident Charles Weedon said: 'I and many others donated to the Woodland Trust's appeal as they pledged to protect the woodland for all time and in perpetuity to use their words. There has been a lack of meaningful engagement with the local community. We are questioning why alternative, more balanced approaches have not been properly explored or presented to us.'

Scotlandwell resident Ann Cragoe said: 'Being able to enjoy the health benefits of Portmoak Moss is of the utmost of importance for the many people who regularly walk there.'

The petition can be found at:

<http://www.change.org/SavePortmoakMoss>.





tartan kipper

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THE LIGHTS NOBODY WANTS

DESPITE OBJECTIONS AND opposition, work is soon due to begin on installing traffic lights at the Loch Leven Community Campus junction (the junction between Lethangie Road and the Muirs). These traffic lights, that few wanted in the first place, will be installed regardless of the opinions of the adjacent residents, all four of our local councillors and Kinross Community Council.

Although the immediate neighbours in the new Persimmon houses were given 'neighbour notification' from PKC planning department about the set of lights, those living closest to the lights were never informed about their potential existence, as they were already a 'condition' in developer Persimmon's planning application.

Following correspondence with local councillors, PKC asked Persimmon for a modification to the planning condition so that the funds could instead be put towards a roundabout, but have not done so. Very strong views were expressed by Kinross Community Council that a roundabout would be a better option for this junction.

After Persimmon's planning application was refused by the planning committee, they appealed the decision to the Scottish Government Reporters unit (DPEA), who granted it, and in so doing included the conditions set by council officers, which included traffic lights.

Local councillors have tried in vain to have the funds for the traffic lights reallocated towards a (more expensive) roundabout.

An email from PKC on 20 January states, 'It has been confirmed that, in this case, seeking a contribution would not be appropriate, as there is no mechanism by which the provision of a roundabout could be guaranteed. However, the Council has identified a traffic concern that requires mitigation. As this mitigation has been agreed through the planning process, and in the absence of any willingness on the part of Persimmon to consider an alternative to the proposed

traffic signals, implementation of the traffic lights will proceed in order to ensure that mitigation is delivered. The Council is therefore not able to prevent the works from going ahead. I can also confirm that the team reached out to Persimmon.

The concerns raised in relation to the neighbour notification letter will be considered further as well as how elected members not member of the Planning and Placemaking Committee could be informed. However, as discussed, it is not straightforward to seek additional comments



part-way through the planning application process to reflect mitigation measures that have already been agreed through that process.'

Cllr Willie Robertson said, 'Because of various factors, Perth & Kinross Council have completely failed the residents of this part of the Muirs who will now have to try and live with the traffic lights being installed at the Muirs/Lethangie Road junction.

'I have always believed that as a councillor I have a duty to try and look after the best interests of my constituents and my community. As a result of both myself and my ward councillors colleagues being excluded from the original discussions between the Council's roads department and the planning department on possible conditions to be applied as part of the second phase of the Persimmon Homes application for Lathro Farm, I have been unable to do this on this occasion. Had I been consulted I would have requested a roundabout at this junction, which would allow for much better traffic flows.

Added to all this there has been a total unwillingness by Persimmon Homes to ask for a modification to their planning consent requiring traffic lights, despite me writing to them asking that they do this.

All in all this has been a very sorry episode with no winners. There are clearly lessons to be learned here by Perth & Kinross Council and I hope they will be learnt.'

Cllr Dave Cuthbert added, 'I am hugely frustrated by this decision. Years ago, when I sat on Kinross CC there was a traffic modelling exercise carried out by PKC and there was discussion about whether there should be a roundabout or traffic lights at this junction. Kinross CC expressed a very strong view that they would prefer a roundabout. This was my view then and continues to be my view now.

'An application from Persimmon Homes for the second phase of their development came to the council in 2019. When this application came to the council, the immediate neighbours to the new housing estate were notified and given the chance to comment. However, it lat-

er emerged that the properties adjacent to the traffic lights were not notified. The traffic lights were a planning officer decision which, because of the way that planning works, escaped scrutiny. In essence, the proposal for traffic lights was contained in the report of handling on this application and was added as a condition.

'When the application came to the planning committee (before I was a councillor), it contained a condition stating that traffic lights would be required at this junction given the increase in traffic. However, the planning committee were more focused on rejecting the application, due principally to the proposed density of housing and the impact on neighbours, so no mention was made of the traffic lights during the debate.

'Unusually, this application was refused by the planning committee, so Persimmon appealed the decision to the Scottish Government Reporters unit (DPEA). As with the majority of cases appealed to the DPEA, they decided to overturn the democratic decision of the planning authority and decided to grant the application, and in doing so, incorporated the conditions set by council officers, including the need for traffic lights at this junction.

'In December 2024, a Section 42 application (permission to vary a condition) was made to the Council by Persimmon to delay the traffic lights until the 125th house was built on the site. Prior to the meeting, I asked for a ruling on whether the condition could be changed to a roundabout and was advised that it would not be competent to propose this and was advised that refusing the permission would mean that the lights would have to be built sooner, rather than later.

'So, I supported the motion and asked officers to ask Persimmon if they would be willing to put the money they would have spent on traffic lights towards a roundabout. Last year, the four local members met with a member of the planning traffic team and made the same request. I understand that Persimmon refused this request.

'The traffic lights will be built whether we want them or not. It is hugely frustrating.'





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ANGER AS LINK REFUSE KINROSS BANKING HUB

GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT has greeted the news that LINK, the UK's cash-access regulator, has formally refused the request submitted by Councillor Richard Watters, Pete Wishart MP, and Jim Fairlie MSP to establish a Banking Hub in Kinross. Despite the complete loss of all traditional bank branches in Kinross-shire in recent years, the assessment concluded that no new services are required locally.

LINK's decision argues that Kinross already has 'suitable cash access services and facilities within a 1-mile radius,' including a Post Office, business and personal deposit facilities, and several free-to-use ATMs. Their assessment, according to Councillor Watters, 'appears to have focused solely on basic cash access and relies heavily on straight-line distances and headline public-transport timings to alternative branches — criteria that do not reflect the lived experience of our community.'

Those findings are also strongly disputed by local businesses and community groups, who allege that the assessment significantly misrepresents local realities. Councillor Watters told the *Newsletter* the decision has formally been appealed with robust evidence that LINK did not fully consider during its initial review.

Why the Decision Is Being Challenged

1. Travel Time Assessments Are Inaccurate and Misleading

LINK'S review suggests the nearest full-service bank is in Dunfermline, 9.2 miles away, with a 45-minute public-transport time. Evidence paints a very different picture:

There are **no direct bus services** from



Kinross to Dunfermline.

Residents often require **two or three connecting buses**, creating long waits and a high risk of missed connections.

Actual return journeys are **much longer** than LINK's quoted estimate, especially for residents travelling from Milnathort, Crook of Devon, or surrounding rural areas.

2. Kinross Is Not a 'Simple' Urban Centre

While LINK classified Kinross as urban, this classification fails to recognise the wider population the town serves:

Kinross-shire has a population of **over 14,000 residents** according to the 2022 Census.

Kinross and Milnathort have seen **rapid growth**, With Kinross growing by nearly 15% between the 2011 and 2022 census and with more than 300–400 new homes built since.

3. Economic and Business Impact Was Underestimated

The review counted 46 High Street businesses, dramatically understating the true scale of the local economy:

The town centre contains **around 70 businesses**, spread across a wider area than just one street.

Kinross-shire's economy is dispersed across rural villages and tourism destinations.

4. Tourism and Seasonal Demand Were Ignored

Tourism is a crucial part of the Kinross-shire economy. Yet LINK's review makes no reference to the **Loch Leven**

Heritage Trail, which attracts **over 314,000 visitors annually**, with numbers rising each year.

5. Vulnerable Residents Need More Than Basic Cash Access

While LINK focuses strictly on cash availability, our vulnerable residents need much more:

Many older or vulnerable residents require **assisted banking**, not just ATMs.

Former local bank branches previously provided essential advice, problem-solving, and financial guidance.

Next Steps: Formal Appeal

Councillor Watters told the *Newsletter*: I am working closely with Jim Fairlie MSP and Pete Wishart MP and have submitted a full appeal. I am grateful that LINK has granted an extension to the standard 28-day appeal period, giving us time to present a comprehensive and accurate picture of local need.

'Our appeal will include:

- Detailed, realistic transport evidence
- Comprehensive business-impact data
- Current demographic and population-growth information
- Tourism-related economic analysis
- Clear evidence of omissions and inaccuracies in the initial assessment

'We argue that LINK's decision does not reflect the lived reality of Kinross-shire residents and businesses. A Banking Hub is essential to preventing further economic disadvantage, supporting our rural communities, and restoring the vital in-person banking services that have been completely removed from our area.'





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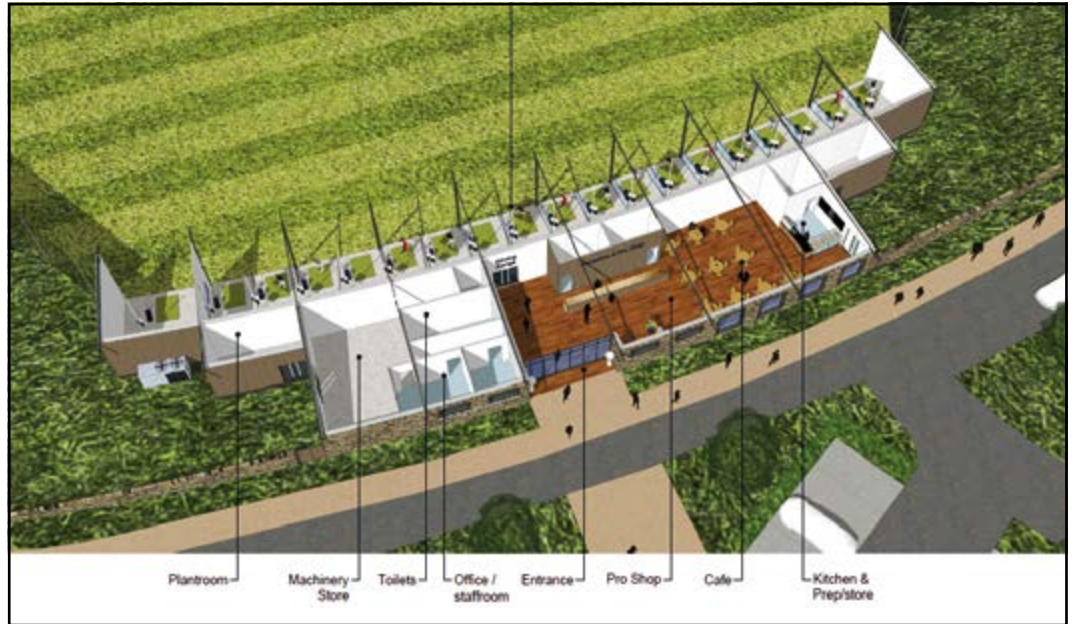
NEW GOLF RANGE UNDER WAY!

CONSTRUCTION WORK HAS finally teed off at the site of the new Burleigh Golf Centre.

This new leisure facility will provide a practice facility for existing golfers as well as an ideal way for anyone wishing to take up golf with the help of expert coaching.

The development will house 19 golf driving bays, a café and a retail area selling golfing equipment. The floodlit driving range will be open all-year-round.

The plan is for the facility to be entirely self-sufficient from an energy perspective including EV chargers in the car park and e-bikes.



The vast majority of the field will be grass although the plan is for the margins, which are not required for the range itself, to be planted as wild flower meadows with additional screening in places. A spokesperson said, 'The intention is to seek to minimise the impact on the views looking south towards the loch by locating the building in the southwest corner of the field where it will have a backdrop of trees behind it rather than the open views to the loch. A low earth bund will screen the car park for those looking south from the Burleigh Castle direction.'

There will be additional car parking for visitors to Burleigh Sands and the Heritage Trail, with a new section of path created to link directly into the Core Path network. Everyone will be welcome to use the cafe and toilet facilities.

The first stage is to install an extensive drainage system. In the meantime, a detailed building warrant for the driving range building and car parks has been submitted and it is hoped that work will start on that in April, with a 6 month build programme.

A spokesperson said, '...and finally we have boots on the ground. The initial phase is installing proper drainage on the proposed driving range outfield. Although we are fortunate that



most of the site is free draining (sandy soil with gravel below, there are some low lying areas where it can get boggy. Good drainage is key to try to prevent golf balls plugging when landing down range because the intention is to use robot ball collectors working essentially 24/7 when not recharging at their base stations. The entire facility is going to be powered by electricity generated predominately through the 190 solar PV panels on the roof of the driving range building.'

'The main construction programme will hopefully commence in April when the building warrant has been granted.'

There was some concern from local residents about disruption to wildlife and pollution to the loch voiced in the comments on the planning application.

However, the Biodiversity Report concludes that there will be a 52% biodiversity enhancement. The driving range itself will only take up the central part of the 25-acre field. Around the edges, sizable areas are going to be sown with a wild flower mix and trees planted, providing habitats for wildlife.

OUT OF THIS WORLD!



SCOTLAND'S FIRST ASTRONAUT EVENT – entitled *Launchpad: from Scotland to Space* – was held at Loch Leven Campus on Friday 5 December when Dave Mackay, the first-ever Scottish astronaut, enthralled a large audience with his personal life story from growing up in the Highlands to becoming the Virgin Galactic Chief Pilot.

Dave has now become an Ambassador for Aero Space Kinross.

On the night, eight year old Arabella Dowson (who wants to become an astronaut) came suitably kitted out and very kindly presented Dave with the gift of a Lego model she had made for him.



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DOES KINROSS-SHIRE NEED ITS OWN FLAG?

LOCAL RESIDENTS, COMMUNITY groups and schools are being invited to share their views via an online survey on whether Kinross-shire should develop its own community flag. Community flags play a valuable role in promoting local identity for both business and tourism, while also creating meaningful opportunities to engage community groups, including local schools and clubs.

The aim of the survey is to explore whether a public design competition should be held, giving people across the county the chance to create and vote for a shared symbol that reflects Kinross-shire's history, landscape and communities. Flags in Scotland are regulated by law, so the flag would be official, but free to use by all.

Community flags are used widely across Scotland. Islands such as Orkney, Skye and Barra have adopted their own flags, alongside mainland areas including Berwickshire, Banffshire, Kirkcudbrightshire, Bothwell and Girvan. These flags sit alongside national and council flags, offering a simple, non-political way for people and organisations to express local identity.

A Kinross-shire flag could be used by anyone – community groups, businesses, schools, event organisers and residents – on websites, at local events, on signage or in publications. It would be legally recognised, free to use, and owned by the community as a whole.

The current consultation is designed to establish whether there is sufficient public interest before any competition is launched. A steering group has been set up to take this forward.

Andy Middlemiss DL, a member of the group said:

'Kinross-shire has a strong and distinctive identity, rooted in both its history and its people. A community flag could provide a simple, visible way of expressing that pride. But it is absolutely right that this should only proceed if there is clear support from the community itself.'

Should Kinross-shire have its own flag?

- Designed & chosen by the public
- Build community pride
- Promote business & tourism

Find out more and share your views at Kinross.cc/flag

Richard Scott, local business owner and chair of the Kinross-shire Partnership, said the proposal was about inclusion and engagement:

'Community flags are a great way so support for the local area as well as promote business and tourism. If there is an appetite for it, a public flag competition could bring schools, community groups and individuals together in a creative and educational way. But first we want to listen.'

Local councillor Neil Freshwater also stressed the importance of consultation:

'A flag could be a positive way of celebrating Kinross-shire and raising its profile, but it has to be something that people genuinely want and feel connected to. This survey gives residents the chance to shape what happens next.'

If the idea attracts sufficient backing, the steering group proposes a four-month public campaign, working with Scotland's national flag expert. This would include engagement with schools and community groups, an open

design competition, professional redrawing of shortlisted designs, and a public vote to choose the final flag. Any winning design would be checked for legal compliance and formally registered with the Court of the Lord Lyon, Scotland's flag authority.

Kinross-shire does not currently have its own flag. While historic coats of arms exist for the former Burgh of Kinross and Kinross County Council, these are now held by Perth and Kinross Council and are not available for general public use. A new flag could, however, draw inspiration from these historic symbols.

The steering group is keen to hear a wide range of views, including from people who are unsure or sceptical. Whether you think a flag would boost local pride and tourism, or whether you feel it is unnecessary, your opinion matters.

The survey will be run until the end of February. More information about a Kinross-shire flag and the survey can be accessed online at kinross.cc/flag.

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MICHAEL BRUCE TRUST SEEKS TRUSTEES

THE MICHAEL BRUCE Memorial Trust, guardians of the memory of The Gentle Poet of Lochleven, is in search of additional trustees.

The Trust owns and maintains the Cottage Museum and garden in The Cobbles, Kinnesswood, where Michael Bruce was born in 1746 and died in 1767. Within the Museum there is a permanent display on the history of Portmoak Parish.

Since the majority of current trustees are all in the older age bracket, some also having recently resigned, additional trustees need to be appointed if the Cottage Museum is to continue to be maintained as an asset to the community.

Normally Trust members only meet once or twice a year but currently the museum is in need of roof repairs and, as a listed building, it is currently going through the necessary planning approvals, which has required a few additional meetings. A website maintained by the Trust gives more information on Michael Bruce: see <https://michaelbrucepoet.com/>

If you have an interest in local history, and would be prepared to devote a small amount of your time to keep the Cottage Museum operational by becoming a trustee, then please contact michaelbrucepoet@gmail.com and you will receive more information on what is involved.



BETTER PLACE TO LIVE FAIR 2026

THE WORLD FAMOUS Kinross Better Place To Live Fair is back! This year's event will take place on Saturday 28 March at Loch Leven Community Campus from 10am–2pm.

The Fair will showcase the fantastic groups, organisations, and services that help make Kinross a vibrant place to live.

Submissions for stallholders close on 28 February. If you have any questions, please email bptlf@kinross.cc

CHARITY MUSIC NIGHT RAISES £1k

A GREAT EVENING OF music and dance at the Green Hotel held just before Christmas raised a grand total of £1000 for charity.

Headlining the event for the third consecutive year were local artists Rachel White and Friends. All performers, crew and helpers were volunteers, including community award winner Beth Gibson and her mum Angela, who organised the raffle and prizes.

The night opened with a variety of youth dance routines provided by Becky Webb of Dance Connect, followed by songs and duets from guest singers Sarah Innes and Danielle Logan.

Rachel and her band — Austen Brunton on drums, Luke McDonald on keys and Luke Walker on guitar — delivered melodic, beautifully engaging ballads. Rachel also performed *Greener*, a reflection on the importance of following your own path in life.

Rachel has performed for CBBC and BBC Scotland, and her new single *Man Overboard* is due for release in January 2026.

It was a spectacular night all round, raising a total of £500 for CHAS and £500 for Scottish Action for Mental Health — well done everyone!

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CAP SETS OUT VISION FOR NEXT FIVE YEARS

THE COMMUNITY OF KINROSS has officially launched its Community Action Plan 2026–2031, a major piece of work that sets out local priorities, challenges and a shared vision for the future of the town.

The plan is the result of an extensive six-month engagement process carried out between April and September 2025, involving hundreds of residents, community groups and local businesses. It brings together community views on what people value about Kinross, what concerns them most, and what they want to see change over the next five years.

More than 775 survey responses, representing at least 860 people, were received, alongside 25 stakeholder conversations, a business survey and a community open day. The process was coordinated by a local Steering Group representing a wide range of organisations across Kinross.

Kinross Community Council expresses its thanks to the steering group for its work in creating this important document.

A Clear Vision Shaped By Local People

THE COMMUNITY Action Plan sets out a clear vision for Kinross as:

A compact, welcoming market town

An exemplar of green and sustainable living

A place where Loch Leven and local greenspaces are protected, with a

Busy, vibrant town centre and

Good access to housing, services, jobs and community life.

While residents highlighted many positives — including the loch, countryside, community spirit and strong voluntary sector — the plan also identifies growing concern about the pace of housing development, pressure on infrastructure and services, traffic, town centre vitality and access to health and other essential services.

KINROSS
OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE

This statement has been prepared using local residents' and organisations' answers to the question – "What is your ideal vision for the future of this community – the best you can imagine it in 10 years' time?"

Kinross will still have a small, market town feel, and will not have grown much more. It will be a welcoming, inclusive community, working together and caring for everyone



Natural and cultural assets are protected and celebrated, attracting visitors to come and enjoy them responsibly, and contribute to our local economy

The town will be busy and vibrant, with a bustling high street. There will be more local businesses and jobs



© Lorne Gill, NatureScot



Everyone who lives here can easily access quality and inclusive housing, health, education and care services



Kinross will be an exemplar of a green and sustainable community, tackling impacts of climate change, developing renewable energy, enhancing open spaces for biodiversity and promoting active travel and local produce

Six Themes For Action

THE PLAN identifies six main themes that will guide community and partner action between now and 2031:

Future Development & Sustainability: with a strong call for consolidation rather than continued expansion

Local Economy & Town Centre: supporting jobs, businesses and a more accessible High Street

Environment & Heritage: protecting Loch Leven, greenspaces and Kinross's historic character

Getting Around: improving road safety, walking, cycling and public transport

Community & Recreation: making better use of facilities and exploring future needs

Access To Services: particularly health, care, childcare and banking

The plan also makes clear links between community priorities and future planning decisions, including the intention to prepare a Local

WHAT PEOPLE SAID (SELECTION OF QUOTES FROM THE SURVEY):

<p>"I enjoy the beautiful walks and living so close to the loch"</p>	<p>"I like that it is not too big and has a sense of history about it"</p>	<p>"Park and Ride facility and bus transport to Edinburgh is good"</p>
<p>"I love the loch and its rich heritage"</p>	<p>"Lovely community to live in – it feels safe"</p>	<p>"Good selection of local shops and takeaways. Fab charity shops"</p>
<p>"I feel safe when cycling around the fantastic tourist path around Loch Leven"</p>	<p>"It's a family town, everyone is friendly, and it is well kept"</p>	<p>"The look of the town is nice with planters around the place"</p>
<p>"How helpful the community are to each other"</p>	<p>"A community feel with clubs and interests to suit all"</p>	<p>"Its public services including good schools and good GP practice"</p>
<p>"A range of voluntary organisations offering support to the local community"</p>	<p>"KLEO do fantastic job of creating events which bring the community together"</p>	<p>"I play golf and curl and facilities for both of these locally are excellent"</p>
<p>"I like that there are familiar faces and you can get to</p>	<p>"Kinross Community Newsletter is really excellent"</p>	<p>"Lots to do outside with</p>

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"Lack of supermarkets, filling stations and amenities forcing travel"	"Housing development continuing apace with apparently little regard for existing infrastructure capacity"	"Lack of accessibility for disabled people. Almost nothing in Kinross is accessible"
"Shopping is really poor for a town the size Kinross has become"	"New housing is crammed into open space and is of poor appearance"	"The local environment is poorly maintained, increasingly run down and litter strewn"
"Not too welcoming for tourists"	"Huge amount of new housing which adds pressure to already overstretched infrastructure like schools and health"	"Being unable to go into the loch due to algae"
"Limited job opportunities, many residents have to commute"	"There seems to be an excess of detached homes and not enough starter homes"	"No direct bus to Glasgow. No railway station with trains to Perth or Edinburgh"
"Cycling isn't safe because of so many parked cars"	"Doctors' surgery is oversubscribed takes far too long to get an appointment"	"Public transport to Perth stops early evening/Sunday service is poor"
"Too little parking in the town centre which has a negative impact on the shops"	"There is no NHS dentist in the whole areas"	"No clear community building for groups to use"
"Lack of motorway slip roads at Milnathort - increased traffic through Kinross"	"All the banks have gone"	"Lack of art, culture, film and music"
"Narrow width of footpaths for prams and wheelchairs"		"Nothing for teenagers to do if not involved in sport"

Place Plan so that community views directly inform the next Perth & Kinross Local Development Plan.

Working Together To Make It Happen

A SPOKESPERSON for the Community Action Plan Steering Group said 'This plan reflects what people in Kinross care deeply about — our sense of place, our environment, our community spirit — and also what worries people as the town changes. It's a practical, community-owned guide to what we want to work towards over the next five years.'

The plan is jointly owned by the community and will be kept under review, with annual updates to report on progress and emerging priorities.

Find Out More & Get Involved!

THE FULL Community Action Plan 2026–2031 is available online to view at www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/cap

Residents, organisations and businesses who would like to get involved in taking the plan forward are encouraged to get in touch.

KINROSS SHE SHEDS OPEN EVENING

YOU ARE CORDIALLY invited to an Open Evening on **Thursday 5 February from 6.30-8pm.**

The Kinross She Shed committee (Hazel, Hannah, Susan, Shirley, Karen, Zoe and Kim) invite you to join them at Kinross Rugby Club for drinks and nibbles.

They said, 'We want to discuss our ideas for this year and to hear your ideas about how best to use our funds. We are keeping our buddy system and call outs for help. We are looking at ways to use our Tuesday 2-4pm and Thursday 6-8pm slots at the Rugby Club. We will keep some wellbeing sessions and have some private sessions via a voucher system. We are also thinking about a day retreat if there is enough interest.'

'Some other ideas include a board games evening, a supper club with everyone bringing a dish, a jewellery and design workshop, pottery, a crystal/tarot card evening, theatre trip, and we also have some great ideas for speakers including Better Photography, Nature Scot and local historians.

'We even have a boat waiting to be renovated! Come along and find out more. Open to all women in Kinross-shire. You would be very welcome to join our friendly group.'

KINROSS NEWSLETTER WEBSITE:

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'the art project' galentines workshop
Looking for a wholesome crafty activity to do with your friends this galentines weekend? Look no further! Enquire for more details.

pancake day
Join us for pancakes ALL DAY, we'll have some delicious specials on too! Kitchen open 9am-4pm!

mother's day
Bookings for Mother's Day will open in February, so keep an eye on our socials for menus and booking details! 13th-15th March

'the art project' mother's day workshop
Gift your mum or special person an evening together crafting, as well as an evening tea! Enquire for more details.

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PERTH & KINROSS HEALTH and Social Care Partnership (a partnership between P&K council, NHS Tayside, and third sector organisations) are inviting people with physical, visual, or hearing challenges to help shape the future of local support services over the next three years.

Join them for a relaxed, friendly chat in small groups over tea and coffee. They want to listen to your experiences and to hear what really matters to you. Your feedback will help them ensure that services are joined up, gaps are addressed, and support truly meets the needs of our community.

You can choose to attend on one of the following dates:

17 February 2026, 1:00pm – 3:30pm

24 February 2026, 10:00am – 12:30pm

It will be held at:

VisionPK, 17–19 George Street, Perth, PH1 5JY (accessible venue)

RSVP by 8 February 2026 to CommunityEngagement@pkc.gov.uk or 07342 079 949

Please tell us your preferred date and any accessibility requirements.

If you cannot attend one of the in-person events, or prefer attending an online event instead, just let us know!

Please also share your views through our online survey. It should only take 15-20 minutes.

<https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/.../physical-disability-see-hear/>

Survey closes: 27 March 2026

POLICE UPDATE

A **29 YEAR-OLD** male was arrested on Thursday 8 January following reports of a driver having crashed into a perimeter fence and wall in Milnathort, before making off. Once traced, the driver failed a roadside breath test and a station procedure was carried out, resulting in the male being arrested.

The male was charged with being two times over the legal limit to drive whilst under the influence of alcohol and released on an undertaking to appear at Perth Sheriff Court.

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SCOTCAMPERS

WELCOME TO SCOTCAMPERS – the local campervan hire business operating out of Kinross.

Alan set up ScotCampers in 2025 following a long career in finance. From a young age, Alan has had a passion for Scotland and the outdoors. He lives in Muckhart which puts him within striking distance of the highlands of Scotland. A keen hillwalker, mountain biker and skier, Alan has a detailed knowledge of Scotland and would love to help you plan a memorable trip in our beautiful country.

ScotCampers is all about service to customers, hence the reason the fleet is intentionally small to allow for that attention to detail. In practice, that service looks like:



Assistance (if you want it) around route and accommodation planning.

A detailed walkthrough of your hire vehicle.

Insurance and breakdown cover. Alan's availability pre, post and, crucially, during hire to support with any questions or issues.

The vans in the fleet have been sourced and designed based on the roads and geography of Scotland. Currently, ScotCampers has two 4 berth VW Type 6 campervans and one Type 5, 2 berth (with awning). Since setting up in April 2025, customer reviews have consistently been 5/5. Here's what just a couple of customers have said:

Lukasz; May 2025:

Alan was an excellent host – very helpful before and during the trip. Moreover he sent us the list of his best places, and good tips



and helped us after we finished. Bilbo was a very comfortable, cosy and clean van, easy to drive - even on a narrow single track road. It had all we needed, worked nicely on campsites and off-grid too. We've truly had an amazing time, lots of great memories. So, if you are looking for a good van for your adventure Bilbo will be the best choice!

Aaron; June 2025

Had a lovely trip up in the Highlands in this camper – immaculate, had everything we needed and so comfortable, slept great. Alan was so helpful from booking to the end of our trip, which we appreciated. Would hire again!

The ScotCampers small fleet is based out of Kinross and there is storage available for your car during your hire if required.

Alan's favourite Scottish haunts include the Ochils, Glencoe, the Cairngorms and the Western Isles. In Alan's free time you'll find him looking for improvements to the fleet, out with the dog in the hills or watching his boys play rugby. Alan looks forward to meeting and welcoming you.

10% discounted rates are available for local residents, when booked by the end of February 2026. By all means get in touch to discuss any bespoke requirements.

Five star rated family run campervan hire business based in Kinross.





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10% discount



★★★★★
Catherine - "A comfortable van, the equipment is new and Alan is completely reliable. I recommend it."





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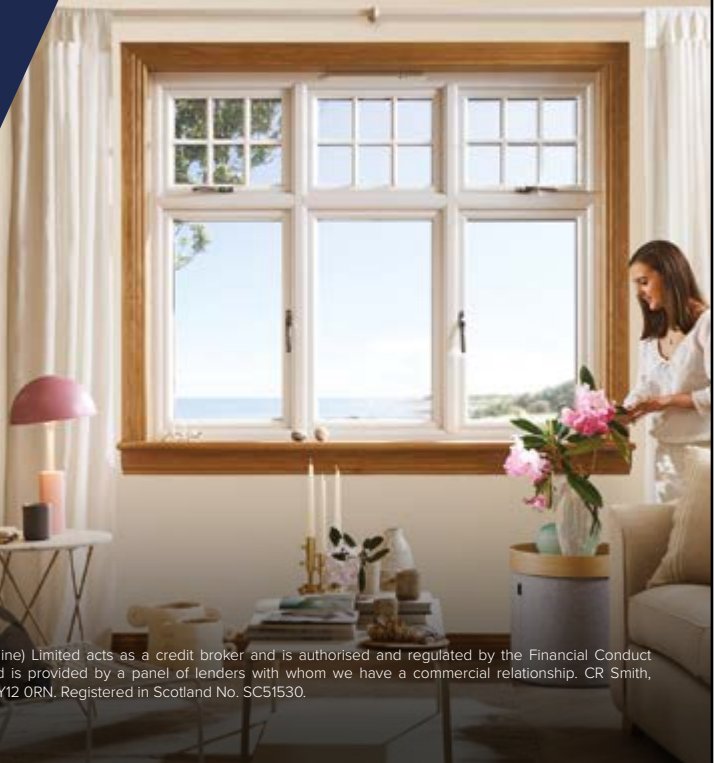


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KINROSS PIPE BAND GEARS UP

THE KINROSS PIPE BAND is looking ahead with great excitement to the forthcoming competition season, which promises to be one of their busiest and most rewarding yet.

In total, the band will be taking part in eight contests across the year, including all four of Scotland's major championships: the British Championships at Ingliston in May, the European Championships in Perth in June, the Scottish Championships in Dumbar-ton in July, and, of course, the highlight of the season, the World Pipe Band Championships in Glasgow in August.

As preparations continue, this is also a call to the local commu-nity – especially pipers – to come along, enjoy, and support your local band. The band is keen to hear from both pipers and drum-mers with band experience, but equally welcome those who may not have played in a band before, or who are returning after a break.

If you have a reasonable level of ability and the enthusiasm to get involved, there may still be time to get up to competition speed

this season if you fancy giving it a go.

They are also always happy to welcome casual players who enjoy performing at parades and events but may not yet wish to commit to competing. There is a place in the band for anyone who enjoys piping or drumming and wants to be part of a supportive musical group.

Above all, the Kinross Pipe Band prides itself on being friendly and welcoming, with plenty of good humour and strong camarade-rie – something that shines through at all times, and especially on competition days. Alongside the social side of band life, members benefit from the opportunity to continue developing their musical skills in an encouraging and enjoyable environment.

If you're interested in finding out more, feel free to visit the Face-book page, or get in touch with Pipe Major Nigel Kellett by email at nigelpipes@gmail.com or by phone on 07801 182283. New fac-es are always welcome – they'd love to hear from you.

FEBRUARY ROADWORKS

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF PARKING AND LOADING

A91 NEW ROAD AND A922 SOUTH STREET – MILNATHORT Temporary traffic regulation order.

From 16 March 2026 for a period of ten days.

The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading on both sides of the following roads;

A91 New Road, Milnathort from its junction with the A922 South Street (312054, 704709) to its junction with the private access leading to The Thistle Hotel (312184, 704740), a distance

of 132 metres or thereby.

A922 South Street, Milnathort from its junction with the A91 New Road (312054, 704709) to its junction with Church Street (312028, 704657), a distance of 62.4 metres or thereby.

A922 SOUTH STREET - MILNATHORT

Temporary traffic regulation order

From 30 March 2026 for a period of five days.

The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading on both sides of the A922 South Street, Milnathort from its junction with The Fairways (311856, 704338) to its junction with the private access leading to Number 48, South Street (311947, 704507), a distance of 195 metres or thereby.

Pedestrian & emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

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KINROSS NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE:

www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter

Music Libraries – Borrow Like a Book!

THE MAKE MUSIC TAYSIDE Library at Loch Leven Library has a wide range of musical instruments available to borrow. Their selection includes bass guitars, electric and acoustic guitars, violins/fiddles, ukuleles, and more, making it easier than ever for children to try out new musical instruments.

Free Workshop Details:

Guitar Lessons: Saturdays, 11am – 1pm
(starting 24 Jan)

Fiddle & Violin Lessons: Weds, 6 – 8pm,
35min group slots (starting 21 Jan)

Singing Workshops: Wednesdays, 5 – 7pm
(starting 11 Feb)

New for 2026, the group are delighted to welcome Kimberley Tessa as their singing teacher. Kimberley is an award-winning multi-instrumentalist, performing widely



across Scotland as a solo artist, session musician, and with the acclaimed vocal harmony trio The Vintage Girls. She has been recognised with the 'Rising Star'

award at the 2023 Scottish Jazz Awards and ranked 16th in The List's Hot 100 in 2024. Kimberley brings over six years of teaching experience across jazz, pop, and classical styles, and includes music theory in her lessons. She told the *Newsletter*, 'I am excited to widen the scope for music lessons for children and teens in Kinross and to meet some keen young singers!'

A spokesperson for Make Music Tayside, said, 'We are committed to providing music lessons and access to musical instruments that are free at the point of use, supporting children and young people to explore, learn, and enjoy music without barriers.'

For more information or to register interest, contact LochLevenLibrary@culturepk.org.uk, 01577 867205.

CARNBO HALL

A BIG THANK YOU to everyone who braved the cold weather to come along and support Carnbo Hall in January.

Upcoming Warm Welcome Events

Red Squirrels and Aliens! What more could anyone ask for? Come along to some Carnbo Hall Talks.

Mon 2 Feb, 7:30pm

Polly Pullar: Saving the Red Squirrel

POLLY PULLAR is a Scottish naturalist, wildlife writer and photographer with years of hands-on experience caring for and releasing red squirrels back into the wild. Her talk offers an engaging insight into the challenges facing this much-loved native species, brought to life through personal stories and conservation work.

Mon 2 March, 7:30pm

Ryan MacDonald: Exo Planets & the Search for Alien Life

RYAN MACDONALD is a researcher in extrasolar (exoplanet) science, studying planets beyond our solar system. His talk explores how astronomers discover distant worlds and what scientists are learning about the potential for life elsewhere in the universe.

Wed 11 Feb & Wed 11 March, 10am – 12 noon.

Coffee & Chat Morning

All ages welcome. Whether you're bringing a baby, catching up with old friends, or just fancy a natter, everyone from far and

near is welcome, including well-behaved dogs! Let's reconnect and enjoy good company in the heart of our community.

As well as Warm Welcome events, keep a look out for other events happening at Carnbo Hall on our Facebook page, such as **Simpli Yoga**, who are running monthly 'Evening Meditation' sessions.

For more information about events or to hire Carnbo Hall, contact: carnbohall@gmail.com



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CÒMHRADH CHEANN ROIS (GAELIC CONVERSATION IN KINROSS)

A BHEIL GÀIDHLIG AGAD? Just in time for Seachdain na Gàidhlig 2026 (23 Feb - 1 March), a few Gaelic learners and improvers have decided to get together each week in the library for an hour of easy Gaelic conversation. The idea came about at last year's Portmoak Festival when, for the second year in a row, they organised a Gaelic session during afternoon teas in Portmoak Hall.

Last year PKC Gaelic Development Officer, Fiona Waddell, gave an excellent presentation about the many Gaelic placenames in Kinross-shire. Several Kinross-shire folk have been taking advan-

tage of Fife Conversation groups, so thought it would be good to organise something closer to home. There are loads of online courses, but getting a chance to practice chatting is not so easy.

A spokesperson said, 'Mòran taing to the library staff who have been extremely helpful. Feel free to come and join us on Tuesdays from 2.30pm to 3.30pm in Loch Leven Community Library.

The PKC Gaelic Development Officer hopes to organise some classes for Kinross Beginners in the spring. Contact Gaelic@pkc.gov.uk.

KINROSS SHOW – THE FUTURE

COME ALONG TO the Millbridge Hall on Sunday 1 February, from 2-4pm, to share your ideas for the future of Kinross Show.

Find out more about the history of the annual event and give us some ideas of what you might like to see at future Shows. You will be able to meet the board and committee members and chat over tea and biscuits.

Save the date – on Friday 27 February we are holding a comedy evening at Kinross Rugby Club. Join us for an evening of food, a raffle and lots of laughs with our host Grant Barr. The comedians performing on the evening will be announced soon, so keep an eye on our Facebook page and website for more details and the link for purchasing tickets.



LANE RESTRICTIONS M90

AMEY IS UNDERTAKING the essential removal of dangerous and diseased trees on the M90 between Glenfarg and Craigend until Tuesday 3 February. The essential woodland management, which Amey is carrying out on behalf of Transport Scotland, will combat the effects of Ash Dieback. This work will help improve the safety of the M90 carriageway. Once the Ash Dieback fungus infects a tree, the dead or dying branches can become brittle and fall. The trees then pose a risk of collapsing, presenting an immediate danger. In these cases they need to be managed carefully and sometimes removed, especially near roads, paths or buildings. Work is scheduled to take place under a programme of daytime (9.30am to 3.30pm)

and night-time (7.30pm to 6.30am) lane restrictions and slip closures in February as follows:

Thursday 29 January to Tuesday 3 February

(Night): Lane 1 restriction on the M90 northbound at Bridge of Earn.

Thursday 29 and Friday 30 January (Night): M90 Junction 9 northbound off-slip closure at Bridge of Earn. Diversion due to northbound off-slip Closure: Traffic will be diverted to M90 Junction 11 where they can turn to rejoin the M90 southbound and exit at the M90 Junction 9 southbound off-slip.

Friday 30 January – Tuesday 3 February (Night): M90 Junction 9 northbound

on-slip closure at Bridge of Earn. Diversion due to northbound on slip Closure: Traffic will be diverted via the M90 southbound on-slip at Junction 9 to Junction 7 on the M90, where traffic can turn to access the M90 northbound.

The work will benefit more than 32,200 vehicles who use this route each day.

Please note, all schemes are weather dependent and may be cancelled or rescheduled if weather conditions are not favourable.

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THIRD TIME LUCKY FOR OPEN GARDENS



riety of gardens, large or small, that reflect your floral interests and lifestyle. The previous Open Gardens featured vegetable patches, ponds, lots of floral pots, chicken and rabbit runs, hot tubs, outdoor kitchens and coffee/gin corners to sit and admire the fruits of your labour! But the simplest of well-loved gardens will also be very welcome.

We would also appreciate help with ticket sales, baking and or serving teas, coffees.

For further information please text or call Marg Meade 07907 192097/Enid Campbell 07841 435864

Marie Curie is a palliative care nursing service that care for patients with **any** terminal illness in the comfort of their own home, at no cost to the patient.

CALLING ALL ENTHUSIASTIC gardeners! A small but enthusiastic fund raising committee would like to invite you to a planning meeting to prepare for their third Open Gardens weekend (in aid of Marie Curie) in Kinross and Milnathort this summer.

They are looking for folk who are willing to open their gardens for a Saturday and Sunday afternoon in either June or July, dates to be set by the gardeners. They're once again hoping for a va-



GETTING INTO THE SPIRIT OF GHOSTWRITING

A NEW GHOSTWRITING service offering a personalised and affordable way of helping people tell their life stories has been set up by a former journalist.

Liz Rougvie has more than half-a-century's experience as a newspaper reporter and features writer, and since she retired has been working as a ghostwriter for StoryTerrace, the UK's first-ever autobiographical service, which took off after a successful pitch on Dragons' Den.

Said Liz: 'Over the years, I've ghostwritten books on everything from domestic violence to child abuse by priests; from business success to wartime experiences. I've even helped the family of a 105 year-old Gujarati lady tell her incredible story about fleeing from Uganda with her eight children following the death of her young husband, and my most recent project was to help a lady from Nigeria write her account of being the victim of witchcraft.

'Your story might not be quite so dramatic, but everyone has memories and an autobiography makes a wonderful gift for family and friends.

'Busy Lizzie Life Stories is different from larger companies in that I provide the words only, leaving you free to self-publish, upload to Amazon, or choose your own publisher, saving you a considerable sum!'

For more information, please contact buzylizzielifestories@gmail.com

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SOMETHING TO LOOK FORWARD TO

WHAT MIGHT WE ALL look forward to this year? There will be huge sporting events, high-profile diplomatic summits, and anniversaries that will make us reflect on democracy, conflict, security, and social change, plus the inexorable march of AI. We will all have our own personal, family and friends' special events, anniversaries, ups and downs too.

The FIFA World Cup 2026 — A Sporting Global Phenomenon

ONE OF THE most anticipated events of 2026 will be the FIFA World Cup, co-hosted by the United States, Canada, and Mexico from 11 June to 19 July 2026. This is expected to be the largest ever in terms of host cities and teams, with expanded global interest and economic impact. What bets on Scotland playing Brazil in the final? How many Kinross area Tartan Army fans might be planning to go, if you're not priced out of it? Let our Editor know your plans and write about your adventures.



FIFA WORLD CUP
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Winter Olympic & Paralympics Games

EARLY THIS YEAR, from 6- 22 February, the Winter Olympics will take place in Milan and Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy — with world-class athletic competition across snow and ice events. The Paralympics will follow from 6 – 15 March, emphasising inclusivity and the athleticism of para-sports athletes.

At Home ...?

COMMONWEALTH GAMES in Glasgow, Scotland (23 July – 2 August) giving member nations of the Commonwealth a platform for sporting exchange and competition. We have booked to see some athletics, cycling and gymnastics.

Politics, Diplomacy & Global Policy

CAN THERE BE real and lasting peace in Ukraine, Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar, Ethiopia/ Eritrea, Cambodia, Yemen, Syria, DR Congo, Venezuela and many other conflict zones? I am sure we all fervently hope so. Wars can only stop with ceasefires, with leaders talking together, and them being prepared to make some tough concessions.

The 2026 Scottish Parliament election is planned to be held on Thursday 7 May 2026, and will elect 129 members to the Scottish Parliament. It will be the seventh general election since the devolved parliament was established in 1999. Whatever your politics, all I would say is please go out and vote. Use your vote. Why did we fight two long world wars - to do exactly this - exercise our democratic right, and live freely to do so?

G7 Summit In France

FROM 14- 16 JUNE leaders of the Group of Seven (G7) will convene in Évian-les-Bains, France. The Summit will address pressing issues like trade, climate change, and geopolitical tensions, set against a backdrop of uneven global economic growth and supply chain uncertainties.



Commonwealth Heads Of Government Meeting (CHOGM)

FROM 1-4 NOVEMBER in Antigua and Barbuda, heads of government from the Commonwealth of Nations will gather to discuss issues of climate change, economic cooperation, and investment in small island developing states.

MAJOR ANNIVERSARIES IN 2026

250th Anniversary of American Independence

ARGUABLY ONE of the most widely anticipated anniversaries in 2026 will be the 250th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Declaration of Independence on 4 July 1776. The United States are planning large-scale commemorations, parades, service projects, historical exhibits, and discussions on the country's past and future.



25th Anniversary Of 9/11

2026 WILL ALSO mark the 25th anniversary of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, with memorial events and ceremonies planned to honour victims, first responders, and the global impact of that day.

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Features

Other Historic Anniversaries & Why Anniversaries Matter

ANNIVERSARIES FUNCTION as tools of collective memory- they help steer public debate, education, and diplomacy — hopefully influencing how societies understand progress, responsibility, and shared values for the better .

Beyond these headline anniversaries, 2026 also marks other historical moments observed globally:

- 110-year commemorations of major battles from World War I- especially The Somme on 1 July.
- 70th anniversaries of historical events including Cold War-era revolts, such as the Hungarian Revolution and the Suez Crisis.

I will be giving talks on some of these in the Loch Leven Campus Library — look out for details later.

Artificial Intelligence & Regulation

IN 2026, AI will undoubtedly continue its rapid integration – across industries, from healthcare diagnostics to automation, with increased scrutiny around ethical usage and regulation. Policymakers, businesses, and researchers will likely face tough questions around responsibility, transparency, and societal impacts. The real promise and excitement surely is in the field of medical research, accelerating drug discoveries, and improving diagnostic capabilities.

CONCLUSION:

WHY 2026 COULD BE A TURNING POINT

TAKEN TOGETHER, the events and anniversaries of 2026 reveal a world navigating transition. It seems to me it will be a year defined not by a single crisis or breakthrough, but hopefully by nations coming together more. How nations respond to the

challenges and opportunities of 2026 will shape the global landscape well into the next decade.

But, closer to home, the real joys are the small ones to come, in my view – lunch with old friends, a piece of music, a gripping book, a trip to a theatre show, the pride in watching grand children, and children, growing into superb young people – achieving results in the classroom, on the sports pitch, and in life generally. It was our Golden Wedding anniversary last summer. The New Zealand family flew across the world to be at our Kinross Rugby Clubhouse celebration lunch, with 40 other family members. (Thanks very much KRFC team). That was a special day alright. When asked what had been their best part of the day, the two Kiwi girls aged 9 and 6 said, 'The family speeches, and stories about you two!' So it is family and close friends, who will for certain make the most immediate impact on us all, in this year to come.

Some of you may recall the song by Ian Drury in 1979 'Reasons to be Cheerful!' Have a Google – it's fun. Joy persists even when the headlines show the opposite. So maybe we should all be Grateful for what we have more/smile more /and thank more.

So, all in all, let us make the most of our New Year.

Andy Middlemiss BEM DL



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THE WAY IT WAS... KINROSS-SHIRE IN OLD POSTCARDS

WE THOUGHT WE'D SHARE a selection of old postcards with you which display various scenes from around Kinross-shire from history. Many of them have no dates, so you will have to speculate about when they might have been taken.

It's amazing how little some of our streets and scenery has changed over the years, although of course most of the original businesses have long since departed.

While the loch was almost frozen over (75%) in January, there was no curling match that we know of! The last (informal) bonspiel on Loch Leven took place in 2010 when the ice was last thick enough to play a curling game on the loch. The postcard on the following page shows a curling match which took place in 1959. Do you remember it?

Thanks to Perth and Kinross Archive for supplying us with copies of these postcards.

The Pier, Loch Leven, Kinross (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History No date.



The Green Hotel. Dating back to the eighteenth century, the hotel was originally a traditional coaching inn, hosting stagecoaches that ran between Queensferry and Perth, allowing them to change their horses.



Features



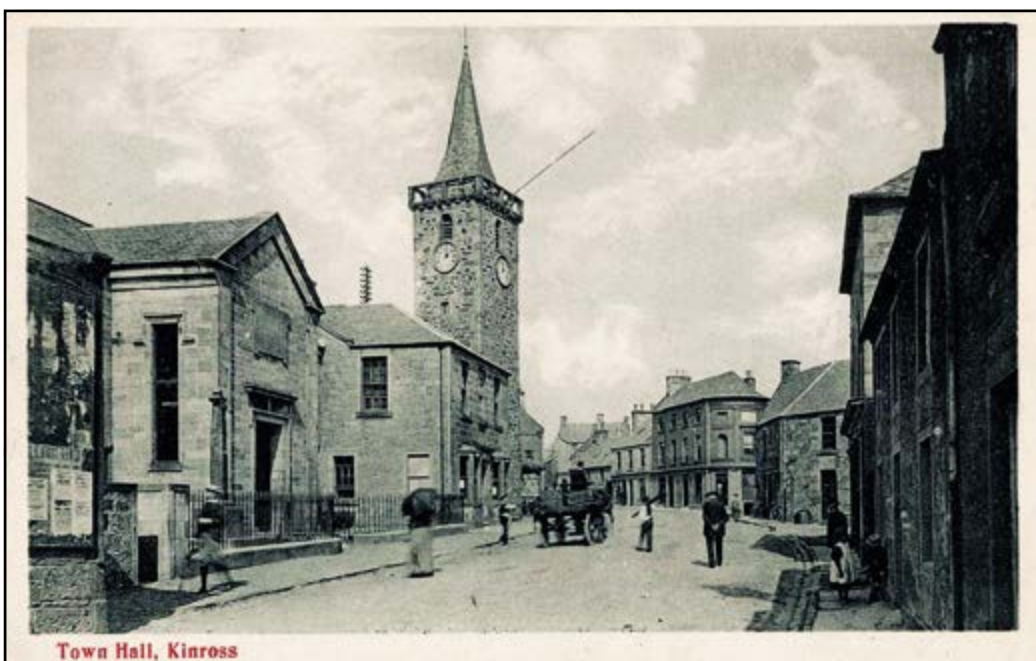
Scotlandwell (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)

Milnathort from Bà Hill (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)





Wester Loan from Town Hall
(Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)



Carnegie Library and Town Hall,
Kinross, around 1912.
The former Town Hall, library,
clock tower and Post Office
represented the civic centre of
Kinross Burgh, with each building
constructed at different times
during the history of Kinross.
Kinross Town Hall, G.W Wilson,
c1900 (Culture Perth & Kinross,
Local & Family History)



The Cross and New Road,
Milnathort (Culture Perth &
Kinross, Local & Family History).
The photograph used in this
postcard was first registered in
1960.

Features



Now home to the marvellous Kinross Day Centre, the Kinross Church Centre is a hive of activity United Free Church, Kinross (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)

Kinross Curling Club is considered to be one of the oldest, if not the oldest club in the world. Club records refer to curling on the loch and the surrounding waterlogged fields from as early as 1668..

An inter-county bonspiel that matched up teams from Perthshire against those from Fife and Kinross was held on Loch Leven in 1912.

A Grand Match was played in 1959 (pictured)

Bonspiel, Loch Leven (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)



High Street, Kinross, looking south (Culture Perth & Kinross, Local & Family History)

Kinross Hub February



LOCAL ADVICE HUB AT LOCH LEVEN COMMUNITY CAMPUS (ICT Meeting Room 2) Sessions are drop-in but if you prefer an appointment, please phone the number detailed for the agency.

IN CASE OF LAST-MINUTE CHANGES IT IS BENEFICIAL TO PHONE THE AGENCY FIRST OR CONTACT admin@brokenotbroken.org 07518 913107

Thu 5	10am–12noon	Broke not Broken – to offer advice, connections for support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 PKC Housing Team for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 552231
	1pm–3pm	Change Mental Health – to offer advice, support and guidance around any mental health issues or queries
Wed 11	1pm–3.30pm	Grandmentors – an inter-generational mentoring project across Perth and Kinross supporting young people with challenges that range from getting a job, getting into education, developing life skills such as budgeting and dealing with social anxiety, to just meeting every week for a chat and a cuppa. It is free and confidential, and for young people aged 15-26. Their aim is to help young people become more confident and independent. 07939 895208
Thu 12	10am to 12.30pm	PKC Skills & Employment offers support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268
	1.30–3.30pm	PKC Employment Support Team – Job advice and help for those who have learning disability, acquired brain injury, mental health issues, autistic spectrum, sensory loss and physical disabilities 07788 389659
Thu 19	10am–12noon	Heat Project Craig will be here providing free energy advice to households, helping them become more energy efficient and reducing energy bills 07868 864418
	2pm–4pm	Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber - Community Connecting/Signposting 07775 701630
Wed 25	1.30pm–3.30pm	Alison Tanner, Support Choices - provides free, independent information and advice about getting social care and support in Perth and Kinross 01350 729130
Thu 26	10am–12noon	PKC Trading Standards SCAM AWARENESS Melanie will give advice and information on avoiding scams and dealing with cold callers 07557 214420

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LOCAL ADVICE HUB at LLHC

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

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

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

The Social Prescriber will connect you with local community groups, supportive exercise sessions, walking groups, green/nature prescribing activities, volunteering, learning opportunities or help you link with another agency. They can be contacted via southsoprescribers@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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REASONS TO BE GRATEFUL

WINNING WAYS *by Jo Middlemiss*

Looking Back: A Year of Reconciliation

LAST YEAR, instead of writing resolutions that would quietly evaporate by mid January, I chose a single guiding word: Reconciliation. Our extended family had reached one of those awkward sticking points that only families can create, and the wider world seemed to be in a similar state. Reconciliation, as we all know, is a long game, and often requires a Higher Power than any of us.

Yet something shifted. People who had been estranged began walking – cautiously but sincerely – back towards one another. Other small reconciliations happened too. Nothing dramatic. No grand gestures. Just a letter here, a postcard there, and a willingness to reach out. It turns out that tiny steps can make surprisingly long journeys.

This Year's Word: Gratitude

MY WORD for 2026 is Gratitude. An attitude of gratitude is a gentle discipline – choosing to notice what's good, rather than what's irritating, annoying, or worthy of a good whinge.

(Whingeing, I've discovered, rarely improves a situation.)

Icons on Ammo Boxes: Beauty from Brokenness

IN EARLY January, I had the privilege of helping with the exhibition 'Icons on Ammo Boxes' in St Paul's. It was uplifting and humbling in equal measure.

Beautiful icons, painted on ammunition boxes from the front line in Ukraine, raising funds for medical services and for 'Spiders for Ukraine', an Edinburgh based group making camouflage netting.

Hundreds of people came, moved by the simplicity and beauty of the work. It

was a reminder that even in the darkest places, creativity and compassion persist.

Grateful for Health – and Working Knees

I'M ALSO deeply grateful for the simple joy of feeling well. Joni Mitchell sang, 'You don't know what you've got till it's gone,' and she was right – especially when it comes to health.

No more taking eyes, ears, hips and knees for granted. They're all still working – more or less – and that's worth celebrating.

Returning to Ethiopia

GOOD HEALTH means I can return once again to Ethiopia, to the little Health Centre, and the people there who have become like family.

Ethiopia remains a place of paradox – ravaged by inflation, malaria and conflict, yet full of beauty, kindness and wonder. By the time this edition comes out, I'll be in deepest Southern Ethiopia.

A recent outbreak of the Marburg virus caused understandable alarm, and I was advised not to travel.

But – and here's another reason for gratitude – it was contained quickly, and there have been no new cases since early December.

So I'm going, with the solemn promise to 'be sensible'.

Ethiopia Medical Project (EMP): A Year in Review

Growth, Care, and Life Changing Impact

EMP's work at the Buccama Health Centre continues to transform healthcare for women and families in rural Ethiopia.

With a focus on podoconiosis and uterine prolapse, the team provides treatment,

dignity and hope to communities long affected by stigma and limited access to care.

Major New Developments We Funded

A New Podoconiosis Treatment & Education Centre

- Completed this year – a milestone for one of the region's most neglected conditions.
- Welcomes around 500 people each week.
- Provides treatment, foot care education and prevention.
- Offers dignified, efficient and far-reaching care.

A State-of-the-Art Maternity Building

- Clean, safe delivery rooms.
- Improved equipment.
- A calm, supportive environment for mothers.
- Helping reduce complications and giving babies the healthiest possible start.

Modern Staff Accommodation

- Comfortable, safe living spaces.
- Better staff retention and morale.
- Long-term sustainability for the Health Centre.

Strengthening Women's Health

EMP CONTINUES to transform the lives of women suffering from uterine prolapse, restoring dignity, mobility and independence.

With Heartfelt Thanks

EVERY BUILDING, every treatment, every life changed this year has been made possible by your generosity. You are not just funding infrastructure – you are restoring health, dignity and opportunity for thousands.

Thank you all so much, and here's to a hopeful and grateful 2026.

Jo Middlemiss MBE



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Councillor Richard Watters



Kinross Banking Hub Refused

I AM DEEPLY disappointed that LINK, the UK's cash-access regulator, has formally refused the request submitted by myself, Pete Wishart MP, and Jim Fairlie MSP to establish a Banking Hub in Kinross.

Despite the complete loss of all traditional bank branches in Kinross-shire in recent years, the assessment concluded that no new services are required locally.

See p11 for full details.

Update on Odour Issues at Lathro Estate

PKC continues to work closely with both Persimmon Homes and Springfield Properties following persistent complaints of foul odours and drainage concerns raised by residents in the Lathro Estate area.

Environmental Health officers have confirmed that sewage has been entering the surface water system, with the most affected area being Latch Dubh Lane. Daily complaints have been received regarding strong odours during morning and evening peak times.

Persimmon Homes – Current Actions

Persimmon has reported several developments this week:

A blockage caused by a broken section of sewer pipe was identified and cleared on Friday.

Enviroclean are currently on site cleaning manholes and the wet well. Once this work is completed, a full CCTV survey of the network will take place to identify further issues.

The Council has stressed to Persimmon that this matter must

be treated as urgent and has requested full survey findings and timescales for any further remedial works. Environmental Health officers have advised that, if required, more formal action may be considered under the Sewerage (Scotland) Act 1968.

Springfield Properties – Customer Update

Springfield has informed its residents of additional issues and actions:

Odours from the pumping station were linked to pump breakdowns. Broken equipment has now been replaced, and telemetry monitoring reinstated. SEPA, Environmental Health and Planning officers have inspected the site, and this issue appears to be resolved.

Springfield identified a drainage fault on Acremoar Drive. Works to repair the affected pipe section—requiring access beneath a resident's driveway—are scheduled to begin on Wednesday, 28 January and are expected to take around one week.

Broader remedial works to the roads and sewers, required before adoption, are currently being costed. Adoption is anticipated approximately 12 months after completion of Phase 2 (expected mid-2026).

Council officers are continuing to chase outstanding matters with both developers, emphasising the impact on residents and the need for rapid resolution.

Residents who have contacted the Council have already been updated directly. Anyone experiencing ongoing problems is encouraged to get in touch, and I will continue to provide updates as soon as further information becomes available.

Councillor Richard Watters

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- 1 February 4:1-11: Temptation and testing in the wilderness
Graeme Gunn, LLC
- 8 February 4:12-25: The beginning of Jesus' ministry
Ross Simmons, Tayside Christian Fellowship
- 15 February 5:1-12: The ingredients of true happiness
David Wylie, Greenview Evangelical Church
- 22 February 5:13-16: Salt and light
Will Cotrell, Tayside Christian Fellowship

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Councillor Neil Freshwater



Portmoak Moss: Trees Versus Peat?

MANY RESIDENTS HAVE raised concerns about plans by the Woodland Trust, the owners of Portmoak Moss, to fell trees at the site. I visited the moss with fellow ward councillors, community groups, and representatives of the Woodland Trust to look at the proposals.



The woodland is clearly a well-used and important local amenity.

The trees need to be felled as they have reached their 'terminal' phase, having begun life as a commercial Forestry Commission plantation. However, as the site is a raised peatland, the opportunity to replant trees is slim, as current legislation and policy would be unlikely to allow replacement planting. As a result, the current plans are to enhance and expand the peatland area and increase biodiversity. This would also mean that access to the site in future would not be as good as it is now, with some paths likely to be compromised.

On the one hand, peatland restoration is, in environmental terms, a good solution, moving away from a focus on trees and enhancing the peatland. Government policy and funding also favour this approach. However, I am in no doubt that pursuing peatland restoration, and thus the loss of the trees, will be detrimental to the amenity of the area, even if there is a greater biodiversity gain overall. Although other options seem limited, I would be keen to see these explored.

The role of PKC in this process is limited, but officers were present and did raise concerns about the possible loss of access. The Woodland Trust, having completed a recent consultation, will continue to engage with the community. I understand that, to date, a petition opposing the plans has attracted nearly 2000 signatures, so there are clearly strong feelings on this issue.

A Community Flag For Kinross-shire

I HAVE PREVIOUSLY mooted the idea of a county flag for Kinross-shire. The concept was originally suggested when I was first elected, by former councillor Mike Barnacle. People have different views about flags, but for me it is all about context, and county flags can be valuable assets for enhancing community identity, tourism, and local business.

In recent years, a number of communities across Scotland have

gone through the process of adopting a community flag. Most recognisable are island communities such as Skye, Barra, and Orkney, whose flags adopt the distinctive St Olaf, or 'Nordic', cross. In recent months, the towns of Bothwell and Girvan have also adopted flags.

The most popular way to adopt a flag is through a public competition, allowing people to submit ideas, followed by a shortlist and a public vote. Flags must be legally recognised, and there is a formal process to make a flag official. There is now the possibility for Kinross-shire to have its own community flag, but we want to know if this is something people want. As such, a short survey and information page has been set up at kinross.cc/flag. Please have a look online and submit your views before the end of February.

Business On The High Street

A STRONG BUSINESS sector is the backbone of any community, at both a local and national level. I moved to Kinross-shire just over ten years ago, and it has always struck me how healthy demand for business units on the High Street is, shops rarely lie empty, a fortune not every area can boast.

A social media influencer, whom I do not know, popped up on my feed recently praising the choice of local independent businesses in the town. One thing I noticed last year is how the south end of the High Street now has a real buzz, with the arrival most recently of a new pharmacy and a new barbers, adding to other local businesses that have set up shop in recent years.

Business success should be the barometer of any town, yet it is all too easy to overlook this. Well done to all our small business owners who keep our town centre vibrant and support the backbone of our local community.

Councillor Neil Freshwater



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Councillor Dave Cuthbert



Perth and Kinross Council Budget

I AM PRETTY SURE that everyone reading this will be as bored as I am of hearing how dire things are for local government. Well for once, I agree with the pundits when it comes to Perth and Kinross finances this year. There are several reasons for this. The first of which is the black hole that has appeared in Health and Social Care funding. This year (2025/6) the council had to find £4m from reserves to plug an overspend due to much higher increases in demand than forecast. Next year (2026/7) the hole is forecast to be as much as double this. It is the same all over the country and local authorities have been asking for extra funding, however, the Scottish Government haven't made anything like enough available in their budget.

To put this into perspective, a 1% rise in your and my council tax produces slightly over £1m in revenue. I will let you work out the maths.

Convention of Scottish Local Authorities COSLA

The Council is a member of COSLA at a cost of £90,000 a year. Essentially COSLA was set up to represent the views of the Scottish Local Authorities to the Scottish Government.

It is headquartered in Edinburgh with an office in Glasgow and over the years it appears to me to have evolved into principally representing the views of the larger cities.

The latest proposal put forward by them asks the government to change the way it funds Health and Social Care, changing it, so it reflects the Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation or SIMD rather than the current system. SIMD is designed primarily to identify **concentrated** (urban) deprivation and fails to identify **dispersed** deprivation in rural communities.

We are a rural community, and the current calculations indicate that this new mechanism could reduce the government money paid to PKC by £4m a year, which could mean an additional increase of 4% on council tax, which would be on top of our current black hole to balance the books (so, potentially £16m PA or 16%).

My position on Council Tax is that it should be as low as possible, whilst delivering high quality services.

Medium Term Financial Plan

With this in mind, at the December meeting of the Council, I seconded a motion from Councillor Colin Stewart to change the anticipated council taxes over the medium term.

Officers proposed the following rates:

2026/7	9.5%,
2027/8	6%,
2028/9	6%
2029/30	6%
2030/31	6%
2031/32	6%
Cumulative	46.54%

We proposed these rates:

2026/7	7.5%,
2027/8	3.75%,
2028/9	3.25%
2029/30	3.25%
2030/31	3.25%
2031/32	3.25%
Cumulative	22.76%

I am pleased to report that a majority of the council supported our amendment.

It should be noted that these will not necessarily be the rates adopted by Council each year, however what it does mean is that officers will need to look at improving efficiency and to come to

Councillors with proposals. It is also an important mindset, whereby we are telling people that we will keep council tax to a minimum.

Roads Maintenance and Road Safety

The money paid to the Council by the Scottish Government for Roads Maintenance in 2024-25 was £7.479m, in 2025-26 it was £7.439m, which is a reduction of £40k. Meanwhile the cost of maintenance is going up at a rate of approximately 4.1% a year. Which basically means the Council is managing a decline in the condition of our road network! Hence the potholes and the poor road surfaces. I have asked officers to approach the Scottish Government and COSLA to ask them to increase payments to local authorities for roads maintenance.

Portmoak Moss Clear Felling

Earlier this month, I attended a walkabout at Portmoak Moss with my fellow ward councillors, a council officer, representatives of the woodland trust, plus community members, for and against the proposal to clear fell all the trees at Portmoak Moss.

Personally, I am not in favour of the current proposal.

The woodland is a very important local facility, which is well used by the community as it is one of the few Kinross-shire flat walks in woodland.

The concept behind the proposal relates to making the raised bog work as it originally did. Which is perhaps a laudable objective, however, nobody I have spoken to can tell me whether it could ever work (given the draining of the loch in years gone by) and in the meantime, the great majority of the trees would be felled and many of the paths in the area would be rendered unusable.

Windfarms Craighead, Brunt Hill and Glen Lednock

At the January Planning Committee, officers submitted a proposal to object to an application for 19 wind turbines (up to 200m high) at Glen Lednock, near Comrie. I moved the motion to object, and this was supported by a majority of the Committee.

I am disappointed that officers chose to object to this application, but not the one at Brunt Hill in the Ochils. Hopefully the Scottish Government's reporters considering these applications will refuse them both!

Loch Leven Community Campus

I attended a Kinross Community Council meeting earlier this month and was very pleased to see the new Headteacher of Kinross High School in attendance with one of the School Captains. Following an excellent presentation from the school captain, the Headteacher was at pains to say that she wants to see the school integrating with the community much more. In my view this is an excellent development.

South Kinross Flood defences - update

I understand that there is to be another hearing on 5 February. I will keep you informed of developments.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert

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Councillor Willie Robertson



Local Development Plan 3

WORK ON LDP3 is currently underway and a map has been produced for Kinross-shire showing all the housing sites that have been asked to be included. Let me know if you would like me to send you a copy.

However I am of the opinion that there are optimum sizes for towns and villages. This thought does not appear to get much traction in the creation of local development plans. Large rises in the population of our towns and villages risk adversely changing the character of our communities and overwhelming the services that people depend on.

Portmoak Moss

There are plans by the Woodland Trust to restore the majority of Portmoak Moss to a raised peat bog. The middle of the bog has already been restored.

Unfortunately in order to do this the majority of the trees on the site will have to be removed and many of the paths through the moss could be lost.

This has raised a great deal of alarm among local people and a petition to stop these plans has already had nearly 2000 signatories.

I arranged a site meeting with the Woodland Trust, my ward councillor colleagues, the chair of Portmoak Community Council, a representative of those opposed to the plans and the senior access officer from Perth & Kinross Council, to try and agree a way forward. General agreement on the following was reached;

There was a need to remove if possible many of the non indigenous trees planted on the Moss by the Forestry Commission in the 1960s.

That any actions that compromised the core paths through the site would be illegal under the current access legislation.

That the Woodland Trust would look again at their plans, based on the representations they have received, and in conjunction with Portmoak Community Council arrange a meeting in the near future to present their finding to the community.

Lastly, if you haven't visited Portmoak Moss recently I would recommend that you do. It is served by mainly easy walking paths. It is a very diverse habitat and is the home of red squirrels, woodpeckers and lots of other creatures.

Blue Badges

I am regularly contacted by people who require a Blue Badge because of mobility and health issues. I thought I would lay out below the current guidelines.

You are eligible for a Blue Badge if;

- you have a permanent and substantial disability which means you are unable to walk, or virtually unable to walk
- you are unable to walk, or virtually unable to walk because of a temporary but substantial disability which is likely to last for a period of at least 12 months but less than 3 years

If you are applying for a badge on this basis you will need to show that you are unable to walk or virtually unable to walk very far without experiencing excessive pain and breathlessness, or a deterioration of health brought on by the effort needed to walk.

Councillor Willie Robertson

Jim Fairlie, MSP



MANY OF YOU have been in touch with me over recent weeks about the proposed peatland restoration work at Portmoak Moss near Scotlandwell. I'm really grateful to everyone who's taken the time to share their views, whether in support, with concerns, or just with questions. It's clear that this is a place residents care deeply about.

At the time of writing, I'm in the process of arranging a meeting with the Woodland Trust to get a clearer, first-hand understanding of what's being proposed and why. I want to hear directly from them about the plans, the timescales, and what the changes would actually look like on the ground.

It's well established that healthy, functioning peatland plays an important role in locking up carbon, supporting wildlife and improving water management. In principle, restoring damaged bogs can bring real environmental benefits. But equally, every place is different, and it's only right that we make sure what's being suggested is genuinely the right thing for Portmoak Moss and the surrounding area.

One major concern I've heard repeatedly is that this could lead to existing paths and access routes being removed. These routes are well used and valued by walkers and the local community, and I completely agree that any final plan must guarantee that these paths remain open and accessible to the public.

That's why I'm looking to get all the facts and make sure that any decisions are rooted in common sense and climate science, with the local community at the heart of the process throughout. Once I have more information, I'll go back to residents to provide an update.

Turning to health, there's a positive update for services in Kinross-shire and beyond. The Scottish Government's latest Budget includes a big increase in funding for NHS Tayside – an extra £94 million next year – taking its total budget to over £1.18 billion.

What does that mean in practice? Quite simply, more support for the services folk rely on every day. Part of the funding will go towards expanding Hospital at Home, which lets people get treated in their own homes instead of staying in hospital where it's safe and appropriate. That's better for patients, and it also helps free up hospital beds for those who really need them.

There's also continued investment in GP and community services, including new walk-in GP centres across Scotland to make it easier to get seen without long waits.

This is about getting care closer to home, reducing pressure on hospitals, and improving access to the right help at the right time. There's still work to do, but this extra funding is a solid step in the right direction for local NHS services.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

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Liz Smith, MSP



ON THE VERY first sitting day of this year, the Scottish Parliament debated a very important public petition on access to swimming pools. And rightly so, because this is such an important national issue and one that is of particular interest to people in Perth and Kinross given the uncertain future of leisure facilities.

The plan for its replacement at Thimblerow is deeply flawed and I would again urge Perth and Kinross Council to rethink the plans. So many people come from far and wide to use the current Perth Leisure pool because it is family friendly and allows children, parents and grandparents to share joyous memories together: it is simply a perfect introduction to swimming for youngsters. This is without mentioning that the discredited plan does not even include onsite parking despite being located in the middle of Perth.

During the debate, I raised several statistics that underscore the precarious future of swimming in Scotland. There are 295 public swimming pools in Scotland, and of these, 122 are over 38 years old (the average lifespan of a pool). On current trends, that means the potential to lose over 150 pools by 2040, and we will have to replace these at the rate of 4 pools per year to maintain the current level of provision. This, of course, requires a significant level of investment and reallocation of resources, but - as is the reality in Perth - building pools alone is not enough, they must be pools people will actually use.

The public demand action. In a poll, 9 in 10 Scots said they believe the closure of swimming pools is bad for their local community. 13% of adults swim regularly making it the highest participation sport after multi gym and weight training and it is the most popular participation sport for those with disabilities due to its suitability for those with reduced mobility.

Additionally, Swimming pools are important for health and wellbeing and promote a healthy lifestyle. Given Scotland's abundance of lochs, rivers, reservoirs and beaches, and the high level of accidental drownings, there is a key safety aspect as well. They are also community hubs that host those at both the elite and grassroots levels.

I wholeheartedly endorse this public petition, and, as Convener of the Cross Party Group on Sport, I will continue to support Scottish Swimming's calls for maintaining current pool provision and for all children to receive swimming lessons at school.

Liz Smith, MSP

Pete Wishart MP



FEBRUARY IS ALWAYS a tough month for household budgets, and with energy costs still high, every penny counts. That's why I want to make sure people in Kinross-shire aren't missing out on support. Industry regulator Ofgem has recently revealed that around £3 billion of energy credit is sitting unclaimed, and millions of households could be due an average of £255 back.

If you pay your energy bills by direct debit, you might have built up credit on your account. This often happens because suppliers estimate usage, and payments can end up higher than necessary. The money could be put to better use in your own bank account, so if you're in credit, you can ask your supplier for a refund. But before you do, make sure you've submitted an up-to-date meter reading and that you've got enough left to cover winter bills.

A good rule of thumb is to only withdraw if you have more than two months' worth of credit. Every supplier has its own process, but many will return the money quickly once you ask. At a time when household budgets are under pressure, this could make a real difference. So, it's worth checking your account today. And if you're having any trouble doing this, please don't hesitate to get in touch with my office and a member of my team would be happy to assist you.

In other news, a number of people have been in touch with my office recently about the growing difficulty in securing a driving test. Learner drivers are facing waiting times of many months, with local test centres fully booked and very few opportunities to find cancellations. This has left people feeling frustrated, stuck and, in some cases, forced to rely on unofficial third-party apps just to try and get a slot.

I completely understand how stressful this situation is. Being able to drive is not a luxury, for many people, especially in our rural communities, it is essential for work, education, caring responsibilities and everyday life.

I have raised these concerns directly with the UK Government and the Driver and Vehicle Standards Agency (DVSA). I have been assured that action is now being taken to increase capacity across Tayside, recruit and retain more examiners, and improve the booking system.

Getting your driving licence is one of the most significant life events for many people, and the current situation is simply unacceptable, so I will be keeping a close eye to make sure these improvements come to fruition. In the meantime, if you have been affected by these delays, please get in touch with my office and I would be very happy to take this up on your behalf.

Pete Wishart, MP

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PARSNIP GNOCCHI

Serves 2

INGREDIENTS

150g parsnips

100g '00' flour

1 large egg yolk

Sea salt

Oil and butter for frying

100g chestnut mushrooms

2 garlic cloves, sliced

A few sage leaves, chopped

100ml chicken stock

Black pepper

FIRST MAKE THE gnocchi by peeling, dicing and boiling the parsnip until soft. Drain and set aside. Once cool, add the salt and egg yolk and mix. Add in the flour and mix with a fork until combined. Knead on a floured surface for a minute or two to bring it all together then cut the dough into 3 equal parts. Roll each into a thin sausage shape and cut each into 2 cm lengths. Place on a floured tray and chill.

To make the sauce, slice the mushrooms and add to a dry frying pan. Wait until they are nicely coloured and have given up some liquid before adding any oil. Add the garlic and cook for minute until softened. Add the sage leaves and the chicken stock and reduce by half. Season with black pepper. To cook the gnocchi, bring a pan of well salted water to the boil and add in a few at a time. When they rise to the top, they are cooked. Remove with a slotted spoon and set aside. Once cooked, heat some butter in a large frying pan until sizzling and add the gnocchi to brown nicely on one side. Remove and add to the mushroom sauce. Warm through gently and serve.

This recipe can easily be multiplied to feed a crowd, or for freezing into portions. Parsnips and other root veg are the taste of season and so versatile, so go ahead and get creative.



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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.

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council

Members of our community are invited along to our next meeting on Thursday 12 February at 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall, where two important topics will be discussed. These are Perth and Kinross Council's Local Development Plan (LDP3), and the 'Grow Wild' campaign. We would encourage you to come along and hear about these plans, ahead of the proposed consultation meetings. We look forward to seeing you there.

The next meeting (second Thursday of each month) will be held on 12 February 2026, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall.

Glenfarg Community Council

Present at the meeting on Monday 5 January were Councillors Ponton, Pilmer, Christie, Melville, Ibbotson, Cllr Watters and 3 MoP.

Apologies: Police Scotland PC Samson, Cllr Cuthbert and Cllr Robertson, Councillor Jack and Councillor Hyslop.

Facebook

Councillor Pilmer confirmed that he had issued a letter of apology and a posted a written apology on Facebook concerning the family involved.

Police Report

In his absence tonight the Police Report from 17/11/2025 is as follows.

Zero crimes recorded and approximately 11 Calls to Police Scotland were made regarding our Ward. A Road Traffic accident was reported on the 18/12/2025 Main Street, B996, Glenfarg and the matter was dealt with accordingly.

Correspondence and Action Points.

Letter 1. Councillor Pilmer reported that a letter relating to Speeding vehicles was received from a Company and that the GCC reply was that the matter is for Police Scotland.

Letter 2. Councillor Ponton confirmed that correspondence from PKC Cllr Roberston concerning Greenbank Road is still ongoing. Continuation of dialogue with actions, between various parties, will continue to be the case until the matter is resolved.

Meetings – Virtual and Public.

Councillor Smart reported that he had attended a Kinross-shire Partnership meeting prior to the close of 2025. Matters recorded were as follows:

Walking routes with the potential of an PKC App to assist walkers.

Road Safety Report on the 20mph Speed Limit implementation throughout Kinross-shire and the Mawcarse Junction regarding safety improvements e.g. speed limits and signage improvements all to be reviewed by PKC Roads Department.

Grow wild diversity throughout Kinross-shire and maps of areas of implementation.

Investment funds for Wellbeing by the Scottish Government for local Community Action Plans and what could be possible. Localised Development Plan (LDP) for Glenfarg Ward not submitted in 2025 pending nil areas identified for buildings of a private/commercial venture. Councillor Ponton stated that the original document requires to be updated. Source the original document for the next Business Meeting to explore any possible updates.

Planning

25/01430/FLL Erection of bike shed, installation of EC charging point, The Byre, Hayfield Road, Glenfarg, approved.

15/01840/FLL Alteration and extension to 2 Marinden Park, Glenfarg, awaiting decision.

25/01470/FLL Change of use from listed church to dwelling, Arngask Church, Church Brae, Glenfarg, approved.

Finance Report

Councillor Pilmer stated that in the absence of the Treasurer and a report for the evening that the matter is to be continued forward to the next Business Meeting. The GCC Final Accounts are to be filed with PKC after and pending an independent audit once all paperwork has been forwarded for the review.

AOCB

Speedwatch. Councillor Ponton raised the matter relating to the Community Speedwatch campaign and, whilst it hasn't commenced, it is hoped that an overall community campaign will commence during 2026. Councillor Ponton is to speak with the Chair of Milnathort CC regarding the matter.

Copperfields. Councillor Smart reported that a letter had been received by the owners of properties in the Copperfield' private housing development notifying them that the roads and pavements had now been handed over to PKC. Councillor Smart reported further that several points require implementation such as: the 20mph limit requires to be extended into the housing development. Dog waste bins were required. Clarification with PKC to establish what grounds they will now maintain and two further topics concerning drainage and trees.

Pavement on Duncrive Road sited on the left hand side of the road approximately 50m past the entrance to Elm Row and Birch Lane leading towards Wallace Park. A general discussion took place about the partial collapse of the pavement into the rear boundary area of one of the private residences situated on Duncrive Road. The matter was believed to have been reported to PKC previously during 2025 although to date no rectification work has taken place. Cllr Watters to pass notification about this matter to the relevant PKC department.

The Glenfarg Hotel. A discussion took place regarding the current state of the Hotel and who the current owners were believed to be. Councillor Ibbotson offered to write to the point of contact on behalf of the GCC again.

The next Glenfarg Community Council meeting will be held on Monday 2 March.

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Kinross Community Council News from the January Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Tuesday 13 January were: Cllrs D West, C Collins, R Gilmour, H Collins and M West, Cllrs D Cuthbert, W Robertson and R Watters, J Shaw (KHS Headteacher) and L Stephen (KHS School Captain).

Apologies: PC B Samson, Police Scotland.

Kinross High School

J Shaw thanked everyone for their invitation to attend the meeting. She is keen to strengthen the connections between school and community. School Captain Lily spoke about the remits of school captains and their achievements, as well as aspirations for the rest of their term. There are various committee groups in S6 according to interests (e.g. Yearbook, Charities, Mental Health Ambassadors). They have already been involved with KLEO in decorating at the Festive Market, had a visit to CHAS to present a cheque, and held a successful Halloween Bake Sale.

Lily spoke about creating a Legacy Plan, to help future pupils with their roles. The role of prefect has recently changed and now includes community roles, e.g. volunteering in the library. They are talking to NHS blood donation to encourage sign-ups from pupils when old enough. A Valentine's Day event is planned for the wider community with an afternoon tea, in conjunction with the Parent Council.

There were various opportunities suggested in return to KHS: a visit to Circo (RW) to see their recycling plant in action and understand circular economy, tree planting possibilities (DW) and development of writing skills with a column in the Newsletter (HC).

Kinross Branding was discussed, with Richard Smith having some great designs and ideas to make Kinross-shire graphics. DC will put him in touch with Kirsty (PKC) re P&K branding designs.

There was further discussion about KHS including the success of the new ISP and an opening evening coming soon to see what the learning experience looks like, with an anticipated rise in pupils of up to 8 next year. Jillian discussed her aim to raise attainment with all pupils to achieve 5 qualifications before leaving school. A good relationship with the Parent Council means that priorities can be identified and delivered. There is a great sense of pride in Kinross-shire and the school has welcomed an increase in placing requests in recent weeks.

CAP Update

A meeting was to take place the following evening. Thanks from the group to Eileen Thomas for her extensive work on the plan. Print quotes were underway and the group would discuss the printing and distribution of the plan. There was no date for the launch fixed. Some expenditure was still to come in.



There was a discussion on the Place Plan and how it could inform LDP3. The place plans were considered a 'material consideration' for LDP3 but were not as weighty as actual policy. The Reporter is required to take note of what has gone into a Place Plan. The future of the steering group was to be discussed.

Planning

There were two planning applications for domestic extensions- no action required.

Reports from PKC Councillors

Willie Robertson

In discussions over Muirs/Lethangie traffic lights from the Persimmon application. Due to be installed on 26 January. There was no consultation with neighbours. WR has asked PKC to write to Persimmon and ask them to lodge the money with the council and stop the works, with the money to go towards a roundabout instead. Neighbourhood notifications did not happen as the traffic lights are outwith the red line boundary of the planning application. They were not mentioned at the point of the planning consultation. PKC to be asked to stop this happening for large infrastructures like traffic lights.

Gallowhill Road – problem with more traffic and the road being narrow. The roads dept will be asked to survey it to see if it could be widened.

Richard Watters

Attended Flooding defence hearing in November.

Persimmon sewerage issues. In Phase 1 a full new sewage system had to be put in, but now in Phase 2 there is again a smell of sewage and it has been 'entering the surface water system.' Enforcement officers from Environmental Health visited on 9 January and are still trying to work out extent of the problem. Residents have complained. Persimmon have been asked to pass on their camera survey work as a 'matter of urgency.' The site has not been adopted by Scottish Water.

Active Travel: active travel path route through Lathro Meadows is making good progress. Sustrans funding still available. In Tier 2 of PKC Active Travel Funding a feasibility study will be carried out to link the P&R to the High Street, which would complete the Active Travel route.

Park and Ride: No longer fit for purpose. Would need to expand upwards as no other space. An upgrade to the bus stop is due soon.

Dave Cuthbert

Budgets next week. Social Care budget is tricky – under 65s are needing a lot more care. There will likely be council tax rises.

Lane from High St to Millbridge Hall – a resident has asked if a bollard could be installed to stop traffic on this road. From a safety perspective, it is difficult to navigate with no pavement. There were mixed opinions.

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Reports from CCLlrs

RG: A MoP has complained about an elderly man near Katrine Place chopping branches off trees with a hand saw.

Treasurer’s Report

There was no expenditure to report. The CAP budget will be spent by end of March.

Licensing Applications

For a Wine Bar at 60 High Street. There were no objections.

AOCB

Christine Grant (Community Council Elections Officer) confirmed that the CC could continue with 5 existing members. The by-election was delayed until after the local elections in May. The quorum is 3 members, and new members can be co-opted from 5 February (up to four).

KCCNL: RG agreed to be on KCCNL Board. Two new MoP (due to vacant positions) are also now on the Board – Shona Fowler and David McKenzie Mills. A KCCNL and KNL meeting will be held asap.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council is on Monday 9 February 2026 in Loch Leven Community Campus. All are welcome to attend.

Fossoway & District Community Council

News from the January Meeting

Present at the meeting on Tuesday 6 January were CCLlrs A Cheape, J Hampson, K Morrill, H Wallace, 6 MoP.

Apologies: CCLlr G Pye, CCLlr M O’Byren, Associate CCLlr C Farquhar, Cllr R Watters, Cllr D Cuthbert, Community Police Officer, MoP Tony Lamb.

Community Police Report & Road Safety

The police report covered the period from 2nd December 2025. Approximately 34 calls were made to Police Scotland from the Fossoway area.

Seven recorded offences, six relating to speeding through Carnbo on the A91 (43–47mph in a 30mph zone). - Additional road traffic surveillance is being put in place.

Concerns were raised regarding:

Ongoing speeding issues entering Drum and Crook of Devon (CoD) from Kinross. Near-miss pedestrian incidents highlighted on local Facebook posts, particularly around Powmill.

A recent vehicle collision near the crossroads in CoD by the bus stop, involving damage to a fence and nearby property.

Residents were reminded to report concerns via 101 or by email to the Tayside & Kinross CPT.



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Community Council News

Progress & Matters Arising

Community Development Trust (CDT)

The CDT newsletter has been produced and shared. Membership promotion was discussed, and it was agreed that the newsletter should be shared via Facebook. The next CDT meeting is planned for March 2026.

Seamab School Construction

No new updates were received. Ongoing concerns remain regarding asbestos handling and dust from the site. Residents reported evidence of materials being moved and dust exposure, even during winter conditions. It was agreed that concerns should continue to be escalated to our area Cllr and remain a standing agenda item.

Wind Farm Developments

No further updates were available. Follow-up with the area Cllr was agreed.

Road Safety and A977 Mitigation

Double yellow lines and revised parking near Fossoway Church have been approved and added to the PKC Highways action list, with implementation expected when weather conditions allow. Concerns regarding timing of new traffic lights in Crook of Devon, particularly for westbound HGVs, remain under review.

Fossoway Area Transport

Glenfarg bus service continues to perform well. The Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) digital pilot has concluded and is under review.

The community bus was busy over the Christmas period and has received funding for vehicle wrapping.

Crook Moss Traveller Site

No significant new developments were reported. Members noted recent clean-up activity, more than seen in previous years. An abandoned vehicle in nearby woodland remains unresolved due to difficulties in assigning responsibility. A visit from PKC/SEPA is scheduled for next week.

Recycling Bins – Powmill

The recycling bins have been removed. PKC advised that the originally suggested alternative site is unsuitable due to space requirements. The Kinross depot foreman has confirmed that other options are being explored.

New Business

Powmill A977 Bridge – Flooded Footpath

Two case numbers were noted: - 760938768 – closed without action - 774496802 – remains open

Flooding is believed to be caused by a blocked drain. Further follow-up with our local Cllr was agreed, including photo evidence if required.

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Community Council Business

EGM paperwork relating to the Community Council Constitution has been ratified by PKC.

Cllr Angus Cheape will follow-up with minutes from Kinross Committee Meeting.

Ongoing difficulties in recruiting new Community Councillors, particularly from Carnbo and Rumbling Bridge, were discussed. Without additional support, the CC may need to reconsider its scope of activity. Nominations are actively encouraged. One offer to join the CC was received during the meeting, with a follow-up email to confirm.

Planning Matters

25/01652/FLL Erection of 8 dwellinghouses, formation of drainage and associated works at Braehead, Rumbling Bridge: Objection submitted based on: 1) breach of settlement boundary, 2) loss of trees, woodland & habitat, 3) negative impact to biodiversity & ecology, 4) adverse impact to visual amenity, and 5) conflict with arboriculture recommendations.

25/01706/FLL Alteration and replacement extension to dwellinghouse at Fernbank, Powmill, no comment.

Decisions

Powmill Milk Bar applications (container servery and café extension): Approved, no CC objections.

Additional concerns were raised regarding delayed road resurfacing at Pitfar following housing development.

The next meeting of Fossoway CC will be on Tuesday 3 February 2026 at Carnbo Hall at 7.30pm.

Fossoway Development Trust January Newsletter

Governance

Draft strategy, financial controls policy and partnership agreements documents have been shared with Development Trust Association Scotland (DTAS) for their comments. They have provided positive feedback and they will now review our application for DTAS membership.

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Funding – Nicola Marchant

The Trust has a JustGiving page where members and others can make donations. Members are asked to each seek a new member to continue the growth of the FCDT. New members will pay a one off £5 and receive a copy of our Community Action Plan. We also have an associate member category for people who live outside of the Fossoway District.

Theme 1 – Traffic Transport and Active Travel – Tony Lamb

Project – Community Bus

We finished up 2025 with a very busy schedule of supporting individuals and groups. I think it is fair to say that, in just four months of operation, the Community Bus so far has achieved a lot and we can build on this in 2026. Those supporters have been generous in donations, which have been used to buy the fuel and to set aside sums for its future.

Our graphic designer is working with the Fossoway Primary School on the design of our bus wrap which is being funded by Fossoway Fund. Uniforms for drivers are also in production.

We now have two volunteer drivers taking their MiDAS practical assessment on 24 January. Once onboard, they will help towards developing the programme of support that we can give. That will mean we then have four appointed drivers, but availability will vary. If there are any trips or events that Members would like to attend in the New Year, please let us know via email info@fossowaytrust.com. Please note we are adopting a policy of a minimum number of travellers for each event. All trips can be seen on our Facebook page

Theme 3 – Community Facilities, Activities and Events – Marion Anness, Nicola Marchant, Mike Barnacle

Project – Village Halls -Nicola Marchant

We met with the Moubray Hall Committee to review their survey report and have incorporated maintenance work of this Cat C listed building into our funding application for the Heritage Trail.

Project – CAT of Blairingone School-Marion Anness

We are continuing to progress with the concept of creating a culture and heritage hub in the School House building in partnership with PKC. A desktop survey of what is below the grounds behind the School has been completed.

Theme 4 – Environment and Heritage Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones

Project 1 – New Bridge Over River Devon – Mike Barnacle

We are in the process of obtaining construction costs for both the relocation of the former Arndean suspension footbridge (Rennie Mackintosh bridge) and a simple girder bridge (wood and steel) to enable members vote on choice of bridge at our Members meeting on 24 March.

Project 2 – Creation of a Local Paths Group – Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones

An initial meeting of the Local Paths Group will be held soon.

Project 3 – Creation of Heritage Trail and Protection of Local Heritage – Sarah Bruce Jones & Nicola Marchant

Costings for this project have been developed and will be presented to the working group at their inaugural meeting to be arranged. The aim is to apply for funding in March 2026.

The next Members Meeting will be on 24 March 2026, from 7-9pm at Moubray Hall, Powmill.

Cleish & Blairadam Community Council

The next meeting date of Cleish and Blairadam CC is Monday 2 February at the Tabernacle Hall, Keltybridge.

Portmoak Community Council

The January Portmoak CC meeting was cancelled.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council is Tuesday 10 February at 7.30pm.

A Message From The Chair:

PORTMOAK MOSS

A meeting was held in the Moss on 16/01/26 to discuss the proposals of the Woodland Trust, for large scale felling and peatland restoration at Portmoak Moss & Woodland. The meeting was convened at the request of the Ward Councillors following closure of the initial consultation period advised by Woodland Trust on 12 January 2026.

The meeting attendees included all four Ward Councillors, three senior members of the Woodland Trust- including the Director for Scotland, the Paths and Access Co-Ordinator from PKC, a member of Portmoak Woodland Group, a Portmoak resident representing the Proposal Objection Group, and the Community Council Chair.

The Proposals and counter arguments were all discussed, with all parties acknowledging this represents an extremely important, emotive and locally sensitive issue. It requires highlighting that all parties agreed ‘something’ requires to be done concerning the over mature non-native ‘plantation’ – however there was significant opposition to the wholesale clear-fell and peat restoration proposal. Significant concerns were also expressed in relation to the loss of amenity and access to the Core Path network (particularly PTMK/117) and the proposal to raise water levels throughout the entire Moss area. Legal and national Regulatory guidance requires consideration.

The Woodland Trust previously kindly offered to attend the February Community Council meeting to further discuss their proposals. All parties agreed that, given the strength of public opinion, the process demanded the convening of a bespoke extraordinary meeting, dedicated to providing further information and discussion. It was also considered that there would be no merit in meeting in the near short term, as the Woodland Trust required time to assess the initial consultation responses and engage further with their specialist advisors . It was hoped therefore a meeting may be called towards the end of February. Due to the considerable interest and concerns over car-parking, it was agreed that the availability of the Community Campus as a venue would be examined. This will be advised in due course.

While broad reporting of the meeting will be presented by the Chair at the February CC meeting, there will be NO representation by the Woodland Trust. Members of the Public are however welcome to attend the general business meeting should they wish.

Portmoak CC

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KADAC Kinross and District Art Club

Friday 5 December saw more than 20 members of the Kinross and District Art Club gather at the Kirklands Hotel to appreciate some delicious Christmas fayre and of course to enjoy each other's company and share stories of artistic endeavours past, some successfully concluded and some now resting in the cupboard under the stairs waiting for that light bulb moment of inspiration.

Looking back to 2025, it is generally agreed to have been a vintage year in the club's history with several popular art workshops and demonstrations taking place and with the highlight of the club's year being a most successful exhibition and sale of work in September.

Now at the start of a new year we can take the opportunity to look forward and plans are afoot to make this year as enjoyable as the last. A potential link with a Nova Scotian art club is in the offing as are more of KADAC's much enjoyed 'Artist in Residence' sessions at Kinross Primary School. Further demonstrations and workshops are also planned with opportunities for members to try out different media



Above: KADAC members enjoying Christmas lunch
Left: "Isle of Eigg" by Alison Harrison

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

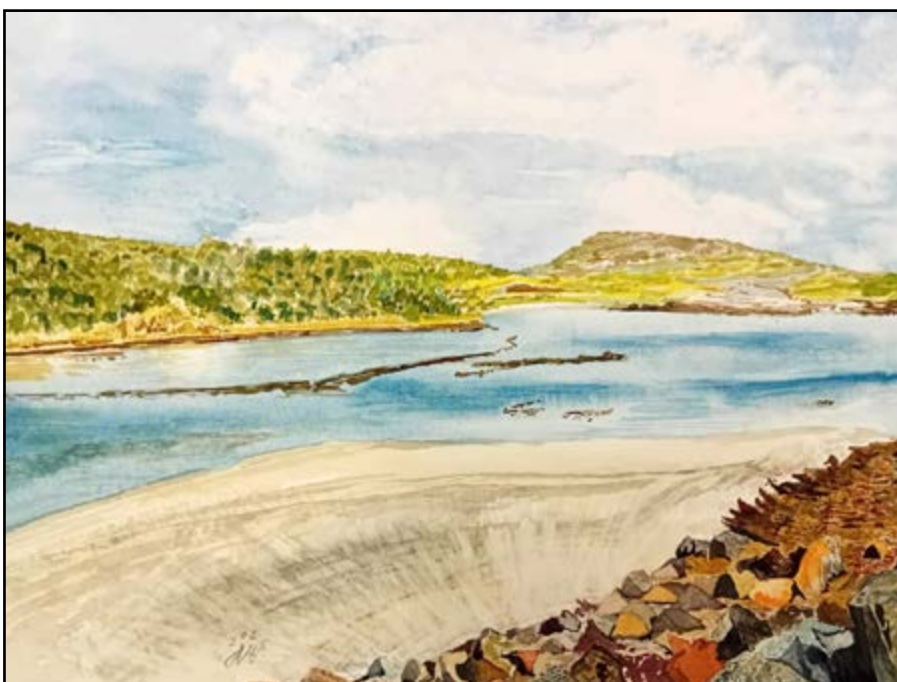


Hot on the heels of the Annual General Meeting of Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust on 6 November 2025 came the AGM of the supporters' club, Friends of Kinross Museum on 11 December.

Members of the Friends' group endorsed a new Committee elected at the AGM. For 2026, the offices bearers are Mark Clark (Chair), David Black (Treasurer) and Catriona McLeod (Secretary). Joining them are Colin Low, Dr David Munro, Sarah Smith and Gareth Thomas. The first meeting of the new Committee was scheduled to take place in late-January.

Combined with the organisational changes at the Museum Trust, it can be said that the fortunes of Kinross Museum will be 'under new management' for 2026. There's plenty of opportunity ahead. If you'd like to help, you'll be made very welcome. There's a ton of administration involved so you don't need to have any expertise (or even interest) in heritage. Some of our tasks can be done in the comfort of your own home! All volunteers welcome at friends@kinrossmuseum.org.uk

Meantime, the Museum's latest exhibition within the library space at the Campus has been well received by visitors. Entitled 'Kirk and Community', the displays feature the impacts of structural changes over time upon community life in the rural parishes of Kinross-shire. Please come along, especially if you have an interest in



and techniques and a visit to a Scottish gallery or exhibition is proposed.

Part of the club's initiative for 2026 is to introduce a Picture of the Month in the *Newsletter* and featured this month is a beautiful watercolour entitled 'Isle of Eigg' by KADAC member Alison Harrison.

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.

Blairingone, Cleish, Glenfarg, Kinnesswood or Scotlandwell. There are some fascinating and entertaining stories, with pictures and artefacts!

Here at the Museum, we're excited by the free exhibition 'The Legacy of Mary, Queen of Scots' now on at AK Bell Library in Perth. (Restricted hours only). This display, on loan from National Library of Scotland until 25 April, is well worth a visit.

Also on display, at Perth Museum, is 'The Last Letter of Mary, Queen of Scots'. This gem from our nation's history was addressed to her brother-in-law, Henry III King of France, on the night before her execution at Fotheringhay Castle,

Clubs & Community Groups

Northamptonshire, on 8 February 1587. It is the centrepiece of an immersive exhibition until 26 April.

Of course, your own Museum knows a thing or two about Mary. We have some items on display and our library of books about her (including 'The Last Letter') can be consulted in the Study Room, which is open Thursdays 10am-7pm and Saturdays 10am-1pm. Enquiries welcome information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk

Kinross-shire Civic Trust

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

www.kinross-shirecivictrust.org

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

Email: KinrossshireCivicTrustSecy@gmail.com



Trust Dinner

Members and guests enjoyed a delicious dinner at the Grouse & Claret restaurant in November, followed by a very interesting talk on 'The Life and Landscapes of Michael Bruce' by Trust President David Munro, MBE.

Local Development Plan 3

In December Perth and Kinross Council published a 'Call for Sites' map, one of the preparatory stages for the next Local Development Plan. Many sites have been put forward in Kinross-shire, mainly by developers, for zoning as housing, employment etc. As PKC points out, inclusion in the map does not mean allocation in LDP3. Officers are currently assessing suitability of sites. The Trust has looked at the Kinross-shire sites and made some initial notes on them. There will be a formal opportunity to comment on the Proposed Plan when it is published this year.

Planning Applications

If you are interested in seeing Kinross-shire planning applications, follow the Trust's Facebook page where we publish them each week.

KYTHE

www.kythe.org.uk

January started with a group of enthusiastic young people attending the last of our Twix-mas drop-ins. As Christmas and New Year can be a time of change and loss of usual routine and connections, KYTHE organised special drop-ins over this period.

Around 40-60 young people came along each time for chat, music, games, food, and the opportunity to be themselves with other young people and the staff and volunteers at KYTHE.

January is generally known as 'Planuary' for KYTHE when the whole team utilises a couple of weeks to plan for the year. While there will continue to be the usual offering of drop-ins, study groups, music and art groups, we have been fortunate to secure funding for particular events, such as litter picks, origami workshops, silversmith workshops, and these require planning and organisation to ensure the young people get the maximum from these. As a relatively small organisation, KYTHE can be responsive to the young people's needs and utilise the skills of the youth workers and volunteers.

We welcome Finlay who is providing maternity leave cover. Finlay has worked and volunteered with many youth work organisations, so joining in Planuary is a great time as we plan for the year ahead for the young people of Kinross-shire.



Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District

www.innerwheel.co.uk

On Monday 8 December, we met for a Christmas dinner in the Kirklands Hotel. Then, on Tuesday 13 January, we met again to celebrate Inner Wheel Day at Christine Maclure's house in Kinross. It was a most happy occasion and we all enjoyed delicious soup and sandwiches with coffee and sweets to follow. There was a collection for Broke not Broken and Elaine Matthew, our president, is pictured with some of the bags.



Kinross-shire u3a

u3asites.org.uk/Kinross/home

Find us on Facebook

kinross-shire.u3asite.uk



Speaker Meeting on Tuesday 3 February in Kinross Parish Church. This will take the form of a play to start at 2.15pm. (Note Change In Time) - *Intrigue On Loch Leven, Mary Queen Of Scots, A Play*.

Speaker Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month from September 2025 to April 2026 with the AGM held in May 2026.

Annual Membership £15 full member and £10 Associate Member (Member of another u3a).

We have 12 current interest groups:

Places of Interest	Film and Theatre	Famous Scots	Rummikub
Book Club	Gardening Group	Wine Group	Scrabble
Wine Tasting	Genealogy	Walking Group	Gentle Exercise

New Members Welcome

Send us a message if you would like more information .

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Our featured photos for this month were both taken by Tim Wilcock. 'Misty Dog Walk' and below, 'LNER Big Wheel'

Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook



Thursday 5 February. Zoom meeting. AGM and members pictures

Our Annual General Meeting will be held via a Zoom Meeting beginning at 7.30pm followed by a relaxed and informal look at photos our members have been taking over recent months.

Thursday 12 February. Hall meeting. the John St Clair PDI Competition

We will be meeting in the hall for the second of our PDI (projected digital image) competitions of the season. We are delighted to welcome Ken Lindsay to be our judge for the evening. Members are invited to submit up to three digital images which will be displayed via projector in the hall.

Thursday 19 February. 3-way competition held at Cupar Camera Club

We will be visiting Cupar to take part in the annual 3-Way competition along with St Andrews Photographic Society and this years hosts Cupar Camera Club. This is an evening where each club submits 15 Projected Digital Images for an external judge to critique and score. A friendly competition which gives us a chance to see the work of other local clubs. Great sportsmanship of course, but each club always having its eye on that trophy.

Thursday 26 February. Zoom meeting. A presentation by Alistair How 'Sport and Action'

As a regular sports photographer covering events as diverse as lacrosse and korfbal to the more mainstream football and motorsports, Alistair's talk aims to take us through what can often feel like a daunting subject area. Alistair will explain how to set up the camera to capture the best of the action and will give tips and tricks we can use to create a professional looking shot. He will talk about how to gain access to sports where



close up shots can be taken with regular camera equipment and how with a bit of know how, a flash of action can be turned into a great image.

Our camera club welcomes all abilities from seasoned photographers to those with no or little experience. If you have an interest in taking photos and would like to learn how to improve your photography, whether you use a smartphone or a fancy camera, you will be made very welcome.

We run a variation of events including practical evenings, talks and competitions. So please get in touch if you would like to come along to a meeting just for a taster to see if it is for you.

For further information about our syllabus events please contact our secretary by emailing secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk or visit our website and Facebook page.



Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

krmfc.bmfa.club Find us on Facebook



The last month has seen limited flying at the field with the very cold weather and frequent high winds making for difficult flying conditions. Nevertheless, when weather permitted, we did get to the field and in particular there was a lot of activity between Christmas and New Year as people took the opportunity to get out of the house and in some cases fly new Christmas presents!

The image shown is not a new Christmas present but rather a labour of love from the club treasurer Mike Hill. This is a Mosquito with a 2 metre (80 inch) wingspan which is powered by a couple of O.S. 55 AX glow engines. O.S. is a Japanese company that has been around since 1936 and are still producing engines to this day. These engines are 2 stroke glow engines and run on a specialised fuel that has some nitro methane in it. Each of these engines will produce around 1.7 horsepower when getting up to 16,000 rpm.

In addition to the outdoor flying, this month marks the first anniversary of our indoor flying and it was all agreed that it will be carried on in the future and the necessary bookings have been made. We had a meeting in early January and quite a few new planes and helicopters were on display

and getting their maiden flights. A nice bonus was that it was nice and warm and no thick overcoats or gloves were required!

New builds of planes for the coming flying season are well underway with a number of our members. As this work typically takes place in the household garage, the external conditions can certainly be a consideration – it isn't very pleasant working in there when the temperature is just above (and sometimes below!) 0°C. Undaunted however, a number of our members have been looking at insulating their garages and using electric or diesel-powered heaters to keep the environment a bit more comfortable. The devotion to this hobby certainly knows no bounds!

If you just want to see what we are up to, the best way to see that is on our Facebook page (search for Kinross Radio Model Flying Club). If you are interested in joining the club please use the contact form on the club website.

Greener-Kinross-shire

www.greenerkinross-shire.org.uk

What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.

Jane Goodall's words feel especially powerful right now. They call each of us to step forward, to shape a better world and to nurture stronger, more resilient communities.

Last November, at a high-level National Emergency Briefing, leading UK scientists and experts delivered a stark, science-based warning on the accelerating climate and nature crisis to more than 1,000 political, business, faith, cultural and media leaders. Their message echoes loudly here in Scotland, where the need to build community resilience has never been clearer. You can find more details on our website. Greener Kinross-shire exists to turn concern into action. We offer a welcoming platform for anyone who wants to get involved, learn, contribute, or simply connect with others who care about the future of our local environment. Every small action strengthens our community.

As February begins, we're excited to share a range of regular events and opportunities to get involved:

Connect Counselling Scotland
Accessible Counselling Service
Milnathort & Kinross Area

Carrie Arnott PGDip
Person-Centred Counsellor

talk@connectcounselling.scot
07425 167 569
Cosca Membership No 3130



Climate Café – 3 February, 7pm, Loch Leven Community Library Our January gathering sparked brilliant ideas for local action, including community litter picks. Join us in February to chat about the climate crisis, share positive stories, and explore new initiatives. If you'd like to give a talk at a future café, please contact Kara Mackay at climatecafekinrossshire@gmail.com.

Repair Café – 14 February, 10 am–12 pm, Loch Leven Campus Our monthly repair café returns with skilled volunteers ready to help fix textiles, electrics and household items. We're also launching a new bookable tool-sharpening service. Full details and booking information are available on our website.

Guardians of Loch Leven – Volunteers Needed We're looking for a few more biodiversity volunteers passionate about protecting Loch Leven. Buglife Scotland will provide full training in river-monitoring skills, leading to monthly surveying sessions. If this sounds like you, please get in touch through our website mentioned below..

AGM – 17 February, 7pm, Loch Leven Community Library If you're curious about our work or keen to get involved in upcoming projects, we'd love to see you at our AGM. Everyone is welcome. Check our website for the details of our events, upcoming projects and to share your ideas and comments.

Kinross Handcraft Circle

After a short break through Christmas and the New Year, members were keen to get back to a new term and a new series of workshops. We were delighted to welcome two new members, Sine and Heather, who were made very welcome.

Our classes this term cover embroidery, crochet and stitching. Our embroidery project is Gold Work, and Linda will be teaching us the principles. Initially we will be learning about the threads, usually gold or metallic, and how these are couched on to fabric. After a bit of practice, we will each start our own project, a brooch or a small picture.

On another table Dianne is teaching Amigurumi, a Japanese form of crochet creating small creatures. We are starting with cute little kittens made using a size 2.5 or 3 mm crochet hook and 4 ply wool.

Meanwhile another group will be stitching small 3D birds made of felt, with the help of Ann. These delightful little birds will be filled with toy stuffing and decorated with folk embroidery.

Of course, if none of the above appeal, members are always welcome to bring along their own projects.

In addition to the above we will be running a one-day workshop on Rag Rug making on 17 February.

Our annual outing on 31 March is to The Georgian House, a National Trust property in Edinburgh's sophisticated Charlotte Square, providing a fascinating insight into fashionable society in the eighteenth and nineteenth century.

Meetings are held on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Gateside Memorial Hall from 9.45 am until 12.15. Members are welcome from all towns and villages in the surrounding area. New members will be made very welcome. For more information please contact our Secretary Ann Caudrey: ann.jag21@gmail.com

For dates of meetings in February, please see the diary at the back of this *Newsletter*.

KLEO

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



Kinross Farmers' Markets

The Kinross Farmers' Markets will start again in April, with the first market on Saturday 25 April from 10am-

2pm on the High Street of Kinross. The following market dates will be on every fourth Saturday of the month from April to October (apart from the July market, there will not be a market that month). Dates are thus: 25 Apr, 23 May*, 27 June, 22 Aug*, 26 Sept and 24 Oct from 10am-2pm. For the markets the High Street will be closed from entrance Burns Begg Street to the entrance of Montgomery Street.*

*Like last year the 23 May Spring Market and 22 August Summer Market will be bigger markets and will take place at the Market Park from 10am to 3pm.

Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

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

Leven Voices is a fun, informal drop-in community singing group which you can join anytime. No music reading or singing experience is necessary. Tuesday evenings with tutor David McLean, 7.30pm-9.30pm at Kinross Parish Church. Fee is £4 a session.

Kinross Community Folk Group Dust of your instruments and come along. We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm at St Paul's Church Hall on the Muirs. Fee is £3 a session to pay for the hall and coffee/teas. Any queries, contact Ian Hardie 07941 847657.

Acoustic Open Mic evening for anyone who would like to play a couple of songs in a live situation. Every 3rd Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm to 9pm in the lounge of the Green Hotel. Text Nigel 07758 559187.

Loch Leven Library

www.culturepk.org.uk

Tel: 01577 867205. Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk



Opening Times

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

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

Clubs & Community Groups

Events

Love Your Local Library - Join us at Loch Leven Community Library from 10am to 3pm on Friday 13 February 2026 and discover everything your local library offers – from books and jigsaws to eResources, printing, seed libraries and the Make Music Tayside Music library. Chat with staff, explore services, and fall in love with your library. Enjoy drop-in craft sessions all day and design your own book cover for our special community bookshelf.

10am – 12pm: Free drop-in session: Learn to use Ancestry and research your family history.

2pm – 3pm: Join author and illustrator John Fardell for a fun, interactive event on creating stories. Expect drawing, story-inventing activities, and tips for illustrated fiction and comics. Free, but booking is required at the library or by phoning 01577 867205. Donations welcome. Suitable for all ages (under 8s with an adult please).

On Tuesday 10 February join staff at Loch Leven Community Library from 1.25pm to 1.55pm for a lunchtime concert by pupils from Kinross High School.

Costume Swap is back at Loch Leven Community Library from Tuesday 10 to Saturday 14 February.

Why not bring your old and outgrown costumes and swap them for new ones? Explore various costumes and discover opportunities to save clothes from the landfill.

Not only fun, but it also helps our environment. Nothing to swap – make a cash donation for one. Suggested donation, £3 per costume.

Thursday 12 March, 7pm. Join bestselling author Mark Bridgeman for an interactive presentation where **you** become the jury in a real-life murder trial. Hear the evidence, discuss the case and cast your vote before Mark reveals the actual verdict. Books will be available for sale on the night. Tickets are £6 and available from Loch Leven Community Library.

Regular Sessions

Storytelling - Join us for our storytelling sessions from 4pm - 4.30pm every Tuesday. Our storytelling sessions are suitable for primary-aged children. Booking is not required.

Bookbug sessions are held at Loch Leven Community Library every Wednesday afternoon from 2pm – 2.30pm and Saturday morning from 10am – 10.30am. They offer fun, friendly sessions of songs, rhymes, and stories. These sessions are suitable for babies, toddlers, and preschool children to enjoy with their parents and carers. To book a space at any session, please contact Loch Leven Community Library.

Digital Skills. 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 sessions for one-to-one support?

You could learn how to send emails, download apps, and surf the internet - topics covered would be specific to your needs. By taking the first step and booking a 45-minute, face-to-face session it might just make a big difference to your life. The sessions are monthly at Loch Leven Community Library, anyone interested in attending a session can book their time slot by phoning the library on 01577 867205.

A Knitting and Crochet Group meets in the library every Thursday morning from 10am. (NB this is not an instruction group, just a group of people who enjoy coming together to knit, crochet, and natter).

Interested in writing? The next Creative Writing Group sessions will be on the first Wednesday of the month from

7pm to 9pm. Please contact the library if you would like more information.

Did you know you can access our FREE digital resources with your library card?

Visit the AppStore or Google Play and download the BorrowBox, Libby and PressReader apps for free and use your library card to access an extensive range of digital resources. The apps offer access to a wide selection of eBooks, audiobooks, eMagazines, eComics and eNewspapers. Full details can be found in your local library or online at www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries/e-library/.

Help Us Bring Some Green to Loch Leven Community Library! We'd love to brighten up the library and make it an even more welcoming space for everyone. If you have any indoor houseplants you'd be happy to donate, we'd be incredibly grateful! Plants that are great for air purification—like snake plants, peace lilies, English ivy, or spider plants—would be perfect. We've got some lovely white shelves that could really use a splash of greenery!

If you'd like to donate, please visit the library during opening hours or contact us for further information. Thank you for helping us make Loch Leven Community Library a greener, fresher place!

Kinross Community Garden Group

Our January Festive Lunch was held at the Orwell Bowling Club. It was a lovely meal with great company.



Our next meeting is on Thursday 12 February in the Kinross Parish Church on Station Road, Kinross at 2pm. Peter Hart from Kirklands garden in Saline will give a talk entitled 'Developing the gardens at Saline'. The summer garden visit programme will (hopefully) be available at this meeting.

Membership fees are £20 this year and £5 for visitors. If you are new (or not) to Kinross-shire and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts you will be made very welcome. Doors will be open from 1.30pm.

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

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Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

Fairtrade Tea

In 2026 please choose to buy Fairtrade products when you can. An example is this Traidcraft Tea which has been awarded a Best Buy by Ethical Consumer magazine and a Great Taste Award from the Guild of Fine Food as well as being Fairtrade, which means the people who grew and picked the tea received a fair price and the Fairtrade premium, as well as meeting the standards for working conditions and sustainable farming methods. Sainsbury's own brand tea is also Fairtrade and Coop Fairtrade tea is available in some of our smaller shops. If we all choose Fairtrade goods it will make a difference to our people and our planet.



Milnathort Bridge Club

The New Year's cold weather and snow didn't curb the enthusiasm for a good game of bridge in cosy surroundings following the Christmas break.



The annual January Pitlochry Bridge seminar always lures a number of our members each year. However our weekly numbers still remain very strong.

We recently welcomed David MacDonald, Donna Stevenson and Roy Berry as new members and as a visitor Chris Myerscough.

Recently MBC participated in the SBU Central District French Teams Trophy event in Dundee. Our team of Jim and Catriona Marshall, Pat Cook and Donna Stevenson represented us admirably finishing in the top half of the tournament and qualified for the SBU Team Club Championships in April. Well Done Team Milnathort!

The SBU continually endeavours to stimulate and promote the benefits of the game of bridge. They would love to hear of real life situations as to how playing bridge has changed lives. If you can relate to this why not let us know? We would love to pass on your experience.

<i>North/South</i>	<i>East/West</i>
22 December	
Donna Stevenson/Pat Cook	Nicol Tomney/Ian Paton
5 January	
Wendy Owens/Willie Young Campbell	Sandra Fullerton/Margo Campbell
12 January	
Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley	Ian Paton/Pat Cook
19 January	
Janet Laird/Nicol Tomney Stevenson	Pat Cook/Donna Stevenson

Kinross Bridge Club

Kinross Bridge Club held an enjoyable Christmas party on Thursday 18 December with 28 members playing 21 boards and aggregate scoring. The successful couples were as follows:

- 1st NS Sandy Greenhill / Wendy Owen
- 2nd NS Margo Campbell / Elizabeth Harley
- 1st EW Allan Dearing / David Halliday
- 2nd EW Cynthia Reekie / Marion Forbes

For further information please contact Catriona Marshall 07747 496763.

Kinnesswood In Bloom



January is a time for gardeners to sit with seed catalogues and start planning for the new year. No doubt a few folk are planning what they will order for their borders or hanging baskets. The school will be deciding which vegetables to grow in the raised beds. Before Easter the first work parties will be starting.

We had a different type of party when we celebrated the successes of the past year with a meal in the Thistle Hotel in Milnathort. It was lovely to see Carol and Gordon again. John reminded us about the success of the last few years, Britain in Bloom in particular.

We have decided not to take part in any competitions this year. We have lost a few members, Carol in particular. We miss her attention to detail. Some have family commitments and others have health problems. A few new members would really help.

What we do promise is to keep the village looking good and hopefully bring a smile to those who pass through Kinnesswood.

We will also hope to make progress with the Michael Bruce Garden. It would be fantastic if we could have a garden party there this summer.

Common Grounds

www.spanglefish.com/
commongroundscharitycafe



Despite the cold weather at the beginning of January, our coffee mornings have been very busy following a successful December. We held a Craft Stall at the Milnathort Craft Evening on 29 November, followed by holding the stall at our coffee mornings at the beginning of December. This turned out to be extremely successful, owing to the hard work of the crafters and making a brilliant sum of £1,400. We then held our annual Christmas Raffle making nearly £500. I would like to thank all who donated, bought tickets and helped with both events in raising such a wonderful amount for our overseas charities.

Our chosen Charity for February is SEED Madagascar, an award-winning charity which has worked in the south-east of the country for 25 years. They work with communities to help with health needs, education and developing sustainable employment and business opportunities for local people. They also work to increase access to safe water and sanitation facilities with hygiene education.

We look forward to seeing old and new friends in the coming weeks, especially our welcoming fire, thanks to the donation of wood from Drysdales.

On 24 February, we will be holding a Project Lunch with speaker, Phyllis Hutchinson from '4 Steps to Freedom' who no doubt will bring us up to date on how our donation has been spent.


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Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

After a sunny but cold start to the year we are looking forward to slightly longer days for our walk programme this month. Visitors and prospective members are always welcome. Please see details below for our upcoming walks.

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 3 February, Auchtermuchty Common Circuit

A pleasant circuit climbing through farmland with good views across to the Lomond Hills, returning through woods.

Tuesday 17 February, Valleyfield Snowdrop Trail

A figure of eight walk with the first part through woodland, then through the remnants of the former Valleyfield Estate with its many historical features and along the river to view the wonderful carpets of naturalised snowdrops.

Tuesday 3 March, Scotlandwell and Kinnesswood Circular

Walk from Scotlandwell to Kinnesswood, returning via Portmoak Moss. Great views over Loch Leven and the surrounding hills. From Portmoak Moss a short detour to see the Scotlandwell wash house and well.

Weekend Longer Walks

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

Sunday 1 February, Bishop Hill Circular from Holl Reservoir

Bishop Hill is the more neglected of the main summits of the Lomond Hills. This route from the east uses tracks and a hill path to make a circuit. It can be muddy at this time of year. This walk is a moderate 7.5 miles. There will be refreshments at Lochend Farm after the walk.

Saturday 14 February, Perth and River Tay

This is a short, easy walk on level ground, from the centre of Perth along the Tay towards the Inveralmond Bridge with views of Scone Palace and Perth Racecourse. Returning almost the same way.

Sunday 1 March, Balbirnie and Star Moss

A delightful walk through Balbirnie Estate, past the ancient Stob Cross and a Victorian graveyard. Then along a footpath, ascending a small steep hill and over the fields to the pretty village of Star. Return mainly via a footpath. A leisurely 5.5 miles.

For further details of how to book a place and where to meet us for weekend walks or for general enquiries, please contact: Carol Wilkinson on 07375 058542.

Kinross High School

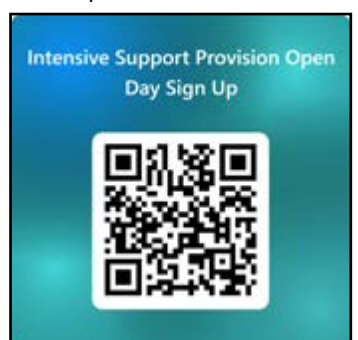
Headteacher update

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all members of our school community a very happy and healthy new year. I hope you had a lovely Christmas break and wish you all the best for the year ahead. Sincere thanks for your ongoing support of our young people, especially in helping them get back into the rigour and routine of school life, particularly during these dark mornings.

Intensive Support Provision (ISP)

As a school and community, we opened our first Kinross Intensive Support Provision which provides education and support to young people with complex additional support needs.

As you may know, our ISP recently passed at the Committees Meeting in November, meaning we are now a fully established and permanent provision. To recognise and celebrate this outcome, we would





like to invite our parents/carers and wider community to our upcoming launch event on Wednesday 4 February at 2pm.

This will provide an opportunity for you to meet key staff and learn more about how our young people learn in the ISP. We look forward to welcoming you!

Parent Council

A great opportunity for parents and carers to have their voice heard in supporting the school's improvement planning comes in the form of the 3rd Parent Focus Group. The topic for this focus group is Wellbeing, Equality & Inclusion and will take place at the Campus at 7pm on Monday 16 February. All parents and carers are welcome.

Chamber Group (pictured)

The Chamber Group went to Ashley House just before Christmas to play for the residents, who were delighted to see them. Thank you Finlay, Finn, Anabelle, Emma, Alysia, Lucy and Josy-Willow.

Debating Team

Four of our talented debaters competed in the Young Speakers' Scotland Public Speaking Competition in November at Fettes College. Erin in S3 and Hugo in S2 were successful in making it through to the final. Well done to all of them for taking part.

On Saturday 29 November, Heather in S6 and Caitlin in S3 spent the whole day debating at the St Andrew's Day Debate in Edinburgh. Unfortunately, they didn't make it to the final but it was a worthwhile day and special thanks go to Caitlin for stepping at the last minute.

The postponed Donald Dewar Debate took place on 9 December. Erin in S4 and Libby in S5 represented the school – both debating in a competition for the first time – and should be very proud of their speeches and performance. Despite not winning, the experience will be useful.

Torness Trip

The Scientific Technologies class were able to visit Torness nuclear power plant. As part of this course, they must

examine health and safety in a science-based industrial site – and where better than a nuclear power plant.

After security checks, they were given an in-depth tour of the insides of the plant including the operations room and the reactor hall. They also had a talk from the head of health and safety. Really inspiring and many of the class were interested in future careers in the energy industry.

Maths Challenge

Following on from his fantastic achievement of a Gold Award in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge, Hayden (S6) was invited to take part in the prestigious follow-on round, the Senior Kangaroo. He achieved a Silver Award in this competition. To put this into perspective, only around 6,000 students nationwide are invited to take part in the Senior Kangaroo each year, making this an incredible accomplishment. Even more impressively, KHS was fortunate to have two students invited this year. Unfortunately, Finlay (S5) was unable to attend on the day of the competition, but being selected was a huge achievement.

A huge congratulations to Hayden for his continued success and to both students for representing KHS at such a high level.

Science Baccalaureate

Science Baccalaureate students kicked off their presentation evenings in the library in December. They shared their research findings so far, survey information they have gathered and what their next steps in their journeys will be. Thank you so much to the library staff for their assistance and hosting us.

Netball

Our S3 team took the win, away, against Hermitage Academy in Helensburgh 32-16. They now progress into the top 16. Our senior girls took the victory over Fortrose Academy 51-25 in the third round of the Scottish Plate. This takes us through to the fourth round - the last 16 teams. Well done girls!

Table Cricket

ISP and Leven Pupils competed in the Perth & Kinross Secondary School Table Cricket Festival on Monday 8 December. They had an amazing day and came third against

some fierce competition. Thanks to PKDS and Live Active for organising the event. We can't wait for the next one!

Top of the Bench

Congratulations to the Chemistry Top of the bench Chemistry Quiz team who battled through the heats in December to reach the finals in the Chemistry Lecture Theatre at the University of St Andrews. After some super quizzing they came third in the entire Tayside region. Well done Vladyk, Ben, Anayah and Muir.

Family Cooking

Thanks to all who came along to our Family Christmas Cooking event. Our bakers made festive treats which were delicious! N5 Practical Cake Craft students were also busy creating some beautiful Christmas cakes.

Expressive Arts News

Thank you to everyone who came along to support the Christmas Concert. We hope that you enjoyed the event. Our library concerts have become a regular feature at Kinross High School. The next concert is on 11 February 2026 at 1.30pm.

We have had quite a few trips recently. A group of senior pupils attended a live performance of War Horse at the Festival Theatre in Edinburgh in October. A group of S4 pupils attended a Jupiter Artland outreach project in Dundee in December. Art pupils have been involved in designing a mural for the Kinross Colts building. Another group were involved in creating a logo for the school uniform shop. Currently pupils are working on projects for the Rotary Young Artist and Young Photographer competitions.

What's Coming Up

Senior Music Students are organising Battle of the Bands on Friday 20 February 2026 and it will showcase the talents of many of our students and some staff.

A group of pupils will be taking part in the Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships competition with our Bagpipe Teacher, Mrs Turnbull.

Pupils from S3 will be going to London from 5-7 May 2026. They will be going to the theatre to see two West End shows along with other activities.

We are rehearsing for our school show: SpongeBob SquarePants which will be performed from 9-11 June 2026 in the Assembly Hall.

Dates for your Diary:

Library Concert: 11 February 2026 at 1.30pm

Spring Concert 1 April 2026

School Show SpongeBob SquarePants 9-11 June 2026

300 Club

Congratulations! The winning numbers for December in the 300 club are: 1st – 80, 2nd - 3, 3rd - 67

Positive Destinations: Can you help?

At Kinross High School, we are dedicated to working with our senior pupils to ensure they have a positive destination on leaving school. Some of our pupils get the opportunity to gain work experience with approved employers and this has been successful in the past. However, we are always looking for employers and companies to offer their workplaces to allow pupils to gain this invaluable experience. If you think you could offer one of our pupils some work experience, we would be delighted to hear from you. Equally, if you are interested in doing a presentation, workshop or informative session to a group of interested pupils, that could also be arranged. Please e-mail Mrs Beveridge at KinrossHigh@pkc.gov.uk if this is something you can offer.

Portmoak Film Society

Valentine's Day Treat At Portmoak Films



Clint Eastwood's legal thriller 'Juror #2' shown in January went down well with our audience, who rated it 80% good or excellent. Now for a big mood change as we screen our February film 'In the Mood for Love', on Valentine's Day (14 February for all you unromantics!).

Described by the *Guardian* as 'the most purely romantic film of the century', it's set in Hong Kong in 1962 and tells the story of a man and woman who move into the same apartment building and discover that both their spouses are being unfaithful. It is director Wong Kar-Wai's classic tale of love and loneliness in a big city with an aching soundtrack and exquisite cinematography that has made it a major stylistic influence on the past two decades of cinema. Does the course of true love run smooth? Come and find out! The film is in Cantonese with English subtitles.

All films are shown at Portmoak Village Hall, Scotlandwell. Doors open at 7pm and films start promptly at 7.30pm. Entry is £6 on the door, tea and coffee are served after the film, regulars and newcomers all welcome! For further information, visit our Facebook page or contact Felicity Garvie on 01592 840825.

The Rotary Club of Kinross and District



www.ribi.org

The lead up to Christmas was busy for club members, with a lot of activity in the community.

We raised over £3,500 from our Santa Sleigh trips. We listened and we provided a QR code and a card machine in response to our increasingly cashless world. However, takings were down a bit this year, despite the popularity of our 'stop points'. This is our principal fundraiser, quite a task and we are grateful to the eight local clubs who assisted us on the sleigh – all will receive donations for their activities.

Collection of gifts provided by Carlton Bingo, Dunfermline: I to r Brian Mitchell, Rotary 1010, George Lawrie, Club Secretary and Hannah Duncan, Broke Not Broken.





Above: Young Farmers out helping Rotarians on Santa's Sleigh.

And many thanks to all who turned out to see us (often in foul weather!) and who donated.

We also had successful day on Saturday 20 December when we took the sleigh to Sainsbury's car park and many children had the opportunity for a photo with Santa. Thanks again to Drysdale's whose modifications to the sleigh made access to it easy and safe for all users, and to Leven Voices who provided some beautiful festive entertainment. Over £700 was raised – which will go towards our fund to equip the Sensory Room at the newly refurbished Rachel House.

A team of Rotarians assisted CHAS in the pick-up of Christmas trees to be recycled on the weekend of 10 and 11 January.

We were delighted to be involved with our Rotarian colleagues in Fife and to be able to participate in a most impressive collection of children's gifts by Carlton Bingo Dunfermline. As a participating club, we were able to collect 65 gifts for distribution locally by Broke not Broken. A fabulous scheme which has benefited some of the children in our community.

Our next fundraiser towards our CHAS target is a Casino and Curry Night at 7pm on Saturday 26 March at Kinross Rugby Club. Tickets are £25 per person, including a welcome drink on arrival, a delicious curry and £10 worth of casino chips. It promises to be another great night following the success of our Murder Mystery and we hope that you will come along and support such a good cause.

Tickets from secretary.kdrc@gmail.com or call/message 07380 414637 for further information.

Kinross and District Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association



Anchor Section: Well done to Corey who won the Mid-Scottish "Design a Christmas Bauble" Competition, hopefully his prize has arrived safe and sound!

The short tennis event that was scheduled for November last year has still to be re-arranged. Once a date has been confirmed then we will let everyone know.

Junior Section:

Badminton: This event was postponed due to lack of available courts, a new date will hopefully be arranged soon.

Mini-volleyball: This popular Battalion event took place at Strathallan School. Our 3-a-side teams did well but didn't win any trophies this time.

Mid-Scottish 5-a-side: There is a tournament organised in Dundee at the end of January. We don't need to enter a full team as we can form composite teams with other companies.

Summer Camp: For those members who are moving up to P7 in August and moving up into the Company Section you are eligible to join us on Summer Camp, so please read the Summer Camp section below.

Company Section:

President's Badge: Two of our girl members will be attending a 'Building Your Skills' Course at the end of January where they will be learning about developing their skills to work cooperatively with others, to help make a difference in their life and in their Company.

Duke of Edinburgh: The Company is looking to restart its D of E programme for those in the Company who are old enough. I have asked Jim Borland who is the Volunteer Boys' Brigade D of E Coordinator (Scotland) to come and visit us at the end of January so that parents can ask any questions they may have.

Summer Camp: Camp this year is going to be at Kenmore on the shores of Loch Tay. We have been here a number of times before and have usually had good weather. The YMCA team based in Perth will be along to run both land and water based activities for those attending along with white water rafting/canyoning depending on the weather. The proposed dates are going to be 25 July - 1 August 2026. Cost to be confirmed shortly.

Officers and Leaders: We are always on the look out for new adults to join our team. It does not have to be every Friday night or indeed any Friday night as we will need more people to assist with the Duke of Edinburgh's programme, particularly the Expedition element of the Award. There is a



Company drill squad preparing to fall in.

registration and training programme involving PVG clearance and the D of E programme components.

Fundraising: We are always looking for new recruits to join our band of willing volunteers that now not only put up marquees but also help marshal the McTuff Events at Knockhill. You will need to become a registered Helper for both insurance and safeguarding purposes, however this is very straight forward and BBHQ does most of the work in applying and arranging your PVG. We now have our own minibus which will be a great asset for the Company but does need funds to keep maintained and running!

Portmoak Community Woodland Group



A big thank you to everyone who came along to our Christmas tree event (pictured) in Portmoak Moss on 14 December. It was the usual family, fun day with a good choice of trees and lots of home baking. We raised £1,117 and we hope that it put everyone in the festive spirit. Of course, it also helped the ongoing restoration of the raised peat bog, by removing some of the conifers which dry out the peat.

As anyone who has read our monthly reports will know, we have been trying to save this extremely rare habitat for many years. Members of the group and volunteers from elsewhere have helped to pull out birch and conifer saplings, to give sphagnum moss, the building block of peat, a chance to grow. Regular visitors to the Moss will have seen the area that we have kept clear, as well as the rapidly spreading birch that is now too big to remove. We can't keep up with the birch or conifers so there has to be a better solution.

Feelings are running high about the plan put together by Moss owners, the Woodland Trust Scotland and government agency, Peatland Action.

It would see the removal of most of the trees and the creation of bunds (low peat embankments) to ensure the Moss holds as much water as possible, so that trees no longer thrive there. A path network would be reinstated.

Since WTS bought the Moss in 1996 the world has changed. Climate change has been recognised as a threat. Scottish Forestry no longer allow tree planting on deep peat 'for conservation and wider environmental reasons'.

Healthy peatlands create a far better carbon store than trees. As soon as the latest Moss plan was presented to us, the first action of the Portmoak Community Woodland Group was to help run a public drop-in session in Portmoak Village Hall. There was a lot for us and for everyone else to get our heads round. While we have never made a secret of restoring the peat bog, this was the most radical intervention so far.

Not surprisingly, many people have been worried about the fate of the red squirrels which they love to see in the Moss. Also, not surprisingly, WTS had already asked for help from the Eastern Lowlands Red Squirrel Group.

WTS say: 'We are grateful to staff and volunteers from the Eastern Lowlands Red Squirrel Group who have been surveying red squirrel populations at Portmoak Oct/Nov



Clubs & Community Groups

2025. Whilst we don't have confirmed numbers yet, initial surveys identified a significant and well-established red squirrel population. We will continue to work with them and others to mitigate any impact on the red population before, during and after the proposed felling.

'Red squirrels are likely to disperse to more suitable nearby habitats along the shore of Loch Leven and at Kilmagad Wood. This includes new areas of native woodland planted by Woodland Trust Scotland and the community in 2009 and 2016.'

It's not the first time there has been lively debate about the future of the Moss. Karen McDonnell, our Group's longest-serving chair, remembers the challenges ahead of us 30 years ago:

'Then as now the energy and enthusiasm of our people underpinned progress and the working relationship between the WT, PCWG and many volunteers from within and outwith our community have paved the way for where we are now in 2026.'

The purchase price of the Moss was £80,000 with £10,000 raised by the community and another £10,000 of 'matched funding' from PKC. The rest came from WTS.

Karen says: 'Had we failed to raise the funds we can only contemplate on what might have been, yet we continue to shape the way forward for this space with competent advice from specialists.'

WTS expect to share their next steps and plans before the end of February.

Kinross Day Centre

Happy New Year to you all.

The weather has been really cold lately. Hope you have all been keeping warm! We have had another busy month and are now preparing for Burns lunch which is on Monday 26 Jan with Kinross's own fabulous Piper Richard Scott, we will post photos next month.

We also have a Valentine's lunch coming up on Friday 13 February. Everyone is eagerly awaiting the nicer weather, so we can enjoy rides on the trishaws and the trips on the barge.

If you would like to join us in the centre or know anyone that might enjoy a bit of company including a nutritious meal, please give Nan a call on 01577 863869.

Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast Meetings

The first Wednesday of January saw 17 local businesses and groups eagerly kick off the year at the first Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfasts held at the Green Hotel. Our guest speaker was none other than an Award-Winning Journalist, Sports Writer and Presenter, who graciously shared a candid account of their career journey so far. With all its ups and downs, it was truly an inspiring and motivating story that resonated with everyone present.

Mark your calendar for our next networking breakfast meeting, which is scheduled for Wednesday, 4 February, starting at 7.30am. However, everyone is welcome to arrive from 7.15am. The cost for this event is £12, and it includes a delightful cooked or continental breakfast, along with tea and coffee.

This is a fantastic opportunity to discuss your own business or group and to hear from our next guest speaker.

To book your place, please email kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com or text Richard on 07 999 510 500. Looking forward to seeing you there!



Kinross-shire Trishaws and Community Cycling

To find out more about KTACC events and activities, visit www.ktacc.org.uk.



We're still on our winter break while the weather is too cold and icy for cycling, but we are not being idle. All three of our trishaws have been fully serviced with new motors and electronics installed on two of our three bikes. We are holding an information evening on Tuesday 3 February for anyone interested in becoming a volunteer pilot. Please email KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com for details.

We have thoroughly cleaned our fleet of community e-bikes and had them all serviced so they are in tip-top condition ready for rides starting as soon as the weather warms up. Please keep an eye on our website and Facebook page for details.

We will shortly be testing out routes for our new adaptive bikes. Unfortunately, one of our bikes is too wide to cross



several of the bridges on the Heritage Trail so we need to ascertain its limitations and find some interesting off-road routes. We also require additional volunteers to support our all-abilities programme starting in spring, and enable more local people with a variety of abilities and disabilities to enjoy the freedom and friendship cycling can bring.

Looking forward to the longer, warmer days coming soon.

Kinross Historical Society



Kinross-shire Historical Society met on 19 January to hear a talk by speaker Sarah Smith 'Schoolin' o' the Bairns' looking at the history and evolution of education in Kinross-shire.

Education in the area can be traced back to the ninth century when the monastery on St Serf's Island was a centre of literacy and learning. In 1152, the Bishop of St Andrews signed a charter requiring the Culdee monks to hand over the monastery to the Augustian Monks and the charter included 17 books which was quite a treasure for those days. In 1420, Andrew de Wynton of the monastery wrote *The Original Chronicle of Scotland* recording the history and stories of Scotland.

Early education was linked to the church, most early teachers were churchmen with the aim to educate young boys for the church. These early schools were called Grammar Schools, some still here today, though the name may have been changed to 'High School' as with Dunfermline.

As legal documents became more common so people had to be able to write to sign their names.

The 1496 Education Act came about as James IV recognised that good governance needed educated officials. All Barons and landowners had to send their eldest sons to a Grammar School to learn Latin. There was a fine of £20 for those who didn't comply.

In 1560 the *First Book of Discipline* was introduced. This was at the time of the Reformation and John Knox. Parish schools were promoted. Literacy was needed to read the Bible. Parish schools were the foundation of Scotland's learning tradition, a virtuous education and a godly upbringing. Parents paid a small fee but the church paid for the poor families. There were already universities, but whereas both boys and girls could go to school only boys could go to university.

By 1646, at the time of the Covenanters, when there was resistance to the Anglican style of worship, an Act set out that there should be a school in every parish and a teacher to teach the scriptures.

An illustration showed an entry in the Cleish Kirk Session Minutes of 1654 stating that there had to be a school held at the kirk. Another illustration showed an entry in the Dunfermline Presbytery minutes relating to Kinross. Sir William Bruce, who built Kinross House, recommended Alexander Schaw as Schoolmaster but the session rejected him as not sufficiently qualified for the post.

Schoolmasters went to university and it was a pathway to the ministry or a lifelong vocation. Teaching was considered a calling. The Church and the Heritors (landowners) had to work together over the schools. The poorest boys could go to university, e.g. Michael Bruce of Kinnesswood. Born to a poor family of weavers, he went to school young and by 16 was at Edinburgh University with the hope of becoming a minister. He became a teacher at Gairneybridge but died at 21.

Schoolmasters were paid 100-200 marks which wasn't enough to live on, so many had other jobs such as clerk or a tax collector. In 1706 Milnathort teacher James Paterson

was also a book-keeper, tax collector, cloth trader and candlemaker. There were many complaints about him from the parents but when questioned he admitted going to Edinburgh to buy cloth and to court a wife. He was dismissed in 1715.

In Kinross in 1774, there was a Parish School, 2 Dame Schools and 4 Adventure Schools. They all taught different things. As time went on there was diverse education, buildings were deteriorating, salaries hadn't changed, there was a big turnover in teachers. The 1803 Parochial Schools (Scotland) Act laid out that schoolmasters must be housed, that salaries must be tied to the price of grain, that there would be inspections and that this would all be enforced. The Court of Session could compel Heritors to pay.

Some long serving teachers in the area were Simon Forrest at Portmoak, Robert Burns Begg at Kinross and Peter Craig at Cleish. They all stopped teaching at the time that the 1872 Education Act came into force. It moved control of schools from the Church to School Boards. Education was compulsory, it was publicly funded with inspections, teacher training and female teachers for the first time. This was the foundation of Scotland's current education system.

Some questions were taken and then Keven Heneghan gave the vote of thanks for an enlightening talk with records and images in fabulous detail. Education is a topic of interest but it was brilliant to hear about it at the local level.

The next talk on 16 February is *Tales of the Forth* by Willie Shand. All welcome.

Kinross Squirrels

The Squirrels were busy working towards their Exciting Experiments badge for our penultimate meeting of the term. They explored colours and movement by making their own rainbow spinners, discovering how science can be lots of fun. The squirrels also played lots of games, keeping the energy high and the smiles even bigger. A brilliant session full of curiosity, creativity and laughter — well done to all the Squirrels!

Our Squirrels had an epic Christmas party on 19 December. They enjoyed making and munching on melting snowmen biscuits and finished the meeting with the ultimate snowball fight — lots of laughs and flying 'snowballs' all around! A brilliant way to end the term with friends, fun and festive cheer.

It was lovely to welcome our squirrels back for their first meeting of the term after the Christmas holidays. The squirrels enjoyed chatting about what they got up to over the festive





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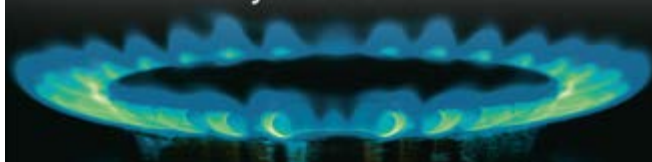


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John Parish





break and spent some time reviewing the Code of Conduct together. They also made a great start on their Scottish Thistle Award by getting creative and designing their very own tartans – lots of fantastic ideas and colours on show!

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

Kinross Beavers

Our Beavers had a brilliant time getting into the Christmas spirit on 12 December. They enjoyed making festive Christmas crafts and created their own Christingles, learning about what they represent along the way. As well as being super creative, the Beavers also played lots of games and had plenty of fun with their friends. A great session full of smiles, laughter and Christmas cheer!



The beavers had a fantastic final meeting before the Christmas break the following week. The evening started with lots of fun and laughter with a snowball fight at the hall, before we headed up to Kinross Parish Church to take part in the community Christmas concert. The music was beautifully provided by The Shepherd's Quartet, and the beavers did an amazing job taking an active role in the concert. Highlights included playing musical statues to The Nutcracker: Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy – which was a big hit with the audience! The beavers also helped out by serving food during the interval, showing great confidence and teamwork.

Our first night back after all the Christmas festivities saw the Beavers take part in a number of activities. They all played lots of games, they drew what badges they would like to see in Beavers and they also did Code of Conduct – a timely reminder of the values and behaviours expected within the Colony.

Please note that we are in need for adult leaders to help at Beavers. So please come forward, volunteering is easier than you think. The Scouts provide full support and training, and you can



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volunteer on a flexible basis. Not only is it incredibly rewarding and great fun, but you will also learn some brilliant skills transferable to the workplace and further education. Please contact us on kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.

Kinross Cubs

Our penultimate meeting of the winter term saw the cubs busy working towards their Pioneer badge – learning key knots, practicing teamwork and putting their skills into action by building a small pioneer project together. It was great to see them problem solving and supporting each other. There was also time to play their favourite game, Colditz, which was full of energy and laughs!

The following week we wrapped up the term with our final Cubs meeting before the Christmas holidays, and what a fun night it was! The cubs enjoyed a Christmas party, played lots of games and finished the evening with an epic snowball fight that everyone loved.

At the end of the meeting, we were delighted to appoint Alistair the new Secunder for the Red Six. Bravo Alistair!

We kicked off the Spring term on 7 January by going over the Code of Conduct, making sure everyone knows what's expected as we head into a new year of fun and adventure. Some cubs were also set challenges for their Personal Challenge badge. To conclude a great first meeting of the



term the cubs got stuck into their favourite game, Colditz, with lots of energy and enthusiasm all round!

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

Portmoak Hall 100 Club			
December Draw			
1st	82	Heather Dunnett	Kinnesswood
2nd	11	Bruce Inglis	Kinnesswood
3rd	69	Greta Hogg	Scotlandwell

International Scouting with Loch Leven Explorers

With preparations underway for both the Blair Atholl Jamboree and the 2027 Poland Jamboree, Loch Leven Explorers look back on their unforgettable international adventure to Switzerland.

Last July, 37 Explorers and Network members from Kinross and Rosyth, supported by 8 Leaders, set off for the Kandersteg International Scout Centre. After travelling by coach and ferry, the group arrived the following afternoon, ready to immerse themselves in global Scouting. With more than 1,000 Scouts and Explorers from over 20 countries sharing the site, the atmosphere was vibrant from the moment we arrived. This environment helped strengthen the values of friendship, respect, and cooperation that lie at the heart of Scouting — qualities reinforced throughout an action-packed week.

The programme began with an international flag break, uniting the entire camp through songs, traditions, and dances. That evening's International Evening saw groups hosting stalls celebrating their national food, culture, and games — a brilliant opportunity to make new friends and experience the diversity of global Scouting.

Monday's trip to Brigerbad Water Park offered a mix of relaxation and excitement, from thermal baths to the 184-metre mountain water slide. On Tuesday, the group travelled to Interlaken for a treetop rope park adventure, tackling obstacles suspended up to 20 metres high before exploring the town and sampling local food.

Wednesday was a standout day as the group journeyed on Europe's highest accessible railway to Jungfrauoch at 3,454 metres. They visited the Sphinx Observatory, explored the Ice



Palace, enjoyed the Alpine Sensation, and even experienced real snow and ice in the middle of summer. The day continued with a train ride to Eigerletscher followed by a 12km hike to Grindelwald.

Thursday brought a slower pace with a gondola ride to the stunning Oeschinensee Lake. Although mist obscured the famous views, the peaceful surroundings made for a memorable visit, and the rest of the day was spent relaxing and reconnecting with new international friends.

Friday delivered a final burst of adrenaline. With the group taking on white water rafting on the glacial Lutschine River, and canyoning in Interlaken which involved rappelling, sliding, and jumping through fast-flowing mountain streams. The week concluded with the iconic International Campfire,





a chance to celebrate achievements, share stories, and say goodbye to friends from across the world.

In December, the two units reunited at Fordell Firs for the Big Fordell Freeze, enjoying activities such as the 3G Swing, Zip Line, Caving, and Climbing, followed by a Silent Disco, Winter Market, and Fun Fair Zone — the perfect opportunity to relive their Swiss adventure together.

Call for Help

To continue providing adventures like this, we need more volunteers. Even a small amount of time such as twice a month makes a huge difference.

Volunteering with Explorers is a brilliant way to support young people, learn new skills, and be part of a friendly, enthusiastic team. No Scouting experience is needed, and full support is provided.

Find out more: lochlevenexplorers@hotmail.com

Kinross in Bloom

For more information contact susan.mitchell150@gmail.com or daviddickson2@hotmail.co.uk.



At long last the little green shoots are starting to appear. First the snowdrops then the crocuses followed by daffodils. The town should suddenly burst into bloom and Kinross in Bloom members will be looking at how our group can build on the visual displays. This work is only possible with the help and support of residents in Kinross. The first committee meeting of the season will take place at 7pm on Tuesday 3 February.

New members will be made most welcome. If you want to find out more please contact Dave or Susan. If the committee is not for you please make contact for a little tour of the polytunnel. This would give you a good idea of how we progress our work over the season.

The committee will be planning the floral displays for the summer. This involves looking at colour schemes, types of plants and assessing the successes of the past season. Budgets will be on the agenda as will the use of the nursery bed behind the poly tunnel. The meeting is an open forum and is open to new ideas and new suggestions. Best of all the meeting is open to welcoming new members. There is even tea coffee and biscuits provided and once in a while there can be a little glass of wine.

Milnathort SWI

Milnathort SWI met at 2pm in the Town Hall on Thursday 15 January. Ann Reid, our Secretary, welcomed members and wished everyone a happy new year.

Anne then introduced Trudy from the Repair Cafe. Trudy

explained that the Repair Cafe came about via the Climate Cafe, when it was felt that many items could be repaired rather than discarded.

They now have a permanent meeting place within the library at the Loch Leven Community Campus and will be available to repair items on the first Saturday of each month. Details as to which experts will be in attendance will be on their Facebook page. Ann thanked Trudy for coming along and explaining about Greener Kinross-shire's hopes for the future.

Competitions:

Favourite Brooch: 1st Jennifer Wallace, 2nd Grace Drysdale, 3rd Kathleen King. Lots of lovely entries.

Flower of the month: 1st Cathie Cochrane, 2nd Denise Stephenson, 3rd Jane McConville.

Refreshments were served, and there was a brisk trade at the sales table. Ann then took us through the January business and events reminders.

At our next meeting on Thursday 19 February, 2pm, in the Town Hall, Hannah McKerrow will talk to us about her life as a vet.

Competition will be: Three pieces Rocky Road and Flower of the month.

Ann thanked everyone for coming along and hoped to see them next month. Visitors welcome.

Carnbo SWI

Mhairi Lavender, President welcomed members to their Christmas Lunch at the Inn at Muchart. After an enjoyable meal Grace organised some games and then gifts were exchanged. Mhairi thanked the Inn for the lovely meal and wished us all a Happy Christmas and a safe journey home.

Competitions:

Christmas Card: 1st Mhairi Lavender: 2nd Molly White

Flower of the Month: 1st Ann Petherick

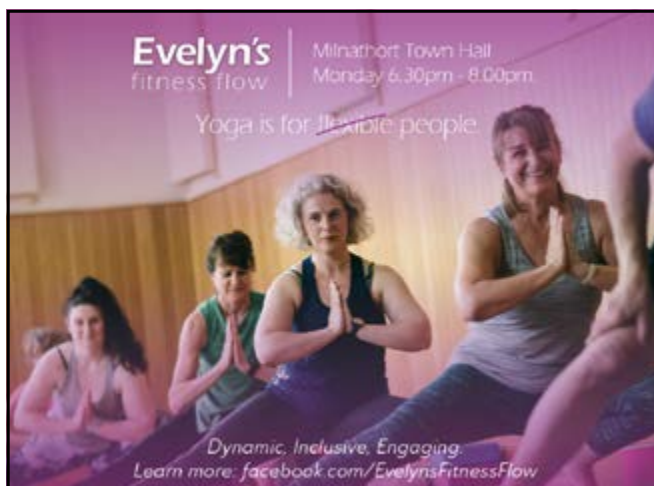
Mhairi Lavender welcomed members to the January meeting and after business we all enjoyed a Burns' Supper provided by the committee and Sheila Reid read a poem. After tea and shortbread the raffle was drawn. Mhairi wished us all a safe journey home.

Competitions:

Verse - Looking forward to 2026: 1st Liz Baglow, 2nd Mhairi Lavender

Flower of the month: 1st Elizabeth Campbell, 2nd Kath Mearns

Next meeting February 16 February.



Cleish SWI

President Anne Douglas welcomed members to our meeting on Monday 12 January. Our speaker was Pat from Broke not Broken who gave a very informative presentation about the many aspects of the work of the charity.

Competition winners were as follows:-

Small jar lemon curd: 1st Lynn Hewitt

Something new from something old: 1st Agnes Thomson

2nd Lynn Hewitt, 3rd Marion Laird

Pot plant: 1st Marion Laird, 2nd Lynn Hewitt, 3rd Elinor Craig

Our next meeting is on Monday 9 February at 7.30pm in Cleish Village Hall when we are having a hands on Boro Japanese stitching session. Anyone wishing to take part is asked to bring a sewing kit.



Powmill SWI

Wednesday 21 January saw the first meeting of Powmill SWI in 2026, with great news that Powmill had won 3rd place in the annual syllabus competition.

The evenings meeting was a Burns' Supper with delicious haggis, neeps and tatties, trifle, oatcakes with cheese and not forgetting the traditional tablet and shortbread. Everyone was fit to burst by the end, and thankfully there was nothing more strenuous than a Scottish quiz to contend with!

The real highlight of the night was the presentation by president Sharon of a badge and certificate to Powmill's oldest and longest serving member, Mrs Janie Buchanan, of Honorary Presidency of Powmill SWI for her unwavering service and presence over the past 60 years as a loyal member.

Janie has held many roles over her time and is the true example of dedication. She was very surprised and said she was truly honoured, and vowed that as long as she could still walk she'd keep coming to the meetings. She thanked all her fellow members for their support.

Competitions:

3 pieces of shortbread (Winning the Cameron quaich): 1st Donna McBain, 2nd Janice Young, 3rd Mary Wilson

Object or photograph with family connection: 1st Janice Young, 2nd Mary Wilson

Green fingers: Pot plant Mary Wilson

The next meeting is on Wednesday 18 February in Moubray hall and is a demonstration on Macrame.

Sports News



Milnathort Golf Club

Despite a slow start due to the harsh weather, the 2026 golf season is gaining momentum. Members are back on the course; the clubhouse buzzes with camaraderie, and Angela's homemade scones and soup are a clubhouse highlight.

Against stiff competition, we have made it to the final of the Scottish Golf Tourism Awards for the Best 9 Hole Course in Scotland.

Winter work on the Golf Course is almost complete.

Our very successful Get into Golf programme is now open for membership, with a one-year fee of £260. Full membership is available for £460 for anyone who wishes to join us.

Contact Stuart McHardy on 01577 864069 or at office@milnathortgolfclub.co.uk

Kinross Hockey Club

Kinrosshockey.org

100% Record

Sarah, president of the hockey club is very pleased.

The ladies first XI have won all their games in the first half of the season, sitting comfortably on top of their league.



Kinross Road Runners

Two KRR have put in spectacular performances at this year's Montane Winter Spine race where competitors race along the Pennine Way. Congratulations to Alison McGill who finished 4th at her debut winter spine event, in the Challenger North race. Covering the 160 mile race in 63hours 38mins 43 secs!

Fiona Horsfield took part in the full Winter Spine race covering all 268 miles of the Pennine Way in 112 hours and 48mins to finish in 2nd place. An absolutely outstanding performance, congratulations Fiona!

Over September to January we've held our winter parkrun championships. Members needed to complete four different parkruns in four different months, from the six local parkrun events of, Kirkcaldy, Dunfermline, Perth, Glenrothes, St. Andrews and of course Loch Leven. As we go to print there's just one weekend left to count. Currently top of the table for the ladies is Helen Keith, while David Scott is in first place for the men.

Dates have now been confirmed for KRRs three races this year, which are,

Loch Leven Half Marathon – Sunday 10/05/2026

Milnathort Dash – Thursday 25/06/2026

Path of Condie Half Marathon – Saturday 24/10/2026

Loch Leven Half Marathon is open now for entries!

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Well done ladies, you have earned your Christmas break but unlike Guardiola there will be no 'weigh-in' on return!

Kinross Tennis Club

<https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub>

Email: kinrosstennis@gmail.com/
kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

[@kinrosstennisclub](https://www.facebook.com/kinrosstennisclub) and

[@siobhanmacleodtennis](https://www.facebook.com/siobhanmacleodtennis)

The winter months of December and January always herald a bit of a slow-down in the activities at the club as the weather and darkness sets-in, but a few hardy souls have managed to play outside occasionally between the frost, rain and snow.

Thankfully all the coaching activities are indoors in winter which means the tennis fun has continued whatever the weather!

Siobhan and her team have provided weekly indoor sessions at the Community Campus for our youngest players and have also introduced Pickleball to lots of adults this winter.

Tennis coaching for all ages will move outdoors again from Sunday 15 February. The courses are all ready to book and this can be done through Siobhan's website.

Classes will run on Saturday mornings and Monday and

Tuesday after school for Junior players and on Sunday and Monday evenings and Wednesday afternoon for adults.

For more information on Tennis Coaching or Introduction to Pickleball sessions please contact Siobhan direct:

Siobhan Macleod, LTA Accredited Coach

Email: siobhanmacleodtennis@outlook.com

Text/WhatsApp: 07443 223408

As the days lengthen and weather improves the club will





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liven-up. We will be scheduling an Open Day in March or April with an opportunity for anyone in the community to come-along and have a go at tennis and meet the team behind the club. Dates will be available soon, in the next issue of the *Newsletter*, on the club website and notice boards at the club. We hope to see many of you there!

Kinross Cricket Club

2025 Review

As the 2026 season rapidly approaches we can look back on 2025 as one of the most unusual seasons in the past 25 years. Firstly, we only played eight fixtures which the lowest number of games in a long time. This was a result of several games cancelled as the opposition failed to raise a team, rain and a slight mishap with one game when the fixtures secretary forgot to put it in the calendar!

The eight matches we did play recorded 100% losses, an absolute first for the club in living memory. While this might sound bad, and it certainly is not a great record, six of the games were lost in the last over of play with two turning on the final ball. A season without a win does look as if it was an under performance but six games which could easily have

gone with a different result does lessen the hurt, a bit!

There were definite highlights during the season. 16-year-old Rob Cooper scored his maiden senior 50 in a 102-run stand with Dave Campbell against Doune & Dunblane in the second game of the season at Doune. The annual David Roe Memorial Test, a double innings timed game, gave Ivan Groenewald a season's best bowling performance of 4 wickets for 48 runs off 11 overs in the first innings. Rahul Kanduga was the pick of the bowlers taking 10 wickets across the season from 38 overs and club veteran John Ross performing admirably behind the stumps with an undiagnosed broken foot for 6 matches.

We visited a new ground when we played Gifford Goblin Cricket Club near Haddington in June. The club is named after the local pub, and the ground is truly beautiful located just outside the village and surrounded by mature trees. The post-match dinner was excellent, and we look forward to visiting again this year.

Sadly, there were no mid-week matches as the Perth & Kinross Cricket Development Group decided to focus purely on league competition format matches with no friendlies. This was a very late decision which left us with few options for last minute fixture creation. We have alternative plans for 2026.

2025 may not have been a great success on the field but the games were close and highly competitive with everyone putting their best performances to the fore. We also welcomed three new players to the senior squad, which bodes well for 2026.

2026 Plans

The early pre-season will see a fair amount of maintenance work taking place in and outside the pavilion. The entire building requires painting; there are repairs to the roof to be completed and two windows are overdue replacement. All being well, this should be complete by the end of April. We also plan to buy our own grass mower to keep the playing surface as short as possible.

We plan to have a full Sunday senior fixtures calendar from May through to September with home and away matches.

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Venues range from Dundee, Edinburgh, across the central belt, down to Haddington and a couple of games in Glasgow. Tuesday evenings during June - August we plan to host a community cricket festival to encourage those of have never played or not in many years to get involved. The format is still being finalised, and it is likely to be 8-side soft ball without the need for pads and helmets. Open to all over the age of 13 with all equipment supplied. More will follow in future issues.

Junior cricket will be catered for with camps in the Easter holidays, a summer programme from 20 – 24 July and a camp at Easter. Additional junior sessions might be arranged depending on volunteer helpers. We are in discussion with Live Active about coaching support.

We are currently discussing a club tour to watch one of The Hundred fixtures at Headingley or Durham. Again, more to follow.

2026 is the 173rd season for the club and we expect it to be a great success on and off the field. If you would like to get involved and play some social cricket, please get in touch via our Facebook page or via our email secretary@kinrosscc.co.uk

Kinross Volleyball

Kinross Christine is Under 18s volleyball star

Under 18 men's and women's Volleyball teams met in Dublin for a three day small countries' division competition. Kinross High School girl Christeen Mitchell was appointed Vice Captain prior to the tournament and was influential in their opening match 3-0 win over Northern Ireland. They followed this with another 3-0 win against Iceland. The match against Ireland was more challenging with Scotland winning a very close match 3-2. Their semi-final match against the Faroe

Islands started will with a 25-16 first set score. The Faroe side upped their game to win the next three sets to reach the final. Scotland played Northern Ireland for the third/fourth playoff position and secured bronze medals winning 25-17; 25-22; 25-16 with Christeen Mitchell scoring the match winning point.

With the Perth & District League season just past the mid way stage our local teams are having mixed results.

In the Premier League the team has played well overall but unforced errors and poor decision making have proved costly.

In the Recreational League the Kinross team has been playing well and has a chance of retaining the title they won last season. The Kinross High School development team is making progress but playing in an adult league has been quite challenging.

Junior indoor training and coaching continues on Monday evenings at the large campus games hall from 8 till 9:45 with a nominal £3 charge to cover hall hire costs. New members welcome – could you be the next Christine Mitchell?

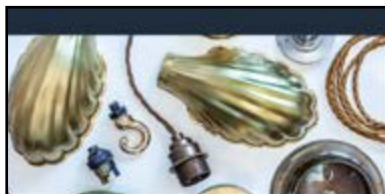


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Mrs Lorraine McMillan,
Morar Road,
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“ **A bit about me...**
Originally from Cowdenbeath, I spent the last 10 years living in Dunfermline. I moved to Gallowhill Road, Kinross in August 2016, with my wife Jacqueline and our two year old son, Calum. I'm a time-served Joiner with 17 years' experience. ”



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RSPB Loch Leven

Facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone: 01577 862355

Photo by Ava Sheehan



FEBRUARY IS ALREADY here, and it won't be long until the days start getting longer, and the weather (hopefully) starts to get warmer. In January the Reserve wetlands were visited by lots of curlew, teal, pochard and wigeon.

At the end of last year we welcomed Samuel, our new Tayside Reserves Warden, who is with us on a six-month contract. He and our Reserve team are hard at work with various conservation and maintenance tasks to keep the Reserve looking good, including lots of scrub clearance.

Our second-hand book sale starts on Monday 2 February. All the money made from the sale goes straight back into conservation to help nature thrive. We are accepting donations of books if you happen to be having a clear out.

We have a busy year of ahead with a variety of events and trails on offer at Loch Leven Reserve, please keep an eye on our Social Media pages for more details. On Saturday 7 and Sunday 8 February 10am-4pm, we'll be holding our first Optics Weekend of the year. On these days you'll be able to try out our range of binoculars and telescopes to find the perfect one for you. Our knowledgeable team will be on hand to answer any questions you have about binoculars and telescopes. We'll also be running our Optics Weekends on 2/3 May 2026.

From 9 February join us for a fun, family self-led trail. Explore the reserve, searching for the hidden animals and find out what each animal does over winter! Pick up a sheet from our Visitor Centre and head out along our trails to find them. You can buy trail sheets in advance, or pop by anytime between 10am and 3pm from Monday 9 February until Sunday 22 February. Trail sheets cost £3 each.

Looking ahead to March we have an Introduction to Birdsong guided walk on Sunday 29 March. These will be led by expert Scott Paterson, and group sizes will be kept small so there will be plenty of opportunities to ask questions. The early months of the year provide a great opportunity to learn bird calls and songs in the field. Join us to explore the woodland and lochside soundscape of Loch Leven and listen out for resident songbirds such as robins, wrens and blackbirds. The walks are aimed at beginners or those wishing to improve their skills. You will receive lots of useful hints and tips throughout the session for identifying a range of species. To find out more about our events programme, visit our website events.rspb.org.uk/lochleven or get in touch using our contact information below.

Our café is open from 10am-3pm and 10am-4pm for the shop and visitor centre, Monday to Sunday. As always, our car park, trails, hides and toilets are open 24/7.

To keep up to date with any changes to our opening hours, please visit our website www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/loch-leven or get in touch on lochleven@rspb.org.uk, 01577 862355. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Elinor Craig

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Take A Gander At The Rare Geese!

Happy New Year from the team at Loch Leven NNR!

WE'RE CERTAINLY HAPPY that the loch thawed quickly after the first week of January where it was about 75% frozen over, even though it does make for a great photo opportunity.

We hope everyone enjoyed our festive character trail again this year, and we want to say a big thank you to our volunteers for all the effort they put in to make it.

In February we've got a nest-box making event for Valentine's Day, with drop-in sessions on Friday 13 and Saturday 14 at our workshop by the pier car park. Keep an eye on our socials for updated details on times.

World Wetlands Day falls on 2 February, and we're celebrating this year with another artistic trail of the wetland birds you can find here at Loch Leven, made by our talented volunteers. It's location is TBC so keep an eye on our socials for that as well, but it will provide a great chance to learn more about the birds here and might help people with their ID skills!

Loch Leven is an internationally important sight for overwintering wildfowl, and for breeding wildfowl in the spring and summer, and because of this we put a lot of work into improving



Above: Robin by Sally Reay. Below left: Ross's Goose by Dan Vickers



habitats and limiting disturbance. Along with the RSPB, we conduct webs counts every two weeks over winter to try and keep track of numbers on the reserve, with our highest count over the last 10 years being 32,001 in 2017.

Over Christmas and New Year we put some camera traps out around the reserve, and got some lovely footage of roe deer, hares, fox and pine marten! In January we were also lucky enough to find a Ross's Goose and two Russian white-fronted geese in a field with a large flock of pink-footed geese near the loch. Ross's geese are a rare site in the UK, as they breed in northern Canada and overwinter in North America.

Interesting wildlife behaviour to look out for is courtship, the most interesting of which is done by goldeneye and great-crested grebe. Male goldeneye have up to 14 different 'moves' that they use to impress the females, and you can see them doing this throughout winter. There are no records of goldeneye nesting at Loch Leven, and after overwintering here they will head further north after establishing a pair bond. Almost all of the UK's breeding records are in Scotland, and only just north of where we are. We make and put up artificial nest boxes to try and encourage them to breed here, but so far haven't had any success, although the boxes are very popular among stock doves.

Sally Reay, Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer

Weather

Recent Weather Reports From Kinross December 2025

Total Rainfall	142mm/5.7in	
Heaviest Fall	21.3mm/0.85in	(13 Dec)
Total Sunshine	17.8 hrs	
Sunniest Day	3.8 hrs	(1 Dec)
Max Temp Average	7.53°C	
Highest Temp	14.6°C	(9 Dec)
Min Temp Average	-0.51°C	
Lowest Temp	-9.6°C	(30 Dec)



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Fantastic Frost for Farmers

AFTER A VERY mild end to the year 2025, temperatures dropped sharply and 2026 began with fresh, clear air and keen frost. We were very fortunate here in *Newsletter* country to avoid the heavy snow which caused havoc further north, instead only having icy conditions to deal with. The frost was very welcome for farmers in a number of ways. First, the low temperatures help to kill off pathogens on the land and in the soil, which helps to control disease in animals and crops and helps induce a dormancy period in plants to mark the change of seasons.

On a day-to-day basis, the main benefit is that conditions are cleaner and drier around the farm yard and in the fields. It is a very pleasant change after two months of fairly persistent muddy, wet conditions. Obviously, you have to be careful when walking or driving as ice can create some dangerous and unpredictable conditions and thawing out frozen water supplies can take a lot of time, but, in general, so long as it isn't too severe, clean, dry, frosty weather is very much appreciated by farmers.

Here at Backward Farm, the frost made the daily job of feeding the pigs much more pleasant, although the downside was that more water had to be taken out to them. We were also able to muck out some dung from the cattle sheds and heap it up out in the fields without making any mess as well as gathering in the last of the straw bales which were still to be brought in from a field as the ground had become too soft to move them, so it helped us catch up with a few jobs which were needing done.

Of course, when the thaw finally happens, the land often seems wetter, stickier and slimier than it was before it froze. You might even notice that when walking on gravel or hardcore surfaces they seem soft and spongy.

This is due to the water in these areas expanding as it freezes, causing them to lift or heave. Then, when the ice crystals melt, they shrink, leaving the surface loose and soft. This is the same principle of erosion which causes rocks to shatter and which farmers harness to 'weather' soil to help create fine seed beds for planting crops into.

It is particularly useful in clay type soil which can stick together and prove difficult to break down into a fine seedbed or tilth. Ploughing these soils early in the season exposes the soil to the freeze-thaw or wet-dry changes causing cracks to open and the soil structure to crumble.

It is also the same principle which causes potholes in roads – it is always noticeable that even more appear after a frost. This is why the weather is such a huge topic of discussion, in particular for farmers.

What is good or bad weather can be very subjective and can change according to the situation or season. The 'wrong weather' at a given time isn't just a nuisance, it can be expensive – but then, I think I might have mentioned that before!

John



A snowy field, photo by Jenny Beveridge



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- 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



LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Loch Leven Explorers

Loch Leven Explorers are looking for volunteers to assist with running the unit. The Explorer programme follows on from Scouts and supports young people gain useful life skills, leadership, community service and have meaningful outdoor adventures. No prior Scouting experience needed.

Find out more at: lochlevenexplorers@hotmail.com

Milnathort Filmhouse

Come join our brilliant community cinema group. We do screenings every couple of months in the wonderful Milnathort Town Hall. Help choose the films and dish out the popcorn! Email us milnathortfilmhouse@gmail.com or contact Janieann McCracken on 077450 12315

Could You Mentor A Young Person?

Grandmentors matches volunteer mentors (usually aged 50+) with young people (16-26) who are care experienced or have had adverse childhood experiences. We provide training and support during your mentorship. If you would like to give a little time to help a young person take steps towards independence, or hear more about the project, please get in touch at perthandkinross@volunteeringmatters.org.uk

The Kinross-shire Partnership

Kinross-shire Partnership is looking for help to manage the Mobility Scooters, the website www.kinross.cc, organise the Better Place To Live Fair, Networking Breakfasts and the Community Champion Award Event. Please email Richard on: kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com or call 07999 510500. We would love to hear from you.

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 please join us! Contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org.uk or call 07979 064345.

RSPB Loch Leven

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

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

The museum, based at the Campus, depends on a small group of volunteers who undertake research, and answer queries sent from around the world. Email information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk or call into the museum when the study room is open (Saturday 10am-1pm or Thursdays 10am-7pm).

Swansacre Playgroup

Our long-established charity playgroup is welcoming volunteers for flexible and rewarding roles including fundraising, garden upkeep, lunch preparation and committee support. No experience necessary. Please contact swansacre.chair@gmail.com for more information.

Kinross Heart Start

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

Common Grounds

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/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.

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.

Duke of Edinburgh

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

Interested in Guiding?

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

Friends of CHAS Kinross

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

Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers

Could you become a volunteer driver for the Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers? We deliver a vital service to help the elderly and disabled attend healthcare appointments. For further information please contact the administrator 01577 840196 or email administrator@kvd.org.uk

Guide Dogs Kinross

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

1st Kinross Cubs

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

Kinross in Bloom

Volunteer group which provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment in Kinross. Contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com.

Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights. Email mbs21@btinternet.com

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

Weekly Programme For February

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (2 Feb ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Careers Drop in (? Feb ONLY)	10.30am-3pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble, Dominoes	1.30pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (3, 17 Feb ONLY)	10-11.45am
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	10.00am
	Relaxation Class (10, 24 Feb ONLY)	11.30am
	Trishaws <i>STARTING SOON!</i> (weather permitting)	1.30pm
	Singing Group (10 Feb ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Curling, Quizzes etc	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Reminiscence Group (4 Feb ONLY)	1.30pm
	Fun Quiz	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes	1.30pm
	Craft Group (11, 25 Feb ONLY)	1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (19 Feb – appts ONLY)	10am-1pm
	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Exercise Class with Kenny	11.30am
	Games: Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
Friday	Exercise Group (9, 16, 23, 30 Feb ONLY)	11.30am
	Valentine's Lunch (13 Feb ONLY)	12-1.30pm
	Trishaws <i>STARTING SOON!</i> (weather permitting)	1.30pm
	Board Games	1.30pm
	Bingo	1.30pm
	Life Story Books	1.30pm



Film shows • Cards
Dominoes • Art Class
Exercises • Chiropody
Trips • Daily Papers

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

We would 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.

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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for start-ups

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competitive print prices
leaflet and flyer design & print
corporate stationery
photography and video
photo manipulation
vehicle livery and shop signage



CreeB Kinross Business Centre 62 The Mairs Kinross KY13 8AJ
tel: 01577 863186 mob: 07900 403 708 email: lee@creeB.co.uk

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Kinross-shire Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC015523)

Worshipping God – Following Christ – Serving the Community

The local Church of Scotland congregations united in 2025 to become 'Kinross-shire Parish Church'.

This is formed from the previous congregations of Arngask, Cleish, Fossoway, Kinross, and Orwell & Portmoak. The new congregation holds worship and events across the parish, but primarily at its three worship centres of Fossoway Church (Crook of Devon), Kinross Church and Orwell Church (Milnathort).

The individual diaries for each worship centre are below.

Ministry Team

Charge A, based in Kinross: **Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD**

Tel: (01577) 862952

Charge B, currently vacant, to be based in Crook of Devon.

Applications for this vacancy are now being assessed.

Interim Moderator for the Charge B vacancy: **Rev. Marc Prowse**

Associate Minister (Orwell): **Rev Dr Robert Calvert**

Locum Minister (Cleish and Fossoway): **Rev Christine Sime;**

Probationer Minister: **Alex Johnson**

Kinross Church

Part of Kinross-shire Parish Church

Kinross Church: 10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Kinross Church Centre: 64 High St, Kinross, KY13 8AJ

Website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: *Kinross Parish Worship*; Instagram: *kpscotland*

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Kinross Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri.

Otherwise operating remotely. Leave a phone message or email.

Contact the Kinross Church Office for the weekly email of events and Zoom details.

REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS IN KINROSS

Events are in Kinross Church unless otherwise indicated.

Sundays

9.15am **Choir Practice**

10.30am **Morning Service:** There is often a 'gathering song' about 10.25am

For Young People: Junior Church (age 4 -11) meets in the Upper Room from 10.30am then joins in at the end. There is a corner in the church for parents with babies/toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services

Sunday morning services are also available online, live on YouTube and Facebook. Thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD

6.00pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom

6.00pm: **Crossfire**, church centre. Age P7 & up.

7.00pm: **Sunday@7** informal worship fortnightly.

Mondays

10am-12pm: **Kinross Church Office** open to visitors

2.00pm: **Bridge and Board Games Afternoon.**

7.30pm: **Adult Dungeons and Dragons** fortnightly

7.30pm: **House Group** Bible study & fellowship.

Tuesdays

10-11.30am: **Stepping Stones** for babies, toddlers and carers.

2.30pm: **House Group.**

7.00pm: **Guild** fortnightly (now finished for the winter)

Wednesdays

11.15am **Midweek Service**, in the Church Centre Garden Room.

1.30pm: **Craft Group.**

7.45pm: **Men's House Group.**

8.00pm: **Women's House Group.**

Thursdays

10.30am: **House Group**

11am-12pm: **Table Talk** – chat on Zoom.

8.00pm: **Young Mum's House Group** on Zoom.

Fridays

10am-12pm: **Kinross Church Office** open to visitors.

5.30pm: **Youth Dungeons and Dragons** (fortnightly)

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association, (Church Centre)

6pm-7.15pm **Anchor Section** (P1-P3)

7pm-9.00pm **Junior Section** (P4-P6)

7pm-9.30pm **Company Section** (P7-S3)

7pm-9.30pm **Senior Section** (S4-S6)

OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS

In Kinross Church unless otherwise indicated.

FEBRUARY 2026

Sun 1 **10.30am: Morning Service** followed by **informal Communion at 11.45am**

Fri 6 **5.30pm: Youth Dungeons and Dragons**

Mon 2 **8am: Guided Silent Meditation**

Sun 8 **2.30pm: Let's Sing in Church Centre.** Tea and a sing for all, but especially for those living with dementia and their carers

7pm: Sunday@7: Informal worship

Mon 9 **7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons**

Thu 19 **9pm: Evening service of Compline**

Fri 20 **5.30pm: Youth Dungeons and Dragons**

Sat 21 **11am: All Friends Together** for adults with learning disabilities

Sun 22 **7pm: Sunday@7:** Informal worship

Mon 23 **7.30pm: Adult Dungeons and Dragons**

Cleish and Fossoway

Part of Kinross-shire Parish Church

Cleish Church: Cleish, Kinross-shire, KY13 0LR

Fossoway Church: Church Road, Crook of Devon,

Kinross-shire, KY13 0PQ

Our churches are very warm and welcoming places. Fossoway Church is situated in Crook of Devon and services are held here weekly. Cleish Church is situated in Cleish, services are held monthly. Come and join us – we would love to meet you. All are welcome at any of our meetings and services.

If you would like any more information, please contact:

Christine Sime: 07759 463448, revcsime@gmail.com

Anne McKay: 07766 418016, annemckay90@gmail.com

Christine Maclure: 07704 884584, maclure19@gmail.com

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our

church website: <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>,

or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fossowaychurch>

The following services will take place at Fossoway Church, unless otherwise stated:

FEBRUARY

Sun 1 Feb: Sunday Morning Worship
9.45am (Fossoway) & 11.15am (Cleish)

Fairtrade stall and refreshments after both services

Sun 8 Feb: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship,
Refreshments will be available after the service

Sun 15 Feb: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship,
Refreshments will be available after the service

Sun 22 Feb: 9.45am Sunday Morning Worship
and Celebration of Holy Communion

Refreshments will be available after the service

Still Searching?

There's so much still to discover.

Come and join us as we take a look at The Bible.

Bring yourself, your thoughts, your questions as we discuss passages and themes.

Tuesdays 2pm – 3pm in the hall (until 17th Feb)

REFRESH THURSDAY

Thursdays 2.00pm - 4.00pm in Fossoway Church Hall
Join us for a friendly blether with delicious home baking, tea, and coffee. All are welcome.

FOSSOWAY CHURCH CHOIR

Our church choir meets every Sunday morning before morning worship and our wonderful organists run through the hymns that we will be singing during worship. There is no need to read music as the organist helps us to learn what we need to know. We also meet from time to time to practice for special projects e.g. Easter, Christmas. We are a friendly group of people and would love to welcome new members with open arms.

FILM NIGHT

Fri 6 Feb 7.30pm: DOWNTON ABBEY – THE GRAND FINALE (PG)

Its time to say goodbye! When Mary finds herself at the centre of a public scandal and the family face financial trouble, the whole household grapples with the threat of disgrace. The Crawleys must embrace change as the staff prepare for a new chapter with the next generation leading Downton Abbey into the future.

Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits. Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether. All welcome.

FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

Every Friday 9.30 – 11.30am, in Fossoway Church Hall.

Join us for snacks, play and blether.

FOSSOWAY CREATIVE CRAFTERS GROUP

Meets on Monday evenings from 6.30pm at Fossoway.

Please bring your own craft and join us.

CROOK YOUTH CLUB

Term-Time Weekly Drop In. Every Thurs 6 – 8pm at Fossoway

Come along! It's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats! For all young people aged 11-19yrs old. Completely free! Check the KYTHE Facebook page and Instagram account for more details and up-to-date information.

FOSSOWAY HOUSE GROUP

Our House Group usually meets **every Thursday evening at 7.30pm.**

For more details, please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268

HALL BOOKINGS

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms, please contact:
Kinross-shire Parish Church on (01577) 862570
or email: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Orwell and Portmoak Churches**Part of Kinross-shire Parish Church****Sunday Worship, and Junior Church:**

Sunday morning services in Orwell Church at 10.30am. All children welcome.

Family services with the Praise Band will be held on the first Sunday of each month, except January.

No morning services will be held in Portmoak Church, but there will be a service on the last Sunday of each month until the building is sold, as detailed in the diary dates.

Messy Church will meet on Sat 28 Feb. from 4-6pm at Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, activities, fun, and food.

FEBRUARY

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1 Feb | Family service with the Praise Band |
| 3 Feb | Guild Friendship Group in Orwell Hall 2 - 3:30pm |
| 5 Feb | Ashley House Service at 2pm. |
| 13 Feb | Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 2 - 3:30pm |
| 22 Feb | Praise Service, Portmoak Church at 3pm |
| 27 Feb | Oasis Ladies Group, Portmoak New Room 10:15 - 12pm |



DISCOVER LOCH LEVEN ON FACEBOOK

To discover myriad things to see and do in Kinross and the surrounding area, see

Visit Loch Leven

The Church Office and Shop is open 10am-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide
Anglican Communion)
Muirs, Kinross, KY13 8AY



Website: *Sorry – not available at present*

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

Rector: We are currently without a Rector. During the vacancy, **Contacts** for church business and pastoral care including baptisms, weddings and funerals are:

Interim Pastor: Rev Elaine Ryder e-mail revelaine212@gmail.com
07977 101742 (texts preferred) Not Tuesdays

Chair of Vestry: at present we do not have a Chair of Vestry

Peter Croft is acting as contact in the interim.

e-mail malajafli@gmx.com

Associate Priest: Rev Fliss Shaw

e-mail rev.fmshaw@btinternet.com 07546 219938

Our Sunday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. These are usually Sung Eucharists (worship with Communion). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

We hope in the future to provide regular updates on our website concerning our schedule of worship.

Our services are broadcast from the church as livestreams via Zoom (please email us for links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal Sung Eucharist e-booklets and the weekly pewsheets.

We look forward to seeing you in person or online. All are welcome!

Our meeting room is available for hire at competitive rates.

FEBRUARY EVENTS AND SERVICES

NB: Ash Wednesday is the only midweek Communion service this month.

Sun 1 Presentation of the Lord (Candlemas)

10am: Sung Eucharist.

Sun 8 Epiphany 5

10am: Sung Eucharist

Sun 15 Sunday before Lent

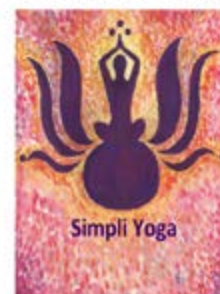
10am: Sung Eucharist

11am: Fairtrade Stall in the Hall

Wed 18 Ash Wednesday

10am: said Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes

Yoga & Meditation



Public Classes & Online

Come along and enjoy a balanced guided practise for your mind and body in Kinross or Perth. Morning and evening sessions available locally or online. We offer sessions for adults, kids, pregnancy and babies.

www.simpliyoga.com

Churches

Sun 22 Lent 1
10am: Sung Eucharist

MARCH

Sun 1 Lent 2
10am: Sung Eucharist

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com

Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10:30am each Sunday.

Our current sermon series is 'The King & His Kingdom: The Gospel of Matthew' and in February we'll be hosting the following services:

1 February - Matthew 4:1-11: Temptation and testing in the wilderness (Graeme Gunn, LLC)

8 February - Matthew 4:12-25: The beginning of Jesus' ministry (Ross Simmons, Tayside Christian Fellowship)

15 February - Matthew 5:1-12: The ingredients of true happiness (David Wylie, Greenview Evangelical Church)

22 February - Matthew 5:13-16: Salt and light (Will Cotrell, Tayside Christian Fellowship)

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



St. James' RC Church

Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld

5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW

Te: 01577 863329 Mob: 07540 534480

E-mail: stjames@dunkelldioocese.org.uk

Website: www.catholicinross.com Weekly newsletter available online

Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Des Conners

TIMES OF HOLY MASS

Sat: Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sun: Holy Mass at 10am

Confessions after Vigil Mass

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Tel 07818 050785

Gospel Meeting: Sundays 4pm

Toddlers' Group: Thurs 9.30-11am

Explorers (Primary School): Thurs 6-7pm

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All are welcome.



Alpha Youth
Join a Conversation on Life, Faith and Purpose
On Sundays in Kinross Church Centre
Starting Sunday 11th January
Then every week till Sunday 8th March
10.15am till 11.45am
Includes breakfast
(Full day away on Sun 15th Feb)
Everyone welcome P7-S6

Death Notices

HEATHER ROSS

IT IS WITH great sadness that we announce the passing of Heather Ross after a short illness. Heather's burial took place in Inverness on Friday 30 January 2026. She was a devoted wife and carer to her husband Harold, mother to James, Sophie and Emily and grandmother to Alysia, Louisa and Fraser.

The family would like to thank everyone for their support and kindness. Many people throughout Kinross knew Heather and the family, she will be greatly missed.

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

ALL PROFITS RETURNED
TO THE COMMUNITY

Here if you
need us
Talk to us, we'll listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

SAMARITANS



Providing a safe environment over warm drinks and 'eats' for those who identify as neurodiverse to socialize and find mutual empowerment.

Providing an environment that is as inclusive, comfortable and welcoming as possible to those with differing needs, including those who are non-verbal (including dimmed lighting and a craft table.)

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)*

AN EVENING WITH ENDURANCE ADVENTURE ATHLETE

JAMIE RAMSAY

hosted by world-record cyclist

MARK BEAUMONT

Weds 25 Feb 2026, 6.30pm
@ Cleish Church
Kinross-shire, KY13 0LR

Join us for an evening with two of Scotland's leading endurance athletes, Jamie Ramsay and Mark Beaumont. Mark, famed for his record-breaking cycling feats, will interview Jamie on endurance, motivation, and what it takes to push human limits. To raise funds for Cleish Village Trust.



TICKETS

[BIT.LY/RAMSAY-CLEISH](https://bit.ly/Ramsay-Cleish)

BOOK TICKETS ONLINE

By donation to Cleish Village Trust

£10.00 suggested minimum

Doors open @ 6pm

- www.cleishvillagetrust.org/fundraising-events/
- info@cleishvillagetrust.org



Proceeds to Cleish Village Trust SCIO.
 A charity registered with OSCR
 (SC053691)



Kinross She Shed

Save the Date

When: 5th February 2026
 Where: Kinross Rugby Club
 Time: 6.30pm

The Kinross She Shed committee invite you to an
Open evening
 at Kinross Rugby Club with drinks and nibbles.

We want to discuss our ideas for this year and to hear your ideas about how best to use our funds. Ideas suggested so far include a board game evening, supper club, jewellery design workshop, pottery, crystal/tarot cards, theatre trips and so much more!

Come along and find out more!
 Open to all women in Kinross-shire.

Love,
 Hazel, Hannah, Susan,
 Shirley, Zoe, Karen and Kim

Gaelic Society of Perth

THE FEBRUARY CÈILIDH will be on 20 February at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Tay St, Perth. The Perth Gaelic Choir will perform and there will be other singers and instrumentalists on the night. Come along and practice your Gaelic, and enjoy the brilliant refreshments at half time! Admission on the door is £10 for non-members and £6 for members for a great evening's entertainment.

MUSIC IN DOLLAR



THIS FEBRUARY we have two Community events at Dollar. A 'Come and Sing' Afternoon on Sunday, 1 February at 2pm with the wonderful Brian McBride as Tutor. Details will be on the website, Community event, free to all. On 22 February we have an extra 'We play piano' event after the very successful one in November. This will start at 2pm and will feature a range of talented young pianists. Free to all. **All concerts/events at the Gibson Hall, Dollar Academy, Dollar, FK14 7DU**

GET INVOLVED

KINROSS-SHIRE RED SQUIRREL GROUP

HELP SAVE RED SQUIRRELS

AND PROTECT NATIVE SPECIES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

The Kinross-shire Red Squirrel Group is a volunteer-led group looking for new members to help monitor squirrel populations in the area and educate others about the plight of the red squirrel




If you would like to find out more about the group, let us know about what you are already doing to help or find out how you can get involved - please email us at: kinrossshireredsquirrelgroup@gmail.com





ISP LAUNCH EVENT

Sign up using the QR code above

FEBRUARY 4, 2-4 PM



Intensive Support Provision

ALL MEMBERS OF OUR KHS COMMUNITY ARE WELCOME

VOLUNTEER WITH US!



www.barnardos.org.uk

WHAT

Perth and Kinross-Hopscotch and Space4U

- Befriending/Mentoring
- 1:1 roles and 2:1 roles
- Roles with children and young people
- Roles with parents

WHEN

- Monday - Sunday
- During the day (parent roles)
- After school, early evenings and weekends (children/young people roles)

WHO

- Volunteer from age 17 upwards (lone working once 18+)
- Passionate & enthusiastic
- Want to make a difference to children and young people who have additional support needs, impacted by substance use in the family setting

WHY

- Build up experience & skills
- Rewarding
- Making a difference to others
- Robust induction and training opportunities

More information & apply

Louise Rowe
Volunteer Co-ordinator
07597592559
louise.rowe@barnardos.org.uk



You will be provided with induction training, ongoing support and supervision in your role. Volunteers will be required to complete a PVG Disclosure check

PKAVS CARERS CENTRE IN THE COMMUNITY

Where to find us in Kinross

Kinross Day centre
(run by The Kinross Centre)

1030am - 12pm, the third Thursday of the month

Kinross Church Centre, 64 High Street, Kinross

A member of our Adult Carers Team will be available to chat with you.

Please feel free to drop in.




CONTACT US

01738 567076

Carersshortbreaks@pkavs.org.uk



Scottish Charity Number: SC005561 Companies House Registration Number: SC086065

100th BIRTHDAY AND DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their **100th or 105th+ birthday**?
Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their **60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary**?

Online forms for presentation requests are via the Lieutenancy website <https://perthandkinrosslieutenancy.org.uk/>

PKC can arrange for delivery of a basket of flowers, or for a local Councillor to present the flowers. **For more information:** Please contact lordlieutenancy@pkc.gov.uk, or call 01738 475009.

Step up!



**Make a Difference
Where You Live**

Be the voice your
neighbourhood needs
and join your local
community council.

Music.
KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL

CONCERT SERIES 25/26
13:25
LOCH LEVEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY
TUESDAYS THURSDAYS

OCT 7TH
FEB 10TH
MAR 26TH
JUN 2ND
DEC 18TH

ARTS.
KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL

A MESSAGE FROM NATURESCOT

There is currently no water access on Loch Leven until April. No kayaks, no paddleboards, no swimmers – or any variation on those!

This is to protect the massive population of wintering wildfowl. We must do everything we can to protect them from any disturbance.

**THANK YOU IN ADVANCE
FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION.**

Ladies
QUIZ NIGHT

Fundraiser for Swansacre Playgroup
(Scottish Registered Charity SC017748)

Saturday 28th February, 7pm - 10pm

Tickets: £15
Includes a glass of fizz on arrival
& nibbles
— BYOB —
Milnathort Guide Hall



ASSET

AERO SPACE SCIENTIFIC EDUCATIONAL TRUST

Notice of AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on
Thursday 26 February 2026 at 10AM
By Video Conference



EASE
END OF LIFE AID SKILLS
FOR EVERYONE

End of Life Aid Skills for Everyone (EASE) is a learning opportunity to help you feel more confident and comfortable supporting others through dying, death, and bereavement. EASE is for anyone who wants to be better prepared to support family, friends, or community members facing the end-of-life. Whether you're currently caring for someone or simply want to be ready to offer support in the future, this course, developed by the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care, could be for you.

Dates: Tues 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th Feb 2026 (must attend all dates)
Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm
Venue: Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross, KY13 8FQ



You can find more info at www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk or to note your interest please use the QR Code or call 01764 653173.






Employability Support Drop-in
Loch Leven Community Campus

ICT Meeting Room 2 (access through library)
8th January, 12th February, 12th March
10:00am - 12:30pm

Job search
Training & volunteering opportunities
Interview skills
CVs/applications

Contact Chris: CForber@pkc.gov.uk / 07352 743578

P & K SCHOOL TERM DATES

In-Service Day: Wednesday 11 February 2026
Occasional Holidays: Thurs 12 & Fri 13 Feb 2026

THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

All Profits Returned To The Community

STEPPING STONES



Weekly in Kinross Parish Church Tuesdays, 10-11.30am.

Stepping Stones is for parents, carers, babies and toddlers.
ALL WELCOME




Rotary Kinross & District

CASINO & Curry Night

When:
Saturday 28th March 2026
Doors open at 7pm

Where:
Kinross Rugby Club

Tickets:
£25.00 per person
Price includes a welcome drink on arrival, a delicious curry, and £10 of chips.
(more chips can be purchased on the night)

Proudly supporting Rachel House
Our local Children's Hospice



For tickets, please contact secretary_kdrc@gmail.com
07380 414637

Follow us on Facebook



Better Place to Live Fair

Kinross is a **thriving** community!

Join us at the **Better Place to Live Fair** for a great day celebrating all that makes this a wonderful place to live.

Loch Leven Community Campus
Saturday 28th March, 2026
10am – 2pm



Scan the QR Code to book a stall



Free. Drop in.
All ages welcome
Saturday 7th February
1-3pm
Kinross High School

Chinese New Year Fair
Year of the Horse 2026

FOOD TASTING & MAKING

TRADITIONAL CRAFTS

GAMES & LION DANCE

For more information/enquiry contact: yyan@pkc.gov.uk

Carnbo Community Hall Talks 2026

MONDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2026
7.30PM
POLLY PULLAR
SAVING THE RED SQUIRREL

MONDAY 2ND MARCH 2026
7.30PM
RYAN MACDONALD
EXO PLANETS & THE SEARCH FOR ALIEN LIFE

carnbohall@gmail.com
07917 319003

ALL WELCOME, REFRESHMENTS TO FOLLOW
PKC WARM WELCOME FUND
REG CHARITY SC015354



CARNBO AND DISTRICT COMMUNITY HALL ASSOC

MOBILE LIBRARY

18 FEBRUARY

www.culturepk.org.uk/library/mobile-library

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
Causeway Court	11:40 – 12:00
Powmill (Mill Gardens)	13:20 – 13:40
Crook of Devon (Village Inn)	13:45 – 14:30
Carnbo (Pitcairnie Lane)	14:45 – 15:15
Whyte Court (Kinross)	15:30 – 16:00

Contact us by phone on 01577 867205
or by email at lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
March	Friday 13 February	Saturday 28 February

KINROSS RECYCLING CENTRE

Bridgend Industrial Estate

Monday, Thursday and Friday 9am-4pm
(last entry 3.45pm)

Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm
(last entry 3.45pm)

THE RECYCLING CENTRE WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS

Bicycles	Engine Oil	Rigid Plastic Packaging
Books	Fluorescent, LED & Long Life Light Bulbs	Rubble
Bras	Fridges & Freezers	Scrap Metal
Bulky Goods	Garden Waste	Soil
Car Batteries	Glass	Stone
Cardboard	Household Batteries	Telephone Directories
Cartons and Paper containers with metal ends	Large Domestic Appliances	Textiles <i>(Clothes & Shoes)</i>
Cooking Oil	Non-Recyclable Waste <i>(General Waste)</i>	Timber
Electrical & Electronic Equipment <i>(WEEE - remove & recycle batteries separately)</i>	Paper	Car Tyres <i>(maximum two per day, strictly household only)</i>

Free compost available *(subject to availability).*

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/https://www.perthcab.org.uk/contact-us

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.



**MOBILE POST VAN AT
BUCHAN AVENUE,
KINNESSWOOD**

**MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45
WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45**

Homes For Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



**KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE
ROYAL MAIL**

87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Baby & Toddler Groups

MONDAY

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

TUESDAY

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall
9.45-11.30am

Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

WEDNESDAY

Breast Buddies
Health Centre 10-12pm

Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers
Village Hall 9.30am

Muckhart Babies and Toddlers
Church Hall 9.30-11am

THURSDAY

Montgomery Toddlers
Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

FRIDAY

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers
Crook of Devon Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Medical

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252
NHS 24	111
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219

Police, non-emergency 101

Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0800 0778 778

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline (voicemail)	01738 476173
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0141 465 1878

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

Community Councils

Cleish & Blairadam: Chair: Francis Principe-Gillespie
Email: cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com

Fossoway & District: Chair: Nicola Marchant
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Glenfarg: Chair: Douglas Fraser
Email: secretary@glenfarg.org

Kinross: Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort & Orwell: Chair: Neill Bingham
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Andy Miller
Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

David West Chair
Chris Collins Secretary
Margaret West Treasurer
Members Roy Gilmour, Hannah Collins

Have a look at our website www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller Chair E: Chair@portmoak.org
Ann Davidson Treasurer
Sue McGregor Secretary E: secretary@portmoak.org
Dave Patterson Member
Kenneth Donaldson Associated Member

Have a look at our website www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

CLr DAVE CUTHBERT (*Independent*)
Tel: 01738 475110
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

CLr NEIL FRESHWATER (*Scottish Conservative & Unionist*)
Tel (office): 01738 475108
Email: nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire

CLr WILLIE ROBERTSON (*Scottish Liberal Democrats*)
Mobile: 07909 884042
Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

CLr RICHARD WATTERS (*SNP*)
Mobile: 07557 812513
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk

Pete Wishart MP

Member of Parliament for Perth and Kinross-shire

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
Telephone: 01738 639598
Email Pete.wishart.mp@parliament.uk

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Jim Fairlie, MSP

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
Telephone: 01738 620540
Email: Jim.Fairlie.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:
The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour)

Email: claire.baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative)

Email: murdo.fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Roz McCall MSP (Conservative)

Email: roz.McCall.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour)

Email: alex.rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green)

Email: mark.ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative)

Email: elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative)

Email: alexander.stewart.msp@parliament.scot

KINROSS GARDEN GROUP

2025/2026 Season

Thursday 12 February at 2pm

Kinross Parish Church

Peter Hart

'Developing the gardens at Saline'

All welcome to join us.

GRANTS FOR GOOD CAUSES

**Kinross Community Council
Newsletter Limited (KCCNL),
Charity No. SC040913**



All profits from the *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 at kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Diary

February

Sun	1	Kinross Show Event, Millbridge Hall
Sun	1/14	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Meets – see clubs entry
Mon	2	Cleish and Blairadam Community Council meets
Mon	2	Book Sale, RSPB Loch Leven
Mon	2	Carnbo Hall Talk: Polly Pullar – Saving the Red Squirrel
Tues	3	Fossoway Community Council meets
Tues	3	Climate Cafe Meets, library
Tues	3	Trishaws Information Evening
Wed	4	Networking Breakfast, Green Hotel
Wed	4	Intensive Support Provision Open Day, Kinross High School 2-4pm
Thurs	5	She Sheds Open Evening, Rugby Club 6.30pm
Sat	7	Chinese New Year Fair, Campus, 1-3pm
Mon	9	Kinross Community Council meets
Tues	10	KHS Free Lunchtime Concert, library
Tues	10	Portmoak Community Council meets
Tues	10	Kinross Handcraft Circle, Gateside Memorial Hall, 9.45am - 12.15
Wed	11	Carnbo Coffee and Chat 10-12am
Wed	11	Perth and Kinross Schools Inservice day
Thurs/Fri	12/13	Perth and Kinross Schools holidays
Thurs	12	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Thurs	12	Garden Group meets, see Club Entry
Fri	13	Employability Support Drop in, Campus 10am -12.30
Fri	13	Kinross Newsletter Deadline for March issue
Fri	13	Love Your Library Day (Drop in for free events 10am -3pm)
Sat	14	Repair Cafe, library
Sat	14	Portmoak Film Society shows ‘In The Mood For Love’
Mon	16	Kinross Historical Society Talk ‘Tales of the Forth’ at Kinross Parish Church
Tues	17	Kinross Handcraft Circle, Rag Rug Workshop, Gateside Memorial Hall, 10am-3pm
Tues	17	Greener Kinross-shire AGM, library
Tues	24	Kinross Handcraft Circle, Gateside Memorial Hall, 9.45 a.m. - 12.15
Fri	27	Kinross Show Comedy Night, Rugby Club

March

Mon	2	Glenfarg Community Council meets
Mon	2	Carnbo Hall Talk, Ryan Macdonald – Exo Planets And The Search For Alien Life

The Kinross Newsletter is available from:

Greens of Kinross
Premier Stores
Read & Relax
Sainsbury’s
Giacopazzi’s
Keystore More
Giacopazzi’s
Stewart & Smart

High Street, Kinross
 High Street, Kinross
 High Street, Kinross
 Station Road, Kinross
 Lathro, Kinross
 Green Road, Kinross
 New Road, Milnathort
 Stirling Road, Milnathort

Heaven Scent
Lochend Farm Shop
Kinnesswood Shop
Fossoway Stores
Mona’s Coffee Shop
Powmill Stores
Loch Leven’s Larder
Glenfarg Village Shop

South Street, Milnathort
 Scotlandwell
 Main Street, Kinnesswood
 Crook of Devon
 Muckhart
 Powmill
 Near Wester Balgedie
 Glenfarg