



# Kinross Newsletter

Founding editor,  
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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October 2025

## DEADLINE

**for the November Issue**  
**5pm,**  
**Friday 17 October, 2025**  
for publication on  
**Saturday 1 November, 2025**

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

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

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**Advertising** Julia Fulton **Treasurer and Subscriptions** Ross McConnell **Distribution** David Anderson

## Letter From The Editor

I WAS AMAZED to discover that after 192 complaints to PKC about dog fouling in public places, only two fixed penalty notices were issued in a whole year in all of Perth and Kinross. It would be wonderful to think you could just appeal to people's sense of pride in the area and their civic responsibility, but unfortunately that doesn't seem to be enough to prevent growing problems like this.

The only way to really make a difference in this area would seem to be to report it, so please, report it, every time you see it, at [www.pkc.gov.uk/dogfouling](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/dogfouling). Perhaps if there are thousands of complaints, there will be hundreds of prosecutions? As for how many dog wardens there are to cover the whole of Perth and Kinross? You guessed it – just one.

### 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.

### Note to Readers: Advertising

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### Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council  
CC: Community Council

Cllr: Councillor  
CCllr: Community Councillor

On a more positive note, it was great to catch up with lots of people at the recent CAP event in the Millbridge Hall. Community Action Plans are used to capture the views of local people and to set them out formally in report form, so that they can be used in future decision-making about priorities for the local area. There was some very valuable input and opinions gathered so well done to everyone who was involved.

Lots of people came along and voted on their priorities. The event had a really positive vibe and was full of people who were keen to make a difference in their local community. There is so much going on in Kinross-shire that it is easy to get involved with something that matters to you, whatever that might be.

Read more about the survey results and the CAP event on p10. You can see the full reports from the survey at [www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/cap](http://www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/cap).

I enjoyed chatting to lots of people about the *Newsletter*, too, so thank you for coming to say hello! We are always keen to hear from you so if you have ideas for features or want to drop us a letter, we would be glad to hear from you. Feel-good stories are especially welcome at Newsletter Towers. We can all benefit from more of those in our lives given the worrying world events we are witnessing at the moment.

If you want to do something small but important, consider helping with a shoebox scheme in October. You can either fill a shoebox (see the Rotary campaign on p67) or just hand in some small items for children in Ukraine at the Campus – see p15). Both appeals help to bring joy and hope at Christmas to families in need in war-torn countries.

Hannah Collins, Editor

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## Kinross Show Results Correction

PLEASE NOTE THAT there was an error in our Heavy Horse Championship Results printed in the September edition of the *News-letter*.

Stated winner - Robert Sibbald with Shielhill Platinum Queen  
Correct winner - Scott Greenhill with Fordellhill Limelight  
*Kinross Show Committee*

## South Kinross Flood Protection

THE TERM 'historical flooding' has been used by PKC repeatedly to justify the need for their South Kinross Flood Protection Scheme. This is used in combination with the adjectives 'extreme' and/or 'unprecedented', attached to 'weather' or 'rain-fall'.

Consultant Engineers Mouchel were engaged to undertake a flood study in the area by PKC in 2010. The Mouchel Report has a separate section, 3.6, entitled 'Historic Flooding' stating that *..Research in local libraries yielded no useful detailed flood records for the study area.*

The Mouchel Report also states that.. *It is likely that the watercourses would have always been subject to periodic flooding...* as are most watercourses all over Scotland. Especially when un-maintained – in PKC's case as a matter of policy, in breach of their statutory duties prescribed in the FRM 2009 and also in disregard of the Scottish Government guidelines: *Duties of a Local Authority to Assess Bodies of Water and Carry Out Clearance and Repair Works.*

Any recent flooding in Kinross has been the result of under capacity of surface water drains and sewers as a direct result of the increase of house building on the natural flood plains of Kinross.

The flood scheme involves the construction of flood walls and embankments with the design of the foundations such that they can be increased in height in the future. To quote an analogy, if one finds the gutters of one's house overflowing due to the build up of debris and leaves most people would clear the debris and let the water flow again. It appears the Council 'Flood Engineers' would recommend leave the debris and increase the lips on the gutter.

Of the 28 proposed flood prevention schemes, South Kinross flood Prevention scheme languishes at 28 in the list of priorities. In other words to most people it is not considered a priority. PKC interpret it differently, stating it is a priority. Dumfries does have a much more serious problem with flooding due to the river Nith running directly through the centre of the town and would feature high on the priority list. However, the people of Dumfries have overwhelmingly rejected a flood protection scheme in favour of the money being spent on much more needed issues for the Town.

The estimated cost in January 2023 for the South Kinross Flood Protection Scheme was put at £3.8m. The present estimated cost is £15m and by the time it is completed could be well over £30m.

This is a flood scheme based on computer modelling which we know has difficulty predicting tomorrow's weather, let alone predicting a flood of 1 in 200 years which may or may not occur with a flood scheme which may or may not work.

PKC are in debt to the tune of £721m with a projection of £1bn in the next few years. In spite of a large petition to reinstate Bells Sports Centre which the Council destroyed due to their negligence they cited lack of funds to reinstate.

Great emphasis has been placed by PKC on the possible development of a retail park on the old BCA site for the benefit of Kinross, always on the proviso that the flood scheme goes ahead. This to gain support from the general public.

PKC had no intentions of this as their intentions were always to build houses from which PKC will profit. There is now a planning application for 95 houses for this site. It is ironic that all talk of

a retail development stopped around the final date for submissions of objections for the flood scheme. It is also interesting to note that a Flood Risk Assessment was carried out for Redrow Homes as far back as 2007 for the BCA site.

Consultants Mouchel in their report for PKC suggested various options for a flood scheme. Their option A they considered was not a preferred option stating it to be economically unviable with a cost/benefit ratio of 0.56. They suggested more economically viable options utilising the M90 motorway as a natural barrier. For some reason PKC 'requested' consultants RPS to base their scheme on Option A.

The question is, why? Are PKC trying to get increased funding from the public purse to solve their surface/sewer drainage problem (which is of their own making) to enable more housing to be built for their own financial benefit? Also, who paid for the demolition of the BCA site and was planning permission applied for?

*Name and address supplied*

## Ochil Windfarms

*Extracts from a letter sent by email to Councillors*

I FORWARD AN email from the Chair of Fossoway CC re the latest position on Brunthill and Craighead windfarms. I write to express my support for Fossoway CC's actions regarding the latest position on Brunthill and Craighead windfarms in this matter and I believe an expression of disappointment with the lack of engagement by PKC Planning with the Reporter's Unit puts it mildly given the anger I am aware of from objectors to PKC's performance over this issue.

You will recall my letter to the Head of Planning on 25/6/25, copied to yourselves, which eventually elicited a response from two officers from Planning dealing with these windfarms who don't appear to have communicated with each other! They also denied receiving an email from me on 18/3/25 maintaining an objection so I resent it but have had no response from the Case Officer.

The appeal against non-determination of the Craighead proposal by PKC, thereby placing matters with the unelected Reporters Unit is now compounded by PKC failing to respond to a Procedural Notice of 28/7/25 deadline issued by DPEA, failing to provide conditions should the application be granted and as I write failing to review conditions supplied by the applicant only, citing pressure of work and annual leave!

I am not aware that the Planning Committee of PKC have ever been alerted to the situation regarding assessment of these





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GLENFARG - VILLAGE HALL  
SATURDAY 11<sup>th</sup>

MILNATHORT - STEWART + SMART GARAGE  
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PORTMOAK - CHURCH CAR PARK  
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KINROSS - OCHIL VIEW  
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windfarm applications, both of which are now in the hands of Government officials. I am also advised that although ECU applications for windfarms appear with a PKC reference on the planning portal, elected community representatives are not consulted or given a right of audience to the Planning Committee.

In these circumstances I would ask 'how can affected communities press PKC members to object on cumulative impact grounds?' This is important because a local authority objection triggers a public inquiry.

I believe Cllr Robertson was going to write on this matter but if he hasn't done so yet may I respectfully suggest our local members write a joint letter?

I am aware that Cllrs Cuthbert and Watters are on the planning committee but this letter is about procedure and performance, not a planning decision!

I note very recently PKC objected to a windfarm near St Fillans in our local authority area on the grounds of landscape designation but there seems no urgent desire to give the situation in the Ochil Hills due attention. I understand there were fewer local objections to the St Fillans application than there is into these Kinross-shire ones!

I would ask why this issue has not been brought before the Kinross-shire Area Committee given its potential impact on our hill landscape (with adjustments to the application, we are still facing as I understand it over 20 very large turbines on the ridge line of our shire's hills) but as it seems, officers decide the Agenda?

I further note a current application in the Clackmannanshire area of the Ochils so developers continue to target the area because my call for a moratorium on further windfarms in the Ochils in 2012 was not heeded!

I suggest strongly that PKC Planning are failing in their duty to the communities they purport to represent in Kinross-shire and that 'a significant democratic deficit' exists when it comes to the evaluation of on-shore windfarms and their effect on communities!

*Mike Barnacle*

## Public Transport

# Consultation

## Drop-in events

Come along and provide feedback on your local bus services:

- Fishers Hotel, Pitlochry, 24<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 2pm
- Civic Hall, Perth, 25<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 4pm
- Blairgowrie Town Hall, 26<sup>th</sup> September, 10am - 2pm
- Strathearn Arts Crieff, 1<sup>st</sup> October, 11am - 3pm
- Birnam Arts, 2<sup>nd</sup> October, 10am - 2pm
- Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy, 3<sup>rd</sup> October, 10am - 2pm
- Auchterarder Parish Church Centre, 7<sup>th</sup> October, 10am - 2pm
- Kinross Day Centre, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 10am - 2pm
- Errol Village Hall, 9<sup>th</sup> October, 10am - 2pm

[www.pkc.gov.uk/getonboard](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/getonboard)



**getonboard**

Your feedback will help design a new model for public transport in Perth and Kinross

## Thanks!



### Expression Of Thanks...

I WOULD LIKE to express my sincere thanks to all members of the community for the warm welcome I have received since taking up post at Kinross High School and Loch Leven Campus. It has been wonderful to get to know all our young people, staff and families over the past few weeks and I feel incredibly privileged to lead the school and campus whilst Mrs Brown is on secondment.

What has struck me most is the real sense of pride that surrounds Kinross and I am very much looking forward to working and engaging with the community to further support our learners and drive forward ongoing improvements for all.

*Jillian Shaw, Headteacher*

### Thank You!

THE COMMITTEE OF the Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers would like to thank everyone who visited their stall at the Kinross Farmers Market on 23 August. It was so nice to see everyone there and it gave us the good opportunity to chat to people about the service and answer questions from people interested in becoming a volunteer driver.

We are very grateful to everyone who donated prizes for the tombola, which included donations from many of our service users & drivers, Wintons Fine Food, Live Active Loch Leven, Unorthodox Roasters, Loch Leven's Larder and Lochend Farm Shop. The tombola raised an amazing £437 for the charity! Thanks to everyone for their generosity and support.

*Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers Committee*

### A Big Thank You From Paige!

I JUST WANTED TO say thank you for all your donations, time and well wishes on my charity expedition up Mt Kilimanjaro. I'm pleased to say I managed to reach Uhuru Peak, the highest point of Kilimanjaro (19, 341 feet). Thank you again for the support and any donations made to Dig Deep Africa, in aid of their mission to bring sanitary water to communities in Africa.

A special thank you is due to the Carnbo sewing ladies for their donation towards my climb.

I'd like to say a huge thank you to everyone in the Kinross community who supported me!

*Paige Gallagher*



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# PUBLIC EXHIBITION FOR NEW AEROSPACE PLANS

**AERO SPACE KINROSS** have announced a Community Consultation in Loch Leven Campus Library to see and hear about their exciting new plans for an Aero Space Kinross Discovery Centre.

Plans are evolving for the creation of a new visitor attraction on land within the grounds of Loch Leven Community Campus. The consultation will take place on Tuesday 21 October from 3pm – 6pm when the plans will be on display in the library.



A spokesperson said, 'Some staff and our architect will be on hand throughout

the afternoon and early evening to share the vision, answer your queries and listen to your suggestions. In the event that you are unable to attend on 21 October, the exhibition will be left on show in the library for a few days thereafter with information on how to contact us. We look forward to receiving your feedback on our plans.'

**Aero Space Kinross CIC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Aero Space Scientific Educational Trust**

## KIRSTEEN WINS BRITISH CYCLING VOLUNTEER AWARD

**LOCAL CYCLIST AND** volunteer ride leader, Kirsteen Ross, was nominated and selected as a winner of the British Cycling 'Volunteers in Focus' award!

This recognition celebrates volunteers who go above and beyond in their roles, and Kirsteen's dedication truly stood out.

Kirsteen has led well over a thousand miles of rides for British Cycling and has founded local charity, Kinross-shire Trishaws and Community Cycling which provides a range of cycling based activities to improve physical and mental health and wellbeing. She is encouraging, patient and provides opportunities, a friendly welcome and instils confidence and self-belief in her participants.

British Cycling thanked Kirsteen for her commitment and passion noting that her efforts make a real difference in bringing the joy of cycling to her community.

She has now been added to the National Volunteer Awards 2025 and will attend a Volunteer Thank-You event in early 2026.

A grateful participant from Kinross told us, 'Kirsteen's energy has transformed cycling in Kinross-shire. I joined the first Positive Spin group this summer, which combines cycling with learning about mental wellbeing. Now I take part in the Mindful Miles rides every Friday. I love the e-bikes! The group has helped me rebuild strength, resilience, and friendships.'



### KINROSS DRUMMERS

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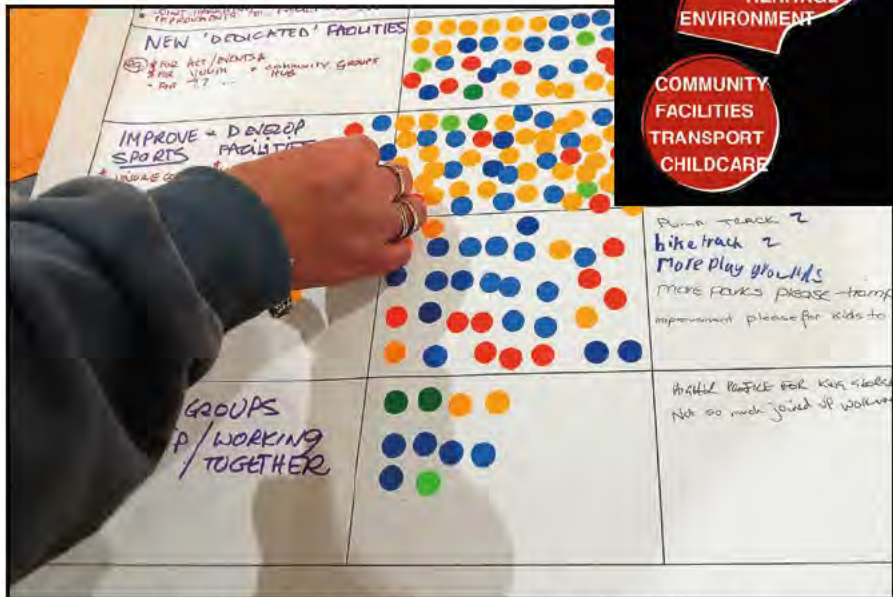
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# THE PEOPLE OF KINROSS HAVE SPOKEN!

A TOTAL OF 775 completed Community Action Plan (CAP) survey responses were received, with 350 paper forms from household distribution and at the three drop off locations, 384 online, and 41 from KYTHE and the school. In total 860 people responded to the survey.

The Kinross CAP Open Day on Saturday 20 September was a resounding success. Months of community engagement and an intensive promotional campaign — from door-knocking and surveys to press releases and quirky social media videos — paid off in style. Millbridge Hall buzzed from start to finish, as residents and business owners visited to share their views and vote on priorities for the future of Kinross over the next five years.



A busy CAP event where local people voted on their priorities for the future of Kinross



The hall teemed with activity: 22 community group stands, entertainment from Dance Connect, KYTHE, Kinross Men's Shed, and Ray Kelly, catering by the Kinross Day Centre, and children's activities supported by CHAS — all creating a lively, welcoming atmosphere that kept everyone engaged.

Richard Scott from the Kinross-shire Partnership said: 'I'm delighted that so many Kinross people came along to take an interest and show their support for the Community Action Plan.'

Pauline Watson, also from the Kinross-shire Partnership and Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers, added: 'The Open Day gave us a fantastic chance to connect with local people — and to encourage even more residents to get involved.'

The day closed with a big 'THANK YOU' to the people of Kinross for their enthusiastic support — and to the STAR Development Group for their excellent facilitation of the Action Plan. Look out for further details in future issues of the *Newsletter* as the priorities and next steps are shared.

You can read the CAP reports in full at [www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/cap](http://www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/cap).

## A Vision For The Future Of Kinross

The question was: 'What is your ideal vision for the future of your community — the best you can imagine it will be 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.**

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

**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.**

**Kinross will be an exemplar of a green and sustainable community, with active travel, energy efficiency, and local food production.**

## THE SURVEY SAID...

### What Do You Like About Kinross?

You answered...

- 54% Countryside, the loch & access routes
- 41% Community spirit
- 30% Location
- 30% Sense of place
- 29% Community groups, activities & events
- 29% Travel & transport
- 28% Local economy
- 24% Public services
- 19% Sports & recreation

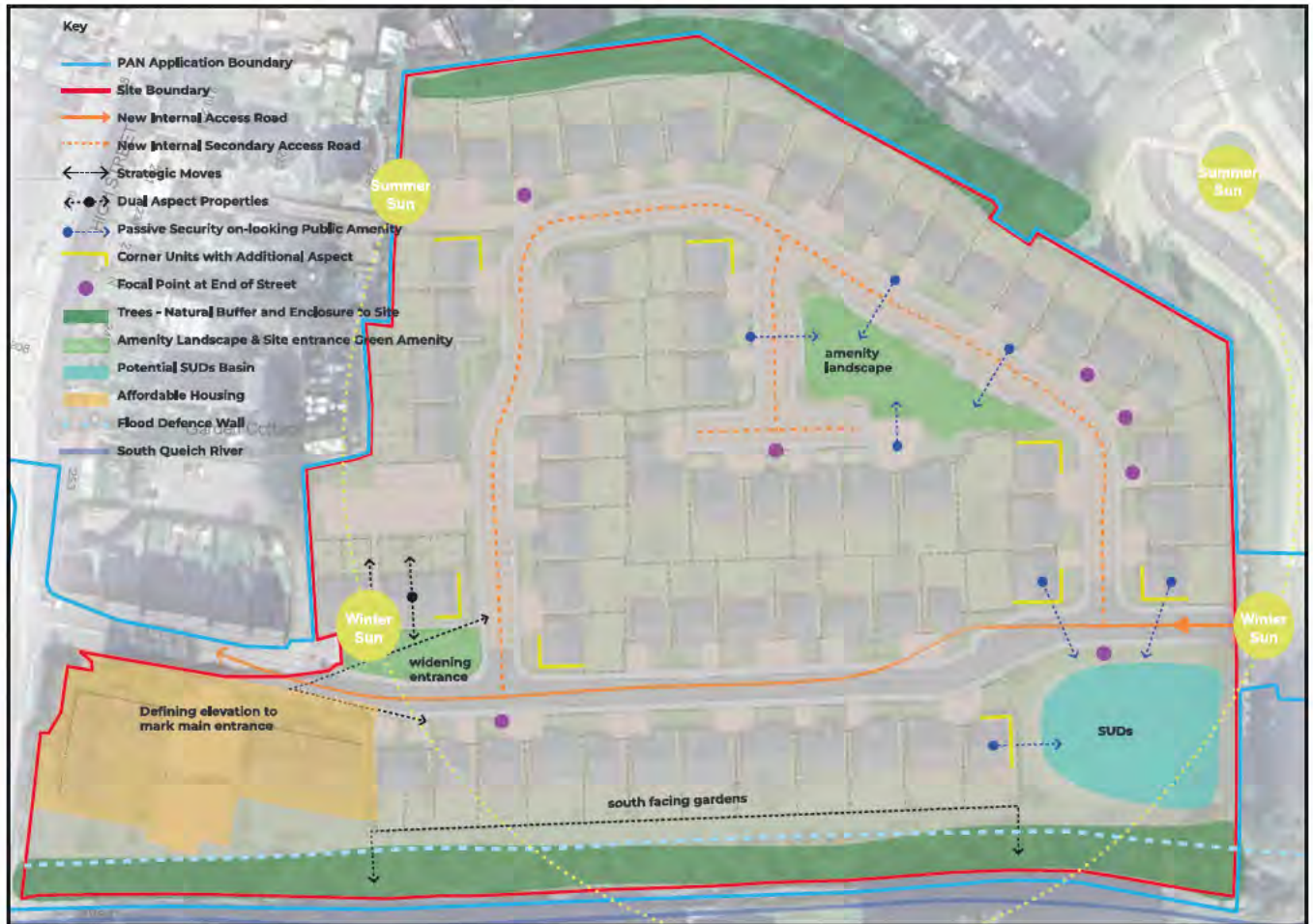
### What Do You Not Like About Kinross?

You answered...

- 52% Local economy/retail offer
- 38% Roads, traffic & parking
- 32% Housing & development
- 25% Local services
- 22% Environmental concerns
- 16% Transport
- 15% Community facilities & activities
- 5% Anti-social behaviour



# CALA'S PLANS FOR BRIDGEND



**CALA HOMES (EAST)** held the first of two public consultation events on Wednesday 17 September. The housebuilder predicts the land at Bridgend could accommodate up to 95 homes, 25% which would be flats in the 'affordable' bracket.

The development will include a mix of housing, associated car parking, access roads, open space, and supporting infrastructure.

The primary vehicular and pedestrian access point to the site is from the main road (as existing), which loops through the development. A secondary connection is proposed to the east of the site, linking the development with the Heritage Trail car park.

The access road to the pier has been at the forefront of the 'wish list' from our local Councillors when asking what they would like to see if any such development was to go ahead.

Unlike some Kinross housing developments, sufficient parking to ensure easy access would be provided, accommodating residents' vehicles and additional on-street visitor parking.

Alasdair Hughes, Senior Land Manager with Cala Homes (East), says the scheme could bring wider benefits to Kinross. 'Alongside new homes, our proposals look to enhance local infrastructure, including plans to improve active travel routes between the High Street and the Loch Leven car park,' he said.

Cala says it will also explore options for a 'community pledge', which would provide funding for local groups and projects.

A second event is due to take place on Wednesday October 29, again at Loch Leven Community Campus. Cala representatives will be in attendance to discuss the plans for redevelopment and show the feedback from the September event. The event will run from 4pm to 8pm.

CALA were awarded a HBF 5 star customer service rating again in 2025 with our customers stating they would recommend CALA to a friend.



Ross Carruthers (l) and Alasdair Hughes from Cala Homes (East)

## FLOOD HEARING ANNOUNCED

**ANY MAJOR BUILDING** work at the south end of Kinross is of course reliant on the South Kinross Flood Prevention Scheme being finalised by PKC. Previous developers were unable to move forward with plans until this was resolved.

PKC has been in the process of attempting to resolve the two valid objections which have now led to the forthcoming Local Authority Hearing to be independently chaired by DPEA Reporter Paul Cackette.

The hearing is set for the 28-29 October 2025 and will be held virtually between 10:00-13:00 and 14:00-16:00 on both days.

The website for accessing the hearing is now live, with view-only links for each session provided within. A link to the website is listed below.

<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/article/24813/South-Kinross-Flood-Protection-Scheme-Local-authority-hearing>

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# LOOKING BACK OVER FORTY YEARS OF SERVICE

## Dr McCracken Hangs Up His Stethoscope



**M U C H  
L O C A L  
S A D N E S S** greeted the news that Dr McCracken has retired after 40 years of working as a GP in Kin-

ross. Everyone wishes him well in his retirement and he will be much missed at Loch Leven Health Centre as well as by generations of patients!

Orwell Medical Practice said, 'He has been a brilliant, patient and kind colleague and his commitment to patients and to our team has been second to none. We'll miss his wisdom, his humour, and even the occasional grumble... The practice won't be the same without him.'

### My Time In Kinross.

'It has been my privilege to have been a General Practitioner in Kinross-shire since 1985. It has been a pleasure to witness the lives of so many over the years. One particular family I have looked after for five generations, and it has been fascinating to observe the similarities and differences in family members. Now I'm at the point of retirement, I thought it would be



of interest to reflect on the medical services of 1985.

'The surgery was in Mill Street, a very small one-storey building with a waiting room that could hold 10 to 15 people at most, 3 consulting rooms, a treatment room and the staff room which could accommodate just 4 people! There were two practices, with five doctors in total and the surgery was open from 8am to 6pm and 8am to 12 noon on a Saturday. It was closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day but there was always a doctor on duty 24 hours a day seven days a week. Doctors were expected to be dressed in suits, collar and tie at all times, casual jackets were permitted at weekends!

'Female GPs were regarded with suspicion by my senior partners, as they were felt to be too frail for the hurly-burly of rural general practice. This completely ignored the fact that the cornerstone of the health service in Kinross were the district nurses. Known as triple duty nurses, they did home visits, worked at the surgery, delivered babies at home, looked after the seriously ill and dying, and were permanently on call.

'Kinross, Milnathort, Crook of Devon and Glenfarg all had their own district nurses living in the district nurses' houses. Nurses Robertson, Balfour, Heggie, Hannigan and many others provided amazing service to the community for many years.

'The most wonderful thing about those days was that there were no computers. Everything was written down, in appointment books, patient records, hospital referral letters and infant and child immunisation records. In the absence of mobile phones, communication between the surgery and the doctors was by shortwave radio when they were out on visits of which there were many. As well as being GPs, the practices were called out to road traffic accidents and trauma of all kinds from DIY injuries to paragliders crashing on Bishop Hill and The Lomonds. Police Surgeon duties included blood tests for suspected drunk drivers, (always at 3am!), examining prisoners and being called out to fatal accidents. Home births as previously mentioned were infrequent but anxiety provoking for both doctors and midwives.

'I have been very fortunate to have played a part in all of this, none of which would have been possible without the support of my family and the community. In my time here many things have changed, the number of patients has more than doubled from 7,000 to 15,000. 'The chemists have changed from being independent family-run businesses to being owned by large chains, and the under-



takers are now professional businesses, whereas in the 80s, each village had its own joiner who acted as undertaker!

'There are many more stories to be told, but I would like to bring the story up to date. Medicine has changed hugely in the last 50 years, and some may mourn for the old days. Health services in the area are frequently criticised, in my view unfairly. My partners and colleagues are as hard-working and conscientious today as in the past, but in this age of instant access and increasing demand, the strain on health services is much greater. Therefore, it is even more important that as a community we continue to support our local health services, and in particular resist any further relocation of services from Perth Royal Infirmary to Ninewells in Dundee.

'Finally, I would like to reiterate what a privilege the last 40 years have been. The thousands of conversations, tears and laughter, incredible courage in the face of serious illness and death. This is what my job has been all about. I have been so fortunate to have witnessed it all.'



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18 & 19  
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Ar... drawing  
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Nov

Th... photography  
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G... gallery  
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# LOCH LEVEN HERITAGE TRAIL UPGRADE



**PHASE 4 OF THE** upgrade and repair work to the Loch Leven Heritage Trail was scheduled to commence on 15 September and be completed by 31 October 2025. These paths are badly in need of repair and upgrade due to the worn surface and sections where water lies, particularly after heavy rain.

During this period the paths linking communities to the Heritage Trail will be closed to users in the following order:

1. Sunny Park to Mary's Gate
2. Findatie – West and East ramps
3. Old Mart Road to Burleigh Sands

The only practical diversion whilst the path is closed will be via the local public roads. The patience and understanding of users whilst the paths are closed is much appreciated. A spokesperson said, 'TRACKS apologises for any inconvenience this may cause. Further information on the work can be found on our web page [Kinross-tracks.org.uk](http://Kinross-tracks.org.uk)

'TRACKS would like to thank the funders of our work; Perth and Kinross Council, The Arthur and Margaret Thompson Charitable Trust and Paths for All – Ian Findlay Path Fund.'



## GROWBIZ FOR OLDER ENTREPRENEURS

**DO YOU HAVE THE** skills to work for yourself, an idea to start your own business, or are you in the early stages of a new enterprise?

If you're aged 55 or over, you can benefit from a new GrowBiz programme specifically designed for older entrepreneurs. Funded by the Scottish Government Ecosystem Pathways Fund, its aim is to give you the confidence, skills and support to build something that works for you, whatever that looks like.

The programme will include one-to-one advice and guidance, business mentoring, online and in-person workshops and a peer support network. It's flexible, providing support at the pace and frequency that fits your needs and schedule.

GrowBiz has almost 20 years of experience in helping entrepreneurs like you in rural Scotland, and our experienced and friendly team all run their own businesses too. A network of fellow older entrepreneurs will create a space to share challenges and successes and to be inspired.

Whether you're in need of some technical advice and support, skills development, confidence building, or are simply interested in being part of a vibrant business community that all helps each other, the programme has something for you.

If you're ready to feel encouraged, empowered and energised to take your business forward, visit [www.growbiz.co.uk/older-preneur-programme](http://www.growbiz.co.uk/older-preneur-programme) and fill in the confidential online form to register your interest.



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# NEW WILDLIFE WATCH GROUP



## Exciting News for Young Nature Explorers!

WE'RE THRILLED TO be launching a brand-new Wildlife Watch Group in Kinross, specially designed for curious kids aged 5 to 8!

Each month, we'll be diving into fun, hands-on nature adventures

right here in our local area — from creepy crawlies to woodland wonders!

It will take place on the second Saturday of every month from 2pm to 4pm. The first session is called *Fabulous Fungi* and will be held at Findatie (Loch Leven Lodges). It is all about discovering the magical world of mushrooms and fungi — perfect for little explorers who love getting outside and learning something new!

If your child would love to join the fun, simply scan the QR code to register your interest. Spaces are limited, so don't miss out! Let the adventures begin!

## THE MICHAEL BRUCE TRUST

THIS SUMMER THE annual service of remembrance took place in Portmoak Church after which the Trust Chairman, Dr David M Munro, MBE, laid a wreath on the grave of the Kinnesswood Poet Michael Bruce. It was good to see so many people attending this event which took place on 21 July.

This autumn, Dr David Munro stands down after nearly 50 years as Chairman of the Trust, leaving the Trustees with the task of finding a new Chairman. The main role of the Chairman is to lead the Trustees in their role of keeping alive the memory of 'The Gentle Poet of Loch Leven'.

If anyone is interested in taking on the post of Chairman of the Trustees they should contact Mr Harry McLennan of Arnotlea, Kinnesswood, Secretary of the Trustees — who, amongst other activities, looks after the Museum in the Cobbles where the poet was born and where he died in July 1767 aged 21. Further information on the role of Chairman and the activities of the Trust can also be obtained.



## CAN YOU HELP UKRAINE'S CHILDREN?

IT'S SHOEBOX TIME AGAIN! Kinross High School pupils are filling Christmas shoeboxes with essential items and small gifts for children caught up in war-torn Ukraine. The charity Tayside and Strathearn Help for Ukraine's mission is to provide practical, targeted aid to Ukrainians traumatised by the Russian invasion of their homeland. Based at Errol Airfield, Perthshire, they work closely with partner organisations in Poland, Ukraine and throughout Scotland.

Pupils are collecting items in their TSG classes to create shoeboxes full of goods including toiletries and small gifts for children in Ukraine. If you would like to contribute, Kinross High School will take donations for the shoeboxes in at the campus reception. Please hand small items in during campus opening hours. The deadline is Wednesday 15 October when the boxes will be collected to get them prepared for shipping (see panel on right).

The Rotary Club are also participating in a Shoebox Appeal. Over a million boxes have been delivered to needy and grateful individuals in Eastern Europe. Visit <https://www.rotaryshoebox.org/> for details and some moving photos. For details of this scheme see p67 and email [secretary.kdrc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.kdrc@gmail.com). Please support both schemes if you can!

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# KINNESSWOOD WINS GOLD!

THE VILLAGE OF KINNESSWOOD has been awarded a gold certificate! Kinnesswood in Bloom recently won a Beautiful Scotland Discretionary Award at the 2025 awards.

There are a series of Discretionary Awards for outstanding performance in particular areas. Kinnesswood in Bloom scooped a theme award for Nature and Biodiversity. This one-off award for 2025 celebrates the 25th anniversary of Keep Scotland Beautiful as an independent charity.



The judges said, 'It is always a joy to drive through this village with its pockets of colour. One highlight not visible to those driving through is the unique garden at Port-



moak Primary School, which is an exemplar to many.'

Kinnesswood in Bloom said, 'We were very pleased to be a Gold Medal winner again and thrilled to be awarded the Theme Award. Thank you Elspeth for organising the celebration event. We had a brilliant night and thoroughly enjoyed seeing what the other groups have been doing over the last year.'



## HIGH STREET HUNT

YOU MAY HAVE noticed many of our local shops had a letter hidden in their windows over the summer— some more obvious than others! It was great entertainment for kids and their families. After collecting all 17 letters, they had to be unscrambled to make the name of a High Street landmark. Spontaneous feedback from the adults said that they looked in shop windows that they had barely glanced in before and were amazed at what was on offer in the town! Thanks to all the traders who took part and who donated prizes. It will be repeated... should it be harder next time?

Left: Evelyn, Alfie and Sorcha, winners of the Summer Letter Hunt, with their prizes, at the answer – the Crosswell Fountain!

## New Nonnie Book Out Now!



A KINROSS-SHIRE ARTIST AND designer is celebrating the publication of her second book aimed at youngsters who sometimes feel 'different' from their peers.

Joanne Morley-Hill, of Milnathort, has had such a positive response to her first book, *Nonnie, the Quiet Little Mouse*, that she was inspired to write a follow-up, *Nonnie and the Purple Socks*,

Joanne (62) created the character of Nonnie based on her own experiences.

She explained: 'I gave the character the name Nonnie Mouse because it's a play on the word 'anonymous'.

'I know what it's like to have a quiet personality and to sometimes feel rather overwhelmed by others. It can make you feel quite isolated and unable to communicate as well as you'd like to.

'In the first book, Nonnie becomes quite upset by all the chattering and squeaking going on around her; then another mouse, Jonnie, comes along and befriends her, reassuring her that it's fine to be quiet.

*'Nonnie and the Purple Socks* is also based on a slight eccentricity of mine, and once again Jonnie comes to her aid.

'The book is mainly aimed at five to seven year-olds but its message isn't confined to children! What I wanted to do was offer reassurance, in a lighthearted way, that being quiet - or indeed only wearing purple socks - is nothing to be ashamed of.'

*'Nonnie the Quiet Little Mouse'* and *'Nonnie and the Purple Socks'* are available at Tartan Kipper, 125 High Street, Kinross, or from Amazon, priced £7.99.

# Fly Through The Bible

Part 2: Five Events from the Life of Jesus Christ

- 5 October Born  
*Robin MacLellan, SU Scotland*
- 12 October Tempted  
*Gavin Matthews, Solas*
- 19 October Crucified  
*Richard Gibb, LLC*
- 26 October Risen  
*Gordy Mackay, Perth Baptist Church*
- 2 November Ascended  
*Jim Crooks, Hillbank Church*

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



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# Loch Leven Kids

Loch Leven Church meets at 10.30 am every Sunday morning in Loch Leven Community Campus.

LLC Kids meets during the main service and we welcome all children of primary school age to come and learn about Jesus through bible stories, games and crafts.

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# CHRISTMAS ORIGAMI WORKSHOPS – AND MORE!

**ORIGAMI IS THE** Japanese art of paper folding. You can learn how to do this and produce these attractive Christmas decorations at an Origami Workshop taking place over three Wednesdays. (6, 13 & 20 November) from 10am – 12 noon at St Paul's meeting room.

Tutor Joan Borland (Poppies Ceramics) will teach a different folding technique at each session to make these tiny Christmas trees, attractive stars and magical pop-outs. All materials will be supplied and the cost for all three sessions is £50.

Contact Joan ([joany.poppies@btinternet.com](mailto:joany.poppies@btinternet.com)) by Wednesday 8 October to book a place.

When you know how, it is amazing what you can produce from a square of paper! If you would like to see what you will be able to make, pop in and see Joan's exhibition of her pottery and origami at St Paul's on 4 and 5 October for a preview.

Also exhibiting on that weekend are artists Barry Allan Scott and Maggie Wallace. Barry is an experienced artist who has been tutoring art classes at St Paul's and in his studio at Bridge of Earn. He was recently invited to open the KADAC exhibition at Cleish. Maggie will be exhibiting for the first time in Kinross. She previously worked as a graphic designer and has a distinctive painting style and enjoys working with colour and textures in mixed media.

Feeling a bit chilly as autumn approaches? On Saturday 4 November you could pick up a Woolly Wonder created by Debbie Stuart in the form of a pair of seamless custom-made socks or a Fair Isle woollen hat. Debbie makes these on a vintage Imperia circular knitting machine first produced in the 1890s and used to make socks for troops in WW1. She is partnered for the weekend on Sunday 5 November by Anne Taylor, who will have on offer prints and cards of her original artwork, inspired by nature and the local environment.

On 18 and 19 October, we exhibit the paintings of experienced Perth-based artists Ian and Ruth Dunsire. Ian's profession as an architect is evident in the fine graphic skills and mastery of perspective seen in his paintings. Ruth's enjoyment of her garden is portrayed in



her colourful botanicals. They are joined by local artist Anne Taylor who continues to find inspiration for her work in nature and when out walking. She will display paintings in watercolour, pastel and acrylics inspired by the Fife coast, Portmoak Moss and other areas around Loch Leven.

## Rev Michie Retires

**THE LONG SERVICE** of Rev Margaret Michie to the Church of Scotland locally was recognised at the September meeting of the Presbytery of Perth. Margaret has now retired from the position she has held since 2007 of 'Ordained Local Minister' to Kinross Parish Church (and then Kinross-shire Parish Church). She was one of the first in Scotland to be appointed to the new category of Ordained Local Minister in the Church of Scotland, an unpaid post. Before completing her OLM studies at the University of Aberdeen she was a Reader and previous to that had completed the Training for Learning and Service course.

Rev Drew Barrie, Moderator of the Presbytery, thanked Margaret for her service and commitment. Addressing the Presbytery in reply, Margaret outlined the route that had taken her to become an OLM despite 'being a very shy child. I never would have dreamed of becoming someone who stood in the pulpit and preached the Gospel'. She thanked in particular Rev Leslie Barr, who encouraged her to complete her training for the Readership, and Rev Alan Reid, who encouraged her to become an OLM.



The third exhibitor on this weekend is Len Cumming of Circle Stone Mosaics. Len has continued to develop his creative mosaic work. All his designs are original, and he has been varying the size and materials used. Every piece is unique and handmade with care.

To complement all of this we will have a stall of cards and prints by the exhibiting artists and Glenys Andrews who has created attractive smaller prints of her distinctive maritime themed paintings.

Please do pop in to see our artists' latest work. There is no compulsion to buy and if you did want a piece for a special occasion, commissions are undertaken. Everyone is welcome, including dogs, and you might even grab a coffee if we happen to have the kettle on!

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# REPORT DOG FOULING AND WIPE IT OUT!

**PKC FIGURES SHOW** that only two fixed penalty notices for dog fouling were issued in the whole of Perth and Kinross last year! There were 291 complaints made.

Dog owners being unwilling to pick up their dog's mess has been a growing problem for many years, and possible ideas for solutions have included asking if we could have CCTV in our parks and green spaces to catch those responsible.

Recently Cllr W Robertson asked PKC if we could have separate fenced off areas for dogs in our parks. There are private parks locally which are earmarked only for dogs and their owners, but dog mess can be an issue within those too, with some private businesses choosing to have CCTV installed.

The Council's GrowWild scheme has also been blamed by some who feel that areas of long grass make it more difficult for people to see and collect their dog's mess, and that the amount of land available in parks for people to exercise their dogs has been reduced, meaning dog walkers are using sports pitches and play areas to walk their dogs more than ever before.

Cllr Robertson contacted Community Greenspace at PKC to ask what could be done, saying, 'I think it would be good if we could introduce fenced off designated dog exercise areas in our parks to help eliminate this problem. I know this is done in other areas. We can't have children playing and people using our sports pitches getting covered in dog faeces.'

A PKC spokesperson said: "We have no plans to introduce specific dog walking areas.

'Responsible dog owners already pick up after their pets and it is unfair to penalise them for the behaviour of others – particularly as it is responsible owners who would most likely adhere to specific areas.

'Dog owners should pick up after their pets – it is an offence not to do so and offenders may receive a Fixed Penalty of £80, rising to £100 if not paid within 28 days.'

Over the last 12 months we have received 291 complaints over dog fouling and issued two fixed penalty notices (FPNs). Three FPNs were issued the year before.'

## Report it!

You can report an incident online at [www.pkc.gov.uk/dogfouling](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/dogfouling) or call 01738 476476 to make PKC aware of any irresponsible dog owners who have failed to pick up after their dog.



# A CRACKING COMMUNITY!

## Carnbo Hall Car Treasure Hunt & Final Sunday Social BBQ of the Season

SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER marked the last of our Sunday Social BBQs for the summer and what a fantastic finale it was! The afternoon began with a lively Car Treasure Hunt, which saw ten teams set off around the local area in search of clues and scavenger hunt items. The event was a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who took part. A special thank you goes to Willie Shand and Grace Paterson, who put in so much work to plan the route, prepare the clues, and oversee the smooth running of the day.

### Treasure Hunt Results

- **Winner:** Auld Yuns!
- **Best Poem:** Team Scott – written by 14-year-old Alisdair Scott
- **Booby Prize:** Dibley's Dimo

Alisdair's poem captured the fun of the hunt perfectly:

*Through winding lanes where willows sway*

*Kinross-shire calls in light of day  
With clues in hand, and maps unfurled*

*We chase the secrets of this world  
Each turn a thrill, each find a cheer  
A treasure hunt with hearts sincere!*

Our Sunday Social BBQs have been a real highlight of the summer; bringing



neighbours, families, and friends together, rain or shine. Thank you to everyone who came along, contributed, and helped make them such a success. We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming events this autumn and winter!

## UPCOMING AT CARNBO HALL

### Hall Talks – 7:30pm, all welcome

OUR POPULAR SERIES of evening talks returns this autumn, offering a chance to learn, connect, and enjoy a relaxed evening at the hall.

- **Tuesday 7 October** Craig Statham: Tracing The History Of Your House

- **Monday 3 November**

Dorothy Thomson - The Making Of The Book - *The Barony of Burleigh*

- **Monday 1 December**

Keith Broomfield - Wild Edinburgh

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# LEVEN CATCHMENT COLLECTIVE

IN LAST MONTH'S *Newsletter*, we shared a brief introduction to a new initiative that the Forth Rivers Trust is facilitating in the Leven Catchment — the Leven Catchment Collective.

This initiative brings together farmers, land managers, and community groups to build a future where thriving nature, strong communities, and resilient enterprises go hand in hand. It does so through two key strands: the Farmer Network and the Community Springboard Programme. To learn more and book the events, visit <https://catchmentcollective.scot/>

This October, they are running a series of events to give you a taste of what the Collective can offer and how you can get involved:

## Tree Seed Collection Walk & Talk, Sunday 5 October (Glenrothes)

WALK & TALK with Elana Bader from Darroch Nurseries — learn how to collect tree seeds and grow seedlings from a variety of species.

## Community-Led Funding for Climate Action, Monday 6 October 7-9pm (Markinch)

HEAR FROM inspiring speakers on how communities are moving beyond short-term, restrictive grants.

An evening exploring different funding models that can provide long-term support for community-led projects involving climate action and nature restoration. This is a chance to learn about alternatives to short-term, often restrictive grants that can make community-led development challenging.

## Community Springboard Co-Design Workshop Sunday 12 October (Kinross Rugby Club)

The launch of the Community Springboard, where groups can help shape the programme, connect with others, and explore how it can support your work, priorities, and vision.

The Community Springboard supports community initiatives across the Leven Catchment that care for nature, improve access to it, foster nature/place-based connections, or promote wellbeing through nature. Designed to meet the needs and aspirations of local groups, the Springboard will be shaped by the ideas of those who will take part in the programme.

Our Co-Design Workshop is the first opportunity to help shape the Springboard. Join other community initiatives to explore practical ways the programme can support your work, priorities, and vision.

Bring your ideas, connect with others, and help shape a programme that truly works for your community initiative. Sign up now to take part! <https://form.jotform.com/252165074517052>

## HOPE NEEDS ACTION

### Practical ACTION

ARE YOU INTERESTED in supporting a charity that provides practical solutions that work for both people and planet?

Please come along on Saturday 11 October 2-3.30pm to Orwell Church Hall and enjoy coffee, tea and home baking and watch some

short videos of Nepalese cooking, take away the recipes to try at home and enjoy time for a chat as well! We are hoping to raise as much money for Practical Action as possible. Tickets are £5 and are available from Tricia Getley or Karena Jarvie. You can also pay at the door.

## M90 ROAD CLOSURES

AMEY IS UNDERTAKING road safety improvements on approximately 2.5km of the M90 between the Dron bend and Bridge of Eam. There will be full overnight road closures between junctions 8 and 9 of the M90. Temporary 50mph speed limits will be in place.

### Phase 1 (October)

From **Sunday 26 October to Wednesday 29 October** there will be overnight closures of the **M90 Northbound between Junctions 8 and 9** between 7.30pm and 6.30am.

Between **Monday 27 October and Thursday 30 October** there will be overnight closures of the **M90 Southbound between Junctions 8 and 9** between 7.30pm and 6.30am.

During the northbound closures traffic can exit at Junction 8 and follow the A91 and A912 before rejoining at Junction 9.

During the southbound closures traffic can follow the same route in reverse, leaving the M90 at Junction 9, following the A912 to the A91 and rejoining at Junction 8.

## ON THE BUSES

PKC PUBLIC TRANSPORT is holding a series of drop-in events across the area. This is to give local residents the opportunity to tell them their thoughts on public transport in Perth and Kinross.

Residents will hear feedback from the recent public consultation on bus services and can offer ideas and suggestions about local bus services in their area. The information gathered will inform a proposed model for the future delivery of public transport in Perth and Kinross, to be presented to elected members.

The Kinross event will be held at the Kinross Day Centre, High Street on Wednesday 8 October from 10am to 2pm.



## OCTOBER ROADWORKS

TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF PARKING AND LOADING



### A91 NEW ROAD – MILNATHORT (KY13 9XT)

Scottish Water Ironwork repairs

3 October 2025 for a period of two days.

The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading on both sides of the A91 New Road, Milnathort from its junction with private access to property known as Number 15, New Road (312116, 704726) to its junction with private access to property known as Number 61, New Road (312276, 704764), a distance of 164.23 metres or thereby.

Pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

### A91 STIRLING ROAD – MILNATHORT (KY13 9XR)

Puffin Crossing Installation works

13 October 2025 for a period of three weeks.

The order will temporarily prohibit all vehicles from parking and loading on both sides of the A91 Stirling Road, Milnathort from its junction with private access to property known as Number 84, Stirling Road (311628, 704652) to its junction with private access to property known as Number 74, Stirling Road (311697, 704672), a distance of 72 metres or thereby.

Pedestrian and emergency vehicular access to premises will be maintained.

# NEW HOME FOR REPAIR CAFE

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS** for 18 October, because Kinross-shire Repair Cafe is joining a global movement that's all about giving our beloved items a second chance. International Repair Day is celebrated worldwide by repair groups and reuse hubs, and this year, our community is stepping up with events that are both thought-provoking and hands-on.

To mark that special day, the Scottish Sharing and Repair Network is hosting a compelling online event titled 'What is the Right to Repair?' on 16 October from 10:00 to 11:30 am. This discussion comes from a growing frustration many of us face: why do so many modern household items break so easily—and why is fixing them often impossible?

From smartphones sealed shut to appliances designed to fail, poor design and restrictive policies have made repair a challenge. This event will explore what's being done to change that, and how we can push for better, more sustainable solutions.

To register for the event see [www.circularcommunities.scot/event-post](http://www.circularcommunities.scot/event-post)

On International Repair Day our very own Repair Café will celebrate in its new home at the Community Campus. From 10am onwards, the talented team of volunteer repairers will be on hand to breathe new life into your broken household and electrical items. Whether it's a toaster that's lost its toastiness or a lamp that's gone dark, bring it along— they'll do their best to save it from landfill. And their fantastic textile repairers will be on hand to revive your winter wardrobe.

Bike owners, take note: This will be your last chance before winter to get your bicycle checked and prepped for storage. Bike expert David will be available to offer advice on safety, maintenance, and winter readiness.

And while your items are being lovingly repaired, enjoy a warm drink and friendly chat courtesy of the Kinross-shire Climate Café

volunteers. It's a perfect blend of community spirit, sustainability, and practical help.

We're deeply grateful to Loch Leven Community Campus for hosting this event and helping us make repair culture a local tradition. Contact Gosia Stanton, [kinrossrepaircafe@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossrepaircafe@gmail.com).



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**He's Making A List...**

**SANTA HAS CONFIRMED** that we are already in his diary for sleigh trips to his favourite place, Kinross-shire. These will take place on: Friday 28, 29 (Light Up Kinross) and 30 November; 5,6 and 7 December; 12,13 and 14 December.



Details of times and locations will be confirmed by the elves next month!

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# GETTING EVERYONE ON THEIR BIKES!

**KINROSS TRISHAWS AND** Community Cycling have been incredibly busy this month launching new programmes and increasing their fleet of community e-bikes and trikes.



Mindful Miles is a wonderful new free cycling programme that they have created and launched this month. Mindful cycling combines the physical activity of riding a bicycle with the principles of mindfulness. It involves consciously paying attention to the present moment whilst riding a bicycle, enhancing both physical and mental wellbeing. It's about noticing physical sensations, breathing, and surroundings enabling a deeper connection with yourself and the environment. Mindful cycling can reduce stress and promote a sense of calm and balance. If you would like to join in, please email [Vincent@ktacc.org.uk](mailto:Vincent@ktacc.org.uk) for more information.



This is more than just a course — it's a chance to invest in yourself, connect with others, and experience the power of movement for both body and mind.

Kirsteen Ross said, 'We are hugely grateful to our fabulous funders, The NHS Charitable Foundation, The Scottish Government and the Gannochy Trust for supporting our work to create and deliver this unique programme.'

## New Trike Day!

THE CHARITY WAS delighted to receive the first of four fabulous new tricycles which they will make available to the community. The Van Raam Easy Rider (left) has had a few test rides and participants have all really enjoyed the experience. The tricycle has power assist, an ultra modern easy-to-use gearing system, adjustable seat and two hand-brakes. Kirsteen said, 'We look forward to our new adaptive bike cycling programme opening up a whole new world of adventure for people of all abilities.'

## Community Social Rides

THE WEEKLY TUESDAY evening social rides have been a great success this summer. The group have gradually increased their distance each week to be able to cycle for about an hour and the participants have made new friends and found new routes that are either quiet roads or traffic free paths. They have stopped to admire the views and the beautiful nature all around.

It's always at a very easygoing pace with a 'no drop' policy so they go at the pace of the slowest rider. The evenings are getting too short now so they will switch to Sunday rides over the winter time. Everyone is welcome and they can lend bikes to those that may not have their own. Please get in touch if you would like to join in — please email [Vincent@ktacc.org.uk](mailto:Vincent@ktacc.org.uk).

## Bike Bus

THE MILNATHORT PS Bike Bus is going on each week with 30-40 regular participants.

A spokesperson said: 'We really appreciate the patience and support from other road users as we safely cycle to school. If you would like to discuss setting up a bike bus in your village or town, please do get in touch.'



## Positive Spin 2

THE SECOND BLOCK of our highly successful Positive Spin programme is underway. This is a free 9 week unique course blending wellbeing with the joy of cycling. The aim of the programme is to:

- Boost your physical health, wellbeing and mental health
- Improve your cycling and e-bike skills (free e-bikes available to borrow)
- Learn tools to manage stress, anxiety and build confidence
- Discover coping strategies and explore the nature of the mind
- Meet like-minded people through fun, social cycling
- Enjoy fresh air and exercise in the beautiful Kinross-shire countryside

# FOSSOWAY GATHERING 2025 – A NORMAN CONQUEST!



Photos by Luke Wilson

A WARM, DRY AND (sometimes) sunny day brought a huge crowd to Crook of Devon on 6 September for the 2025 Fossoway Gathering. The annual celebration of the communities of Blairingone, Carnbo, Crook of Devon, Drum, Powmill and Rumbling Bridge attracted a record number of local groups and enterprises, filling the marquees and event arenas with an incredible array of goodies, games, entertainment, displays and an infectious enthusiasm for community endeavour and the engagement opportunities available.

This year's headline arena visitors were the medieval history re-enactment group **Historia Normannis**. They certainly conquered the watching audience! Setting out to both educate and entertain, they enthralled the eager crowds, drawing huge applause for their court drama, medieval fashion parade and their thrilling finale of hard-fought battle scenes. Some

of their volunteers travelled from as far as Yorkshire and Cumbria to set up their encampment and displays demonstrating how people lived in the period, the skills and techniques required for hunter-gathering, cooking, the manufacture of weaponry, tools, farming and more.

On a related theme, the Fossoway PTA organised **Fancy Dress Parade** heralded the start of the Gathering, with Piper Stuart Thomson leading a wonderful display of costume-clad young people into the arena. The event was officially opened by Guest of Honour John Wheatley, a local resident and former distinguished Scottish Law Lord. Judging the costumes with the help of members of **Historia Normannis**, the overall winner of the Parade Trophy was Grace, resplendent in flowing gown and medieval headdress. Other age group winners were: Felix, Nursery; Fer-



gus, P1-3; Findlay, P4-7.

The historical theme was also enthusiastically adopted by Fossoway Primary School, encouraging pupils to enter the first ever **Fossoway Gathering Painting Competition** and generating a fantastic display of art work. The winners were announced as:

**P1: Paintings Of Castles**

1st - Ruaridh; 2nd – Rinaya; 3rd – Saylor

**P2: Paintings Of Castles**

1st Neva; 2nd – Harris; 3rd – Gracie

**P3/4: Pointillism Paintings Of Ancient Pyramids**

1st – Rose; 2nd – Hamish; 3rd – Poppy

**P5/6: Paintings Of Historical Buildings And People**

1st – Zara B; 2nd – Robyn; 3rd – Ruraidh

**P7 – Painting With A Historical Theme**

1st Isla B; 2nd Iona; 3rd - Ariaiah

Back at the Gathering for a second year, the Carnegie Canines Flyball team proved another big arena attraction, demonstrating amazing racing speed and agility on



the track. Visitors were provided an opportunity to put their own dogs through their paces on the course.

The **Gathering Pet Parade** again proved hugely popular. Generously sponsored by Cameron & Greig Veterinary Surgeons, the overall winner was Holly, a 2 year old Golden Labrador.

Young people had the opportunity to demonstrate their athleticism in a range of traditional sports races. The 1-mile **Gathering Fun Run** was again expertly organised by Kinross Road Runners, with medals for all participants.

Result: 1<sup>st</sup> boy – Callum; 1<sup>st</sup> girl - Lilly.

Other arena presentations included a wonderfully skilful display from the young people of Dance Connect and the ener-



getic dancers from the Dillon-Bray School of Highland Dancing.

Musical entertainment was provided by the KYTHE band, the Perthshire Ukuleles and newcomers to the Gathering, the Delphinium Band and the Kinross Drummers.

Displays of vintage cars supplied by Fred Multon, and a racing car from Stuart Thomson, proved hugely popular.

The Gathering Book Stall and Games again proved popular. Congratulations to Noah Davis, winner of Guess the Sweeties in the Jar, and to Harris Neill, winner of Guess the name of the Squishmallow.

We never cease to be amazed by the generosity of individuals and businesses who boosted our funds through advertising, supplies and the donation of so many incredible prizes for the Gathering Raffle. As a registered charity we depend on such support to help defray the costs of operating the Gathering.

Our thanks are extended to all the performers, race organisers, participating organisations, stallholders, refreshment providers, the Fun Fair and the First Aid Team from EMG Ltd, who contribute to making the Gathering such an enjoyable event. Thanks also to Luke Wilson Media for event photography; to the *Kinross Newsletter* for their support; and to all event visitors for supporting the Gathering and the fundraising goals of participating groups.

To all the volunteers who helped with site set-up and take-down, manning stalls,



ticket sales and other vital services on the day, we really appreciate your help and could not deliver the Gathering without you. Particular thanks to the Scouts and Leaders of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fife Scout Group Dunfermline (and Nineacres Scout Campsite in Crook of Devon) who helped with traffic management, car parking and provided invaluable support to taking down the site early on the Sunday morning.

Special thanks to the incredible team of Fossoway Gathering Committee volunteers whose planning and hard work was rewarded by a hugely successful event. They are all fun to work with too! Anyone interested in volunteering with us will find a warm welcome and fun and friendship along the way.

We strive to make the Gathering stronger every year. We'd love to have feedback and any ideas for next year's programme. Do get in touch with us on Facebook @ FossowayGathering or email to: [fossowaygathering@gmail.com](mailto:fossowaygathering@gmail.com)





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# 'WHERE WE ARE IS THE NEWS...'

James Robertson

IT WAS THE SIXTH round of negotiations, involving 2,600 participants and 183 countries. The mandate? To finalise a strong, consensual global treaty covering the life cycle of plastics, from production and manufacturing pollution to the end of life, disposal and disintegration – an ambitious task! The talks were instigated by the UN Environmental Agency in 2022, in response to scientific evidence that plastic breakdown products posed environmental and human health risks. Recognising that plastics were an exponentially increasing problem, it was intended that these would be accelerated talks culminating in 2025 with a definitive treaty.

So what happened? The enthusiasm for a strong agreement was palpable, but there was division between country groups. Those with oil production or petro-chemical industries favoured an emphasis on recycling – end of pipe measures, so they could continue to have a growing plastics industry. The second group, comprising coastal countries, Pacific Islands and thankfully among others, Britain, were keen for upstream measures as well – a cap on plastic production and a ban on toxic chemicals – to mitigate the negative human and environmental effects. The fossil fuel lobbyists had a strong voice, overwhelming public interest voices. Their presence meant discussions became sidetracked to procedural issues, exact meanings of words and reopening text of the treaty that had already been consensually agreed. As a consequence, the draft became watered down – vague language and voluntary clauses – and would have made for a weak, non binding conclusion, which the second group of countries felt they could not sign off. It would have made no difference to the escalating plastic crisis. Even as an interim agreement, it would have made for a lower jumping off point for any future talks. So with everything on a knife edge, many unresolved clauses and even with continuing discussions into the night on the tenth and last day, no treaty could be agreed. There was tangible disappointment and physical tears from some of the coastal countries who are most affected by plastic pollution, but yet contribute little to its production. The Global Plastics Treaty talks had failed.

However, commitment to 'get it sorted' has not failed and



A sculpture created by Canadian Benjamin Von Wong, outside the UN building. Over the course of the global treaty talks it slowly became engulfed by plastic waste. Reminiscent of Rodin's 'The Thinker', the central figure sits on top of Mother Earth, holding a floppy baby, entwined by a strand of unravelling

DNA and although many interpretations can exist, it represents the impact of plastics on the environment and developing humans as we ponder solutions. Photo: Von Wong Productions 2025 - Global Plastics Treaty INC 5.2 - The Thinker's Burden / Le Fardeau du Penseur

remains a strong driving force. There are no plans yet for future talks, but it will be necessary to modify decision making by voting, to break stalemates and to avoid a handful of countries railroading negotiations. Meanwhile, although not as robust as legislation, we can voluntarily curb our plastic imprint. Plastic is set to triple by 2060. A treaty will happen. As Inger Andersen (UN Environmental Protection Executive Director) said in her closing remarks: 'We did not get where we wanted, but people want a deal. This work will not stop, because plastic pollution will not stop'.

Moira Hookham, *The Kind Pantry*



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# BROKE NOT BROKEN: THE FIRST DECADE



**THIS MONTH, THE** *Kinross Newsletter* celebrates a quiet local hero. In a community known for its beauty and warmth, it might be easy to overlook the hardship that exists but is not obvious. Yet for the past ten years, Broke Not Broken has been supporting hundreds of local individuals and families with compassion, dignity, and a determination to make life better — as a quiet but powerful anti-poverty project rooted in the community.

Back in 2015, a small group of local volunteers saw a growing need in their community — for food, for dignity, and for

hope. From that spark, Broke Not Broken was born. It started with a few pop-up sessions, running from a bedroom and then a garage. Then, with a sharp focus and a lot of heart, it rapidly became a trusted and essential local service, now based at the Beacon in Kinross. Ten years on, the need remains — but so too does the energy, warmth, and community spirit that brought the project to life.

We recently visited the team at the Beacon to hear their reflections, see the work first-hand, and learn what the next decade might hold.

From food and home energy support to Tuesday summer trips, school uniform help, well-being support, and counselling referrals, the charity has grown in both size and scope. But its grassroots ethos remains the same: to support people with compassion and discretion.

*'We've always aimed to be more than a food bank. We're about listening without judgement and offering people the support they need, when they need it.'*  
(Annie McCormack, Chair, Broke Not Broken)

## A Decade of Impact: From Cupboards to Community

In its first year, Broke Not Broken supported fewer than 100 people. Today, its reach extends across Kinross-shire and beyond, helping several hundred households each year. Whether delivering emergency food parcels or providing a listening ear, the charity has never lost its community-rooted ethos.

During our visit, staff and volunteers reflected on key moments — from the Beacon's refurbishment to the rise in referrals from schools, health services and social care, and the growing impact of holiday packs, Christmas hampers, and Tuesday trips.

At the heart of everything lies a deep respect for the people they support and a quiet pride in the difference they make.



## Features

### More Than a Food Bank

Broke Not Broken supports people across Kinross-shire through:

- Food support
- The school uniform bank
- A thriving community garden providing fresh produce and a welcoming space
- Tuesday Trips and seasonal family events that create lasting memories
- Mental health and well-being support through counselling and signposting

Even the simplest gestures — a hamper at Christmas time, a warm coat, a listening ear — are shared with care, offering connection and respect.

### Powered by People: The Team Behind the Work

At the heart of Broke Not Broken is a dedicated team of volunteers and three core staff members, alongside a very active and devoted Secretary, Susan Mitchell, and an inspiring Chair, Annie McCormack. Their commitment, empathy, and resolve have helped sustain the charity through a decade of change, challenge, and growth.

As we spoke with volunteers and staff, their pride in the work and belief in the people they serve came through clearly:

*"Broke Not Broken is about dignity, connection, and offering a hand when it's needed most."*  
(Volunteer)

*"Support is a two-way street — each person has something to offer, and everyone deserves to be treated with care."*  
(Volunteer)

*"We want every person in Kinross-shire to be seen and heard, and for all children to have equity with their peers."*  
(Hannah, Development Officer)

### A Vision for the Future

The organisation is looking forward with renewed purpose in this anniversary year — the challenges remain. The next chapter

will focus on continued outreach, adapting to changing needs, and advocating for the long-term well-being of the people in the Kinross-shire community. As an anti-poverty project, Broke Not Broken is also exploring how to create more opportunities for connection, confidence, and community participation.

As staff explained during our visit, the goal isn't just to meet immediate needs. It's about building stronger lives and nurturing a community where everyone feels they belong.





### Be Part of the Story

Broke Not Broken continues to be powered by the people of Kinross-shire — those who give, those who receive, and those who've done both at different times in life.

If you or someone you know could use a bit of support, there's a friendly, discreet route into BNB services. And if you're in a position to help — by giving your time, skills, or financial support — there's always room for new hands and hearts.

*'It costs £40 to provide a Christmas Hamper — your gift could make the season brighter for a local family.'*  
(Danielle, Development Officer)

As we start preparing for the seasons ahead, it's a perfect time to consider a one-off or regular donation, or to explore how you might contribute to this brilliant local service.

### A Quiet Force for Good

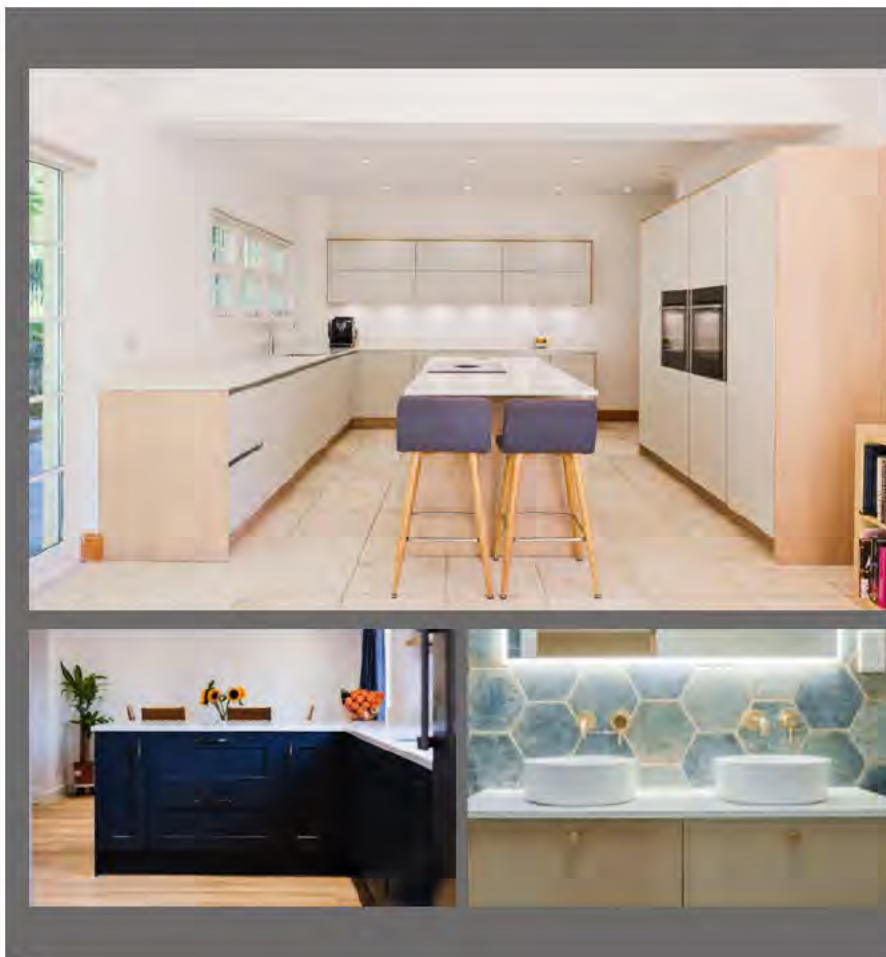
The impact of poverty in Kinross-shire may not always be visible, but the response to it is powerful. As Broke Not Broken enters its second decade, the *Kinross Newsletter* commends all who have shaped this journey.

Through empathy, energy, and sheer commitment, they've built something extraordinary: a place where no one is forgotten, and everyone matters.

So after our inspiring visit to the Beacon, we'd like to quietly wish Broke Not Broken a very happy birthday — and thank them for the gigantic contribution to our community.

**Find out more, or support Broke Not Broken if you can, at [brokeandnotbroken.org](http://brokeandnotbroken.org).**

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# A LOOK BACK IN TIME

## *The challenges facing the UK at the end of the Second World War*

**WHEN THE GUNS FINALLY** fell silent – in Europe at least – in May 1945, Britain celebrated victory over Nazi Germany. Yet, behind the scenes, the country faced an enormous set of challenges. The war had been fought at immense human, financial, and material cost. Six years of total war had left Britain victorious but exhausted. The nation that had stood firm during its 'finest hour' now had to confront economic collapse, social upheaval, and a rapidly changing global order.

### **Economic Devastation & Financial Crisis**

THE MOST PRESSING challenge was economic. The war had cost Britain approximately £7 billion – an astronomical figure at the time – and much of this was financed through overseas borrowing, and the sale of British assets. National debt had soared to over 250% of GDP, one of the highest in modern history.

Britain had spent almost all of its gold and dollar reserves purchasing food, munitions, and raw materials from the United States and Canada. The Lend-Lease programme, which had sustained Britain during the darkest days, was abruptly terminated in August 1945, leaving Britain desperate for funds. John Maynard Keynes described the situation starkly when negotiating the American loan:

*'We have been reduced to the position of a poor man living in a rich man's world.'*

To avoid economic collapse, Britain agreed to the Anglo-American Loan Agreement of 1946, borrowing \$3.75 billion from the United States and a further \$1.25 billion from Canada. These loans, however, came with strict conditions, including making sterling convertible to dollars, which triggered the 1947 sterling crisis and forced further austerity.

### **Austerity & Continued Rationing**

CONTRARY TO POPULAR expectation, the end of the war did not bring immediate prosperity. Instead, Britons faced a continuation – and in some cases an extension – of wartime austerity. Food rationing, which had been introduced in 1940, remained in force and became even stricter in the immediate post-war years. Astonishingly, bread was rationed for the first time in 1946 – something that had

not happened during the war itself. Meat, sugar, clothing, and even fuel remained tightly controlled.

The government justified these measures as essential to stabilise the economy and conserve foreign currency for vital imports. Yet the continued hardship bred resentment. One housewife famously complained:

*'We won the war, but we still can't get a decent cup of tea.'*

### **Housing Shortages & Physical Reconstruction**

THE PHYSICAL DEVASTATION caused by German bombing raids created another major challenge. It is estimated that over 2 million homes were damaged or destroyed during the Blitz and subsequent attacks in many UK cities, not just London. Families were forced to live in overcrowded conditions or temporary shelters. To address this, the government launched emergency housing schemes, including the use of prefabricated homes, but shortages of bricks, timber, and skilled labour hampered progress.

The need for urban reconstruction was urgent, yet costly. Entire city centres such as Coventry, and parts of London, required rebuilding. These tasks would dominate local and national policy for years to come.

### **Demobilisation & Employment**

THE END OF THE war also brought the complex problem of demobilising the armed forces. Around 5 million men and women needed to be reintegrated into civilian life, without triggering mass unemployment, which had scarred Britain in the 1930s. The government introduced a 'first in, first out' system for demobilisation and provided financial assistance to returning servicemen.

At the same time, Britain faced an urgent need to convert its wartime economy into one producing consumer goods and exports. Industrial modernisation was necessary, yet resources were scarce, and productivity remained low, compared to the United States.

### **Social Reform & Rising Expectations**

DESPITE ECONOMIC HARDSHIP, there was strong public demand for change. The Beveridge Report of 1942 had raised expectations for a 'New Jerusalem', a Britain free from the 'five giants' of want, disease, ignorance, squalor, and idleness. This mood was reflected in the 1945 General Election, where Clement Attlee's Labour Party swept to power, with a landslide victory, defeating Winston Churchill to universal amazement.

Labour's programme of reform was ambitious: the creation of the National Health Service (NHS), the introduction of national insurance, and the expansion of education. These measures laid the foundations of the modern welfare state, but placed immense pressure on already fragile public finances.

### **Imperial Decline & Britain's Changing Role**

THE WAR HAD ALSO accelerated the decline of the British Empire. India, the 'jewel in the crown', was moving rapidly towards independence, which would be granted in 1947. Across Africa and Asia,





**Conclusion**

THE END OF THE Second World War was not a time of instant relief for Britain, but the beginning of a different struggle – a fight to rebuild a shattered economy, repair cities, create a welfare state, and redefine Britain’s place in the world. The decisions taken in these years shaped the nation for decades, ushering in an era of austerity, social reform, and imperial retreat. Britain had won the war, but peace came at a price.

King George VI broadcast on the BBC from Buckingham Palace at 9 pm 15 Aug 1945 – words that were to prove to be so true:

Our hearts are full to overflowing, as are your own. Yet, there is not one of us, who has experienced this terrible war, who does not realise that we shall feel its inevitable consequences long after we have all forgotten our rejoicings today.

nationalist movements gathered strength. At the same time, Britain had to adapt to a new world order dominated by two superpowers: the United States and the Soviet Union.

Maintaining overseas commitments, occupying zones in Germany and Austria, and policing unrest in Palestine and elsewhere stretched Britain’s resources thin. Ernest Bevin, the Foreign Secretary, summed up Britain’s predicament:

*'We are at the end of our resources, yet we still have to carry responsibilities that are out of all proportion to our strength.'*

**PS.**

*BIG THANKS TO all of you who came to my '1945 –A REFLECTION' talk in the Library on 4 September and for supporting SSAGA by doing so .Plaudits to the ladies who run the Library so well – Jill, Meg, Clare and Shoinigh, who were, and always are, my back up .*

*Next Year: Look out for talks on The Korean War 75 years on, and the Suez Crisis 70 years on – dates will be firmed up later. If there is an appetite, I can look at the post colonial campaigns such as the Malayan Emergency and the Aden, Cyprus, Borneo, and Mau Mau conflicts.*

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## Councillor Willie Robertson



### Car Auction Site

I note that a pre-application notice has been lodged to convert the site of the former car auction yard at Bridgend into a housing estate. My only comment on this is that this important site is the last large area of undeveloped land in Kinross. It has been the location over the years of a linen factory, a mushroom factory and latterly a car auction business and a Sunday market. I think we should take great care with what happens to this land. It has to be used for what is best for the long-term future of Kinross and Kinross-shire residents. We have seen a large rise in our population in the last few years and now we need a period of consolidation to allow our services to catch up. I don't think another large housing estate will help in that process.



### Milnathort Puffin Crossings:

I am delighted that work will begin early in October to convert the pedestrian crossing in South Street to a Puffin Crossing. There is a long history of 'near misses' at this crossing with cars failing to stop for pedestrians. Milnathort residents and Milnathort Community Council have long supported my call for this crossing to be upgraded. Work is also expected to begin in the middle of October to install a much needed Puffin crossing in Stirling Road at Milnathort Primary School. This has also been a long term wish. Both these new crossings will make it much safer for children heading to and from the primary school and for all local people when crossing these roads. They will also help to slow the speeds of traffic on both South Street and Stirling Road which both have a history of speeding complaints.

### Paths Upgrades

I am very pleased to report that TRACKS have been successful in securing funding from Perth & Kinross Council, the Arthur and Margaret Thomson Trust and the Paths for All fund to upgrade a number of paths which link into the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. These are:

- The path from Auld Mart Road, Milnathort to Burleigh Sands
- The path from Sunnypark, Kinross to the Heritage Trail
- The paths leading from the car park at Findatie onto the Heritage Trail

The works will begin very soon. These are all very popular and well used paths. By improving and widening the surfaces it will make them usable to people of all abilities and safeguard their long term future.


TRACKS is a local charity set up to improve the paths networks in Kinross-shire. TRACKS built the Loch Leven Heritage Trail and many other paths throughout Kinross-shire.



### Water Voles

When I was young, water voles were a common sight on both the North and South Queich rivers. Their populations over the years have been wiped out mainly because of mink. I thought it would be good if they could be reintroduced to our waterways. Nature Scot couldn't help as they are only responsible for the National Nature Reserve and advised that I write to The Scottish Wildlife Trust. I did this three weeks ago but sadly have never received a reply.

Councillor Willie Robertson



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## Councillor Dave Cuthbert



### Apology

You may or may not have noticed that I did not submit a piece for the *Newsletter* last month. My mother Margaret Cuthbert was given a prognosis which indicated she would not live long and unfortunately, she died in the middle of last month.

As you can imagine this has caused me some discombobulation, so apologies if you have been trying to contact me and I haven't responded as quickly as usual.

### Council business

Council business has continued and there has been a lot going on over the last few months.

### Road Safety and Roads Maintenance

I indicated in my previous *Newsletter* article that I was spending time assessing what has been happening with Road Safety and Road Maintenance in Kinross-shire. This has also involved examination and comparison with what was happening in other areas.

The trigger for looking into Road Safety was a report provided for a meeting of local councillors with the Road Safety Team in June. I have summarised below what it said:

been a priority for local Councillors for a long time and are only now being delivered through my budget motion. I was and am extremely concerned that mitigation measures have been introduced in villages on the A93 at Guildtown which has daily traffic of 2,845 vehicles (with 145 HGVs) while the A977 remains exposed in terms of safety mitigations and some of its surfaces feel unsafe to me, when driving at higher speeds. The daily traffic on the A977 at Crook of Devon is 6,995 vehicles (with 688 HGVs).

There were other conundrums where some roads that seem to have light usage in Perth were receiving a higher standard of care than roads in Kinross-shire with heavy usage.

I did a deep dive with as much data as I could get my hands on (I am still waiting for some of the data).

I sat in a room yesterday (September 11th) with seven different officers including the Strategic Lead and the Deputy Chief Executive of the Council, asking them to explain these discrepancies which seemed to indicate to me that the Council's prioritisation system was not working. Needless say it was an interesting one and a half hour meeting.

There appear to be confusions around different departments and different budgets, and I am not sure if they totally received and understood that I should not be having to put money in the budget to gain action on roads in Kinross-shire. However, a re-match meeting is planned.

### Graffiti in Kinross 12 August

I was contacted by a resident about graffiti which had been

		Priorities completed 2023-24 excluding VAS and TRO per Spreadsheet	Priorities completed 2024-25, excluding 20mph per April update	Priorities not 20mph 2025-26 Per April Update	Total jobs completed or to be done excluding VAS, TRO & 20mph 2023-2026	Approx Cost of projected Priority projects 2025-26 from Spreadsheet £000's	Oustanding Active Jobs per Feb 25 Spreadsheet	% share of Active Projects
Ward 1	Carse of Gowrie	5	24	9	38	91	36	5.06%
Ward 2	Strathmore	13	20	11	44	165	81	11.39%
Ward 3	Blaigowrie & Glens	8	19	11	38	143	55	7.74%
Ward 4	Highland	7	19	10	36	124	89	12.52%
Ward 5	Strathtay	7	14	8	29	182	81	11.39%
Ward 6	Strathearn	8	12	9	29	121	31	4.36%
Ward 7	Strathallan	8	21	8	37	162	57	8.02%
<b>Ward 8</b>	<b>Kinross-shire</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>14.63%</b>
Ward 9	Almond & Earn	7	14	7	28	171	36	5.06%
Ward 10	Perth South	4	11	10	25	31	53	7.45%
Ward 11	Perth North	6	10	9	25	39	29	4.08%
Ward 12	Perth City Centre	3	10	8	21	134	59	8.30%
		84	153	104	341	1,385	711	100.00%

As you can see, Kinross-shire had the fewest road-safety projects completed in 2024-25, the fewest priority projects for completion in 2025-26, with the lowest cost and we have the most outstanding jobs of any wards in Perth and Kinross.

On top of this, I looked into Roads Maintenance as I had to spend £314.40 on a new front spring for my car after driving exclusively on Kinross-shire roads and the M90.

Naturally, I wanted to better understand why these things were happening! In my investigations I identified that priority was given to a puffin crossing in Guildtown for a school with 38 pupils.

I went to great lengths to secure budget monies this year for puffin crossings in Milnathort (school roll 230). These have

sprayed on their garage wall along with some the trees in Sunnypark woods and picnic tables at the KYTHE hub.

I informed the public safety team at the Council who have responded very quickly to this and immediately acted on it, along with the police, who are investigating the matter.

### Second-hand minibuses for Fossoway and 1<sup>st</sup> Kinross Boys Brigade

Last month, Fossoway Community Development Trust was gifted an ex-council minibus and this month the 1<sup>st</sup> Kinross Boys Brigade are due to receive one. These have been donated as part of a scheme to re-use older stock rather than sell them through auction. This was an initiative of the leader of the council, and I applaud the time and effort he has put in to achieve this.

### Former British Car Auction (BCA) Site

I was hugely disappointed to hear that the owners of the former BCA site were planning to sell the land for housing, rather than develop it as a retail park. I will not comment on the specifics of the pre-application notice which has now been submitted, all I will say is that converting business land to housing is the opposite of what I have been trying to achieve in Kinross-shire.

### Meeting with Forward Planning

I had a meeting along with Councillor Watters with the council's forward planning team as the next local plan is being developed as I speak. I made the point that the local plan as it stood was turning Kinross-shire into a commuter area, with very few employment opportunities locally and that more and more houses were being built without improvements to the local infrastructure. I pointed out that Kinross-shire has been growing rapidly over the last 50 years and that it was time for some consolidation.

Below are the numbers I have extracted from the internet (so treat them with caution):

Census Year	Kinross-shire Pop'n*	Growth %	Cumulative Growth % from 1931	Cumulative Growth % from 1971	Cumulative Growth % from 1981
1931	3,905	-	-		
1941		-	-		
1951	7,418	89.96%	89.96%		
1961	6,624	-10.70%	69.63%		
1971	6,423	-3.03%	64.48%		
1981	7,848	22.19%	100.97%	22.19%	
1991	10,540	34.30%	169.91%	64.10%	34.30%
2001	12,064	14.46%	208.94%	87.83%	53.72%
2011	12,720	5.44%	225.74%	98.04%	62.08%
2022	14,119	11.00%	261.56%	119.82%	79.91%

\* Source: Census

I also pointed out that Kinross-shire lacks some of the facilities of other areas in Perth and Kinross.

### Community Hospital

So, for example, there is no community hospital. I provided a list extracted from the internet:

- Blairgowrie Community Hospital: Perth Road, Blairgowrie.
- Crieff Community Hospital: King Street, Crieff.
- Pitlochry Community Hospital: Ferry Road, Pitlochry.
- St. Margaret's Community Hospital: Western Road, Auchterarder.
- Perth Royal Infirmary: A larger hospital, located in Perth.
- Murray Royal Hospital: Including the Rohallion Secure Care Clinic, located in Perth.
- Aberfeldy Cottage Hospital, Old Crieff Road.

Kinross-shire patients typically go to the Victoria Hospital in Kirkcaldy, which is not connected by bus to Kinross-shire, requiring two buses or a £35-£45 taxi fare each way for constituents to visit patients.

My understanding is that hospitals are a Scottish Government responsibility and I would encourage residents to contact their MSPs and prospective MSPs on this matter.

### Discount Supermarket

With the change of focus on the BCA site, it looks likely that a discount supermarket may not be on this site. I made it clear to the forward planning team that Kinross-shire needs a discount supermarket.

### Other Infrastructure

There is no NHS dentist. The doctors' surgeries are under severe pressure, parking in town is difficult, there is no Community Hub (the Campus is not available before 5pm Mondays to Fridays,

3pm on Fridays and closes at 5pm at weekends), there is a lack of council owned land and property in Kinross-shire, cemetery space in Kinross-shire is running out. I could go on, but I think you get the gist of the conversation.

### Weeds, Weeds and yet more weeds

I have been chasing officers about the weeds growing in our pavements, drains, paths and roads. I was advised that: 'Due to the issues we were having, we recently called a meeting with the contractor and they have withdrawn from the Perth area, allowing full focus to be on Kinross and Strathearn. This should allow for a more timely second spray and we will be monitoring this closely to ensure it is going as planned'. However, I have now learned that the previous contractor has been replaced with a new one and that they are starting with Perth. I now find myself banging my head on my desk in frustration!

### Traffic Lights on the Muirs at the junction with Lethangie Road (Campus Junction)

I have been told that these lights are going ahead even though there has been no public consultation and the four local members want a roundabout at this junction.

### Kinross High School

I was delighted to be invited to the Kinross High School Parent Council meeting earlier this month. The meeting was very well attended and there was a lively debate.

The new Head Teacher Jillian Shaw was in attendance, and it was nice to see the inclusive approach she is starting to take.

### School self-evaluation and Quality Indicators

Quality Indicators (QIs) are issued by Education Scotland when they inspect a school. These vary from Level 1: Unsatisfactory up to Level 6: Excellent. There are four QIs which look at: Q1.3 Leadership of Change, Q2.3 Learning, Teaching and Assessment, Q3.1 Ensuring wellbeing, equality and inclusion and Q3.2 Raising attainment and achievement.

I sit on the Council's Learning and Families' Executive Sub-Committee who look at the results of inspections of schools across Perth and Kinross. For the last two years I have been trying to get a clear picture of how all the schools are performing and I was delighted to see a report come to the Council's Learning and Families Committee which gave up to date information on all the school's self-evaluation QIs.

I have suggested that the committee moves from a reactive approach to a pro-active one, where we get presentations from less well-performing schools on how they plan to raise their standards. Management have indicated that they are considering this idea but have advised that they will need to have agreement from the unions.

I think this is important as a poor standard in any QI indicates that children are not getting the education they need.

As a side note, I raised the fact that an inspection at Perth Academy had shown that the self-evaluation scores did not match those awarded by Education Scotland and I understand that systems have now changed so that self-evaluation scores are checked thoroughly by the centre. The proof of the pudding, as they say, will be in the marking!

I am pursuing a lot of other issues, but I think I have said enough!

Finally, as I said at the start, my mother has sadly died. She was Kinross born and bred and was always interested to hear what was going on in Kinross-shire along with the machinations of Perth and Kinross Council. She will be missed.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert



**Politicians**

**Councillor  
Richard Watters**



**Waste Management Plan Success**

PERTH AND KINROSS Council's Waste Management Plan (2010–2025) has delivered transformative results for our communities. Over the past 15 years, recycling rates have increased from 42% to 51.7%, and weekly waste per person has dropped from 10.4kg to just 5.8kg. More than 71,000 households have benefited from the introduction of twin-stream recycling bins, significantly improving recycling rates and reducing contamination.

The Council's commitment to innovation is clear. A 10-year contract with Paprec Energies Binn ensures compliance with the upcoming ban on biodegradable household waste going to landfill. New food waste hubs have been rolled out in key towns, supported by public awareness campaigns. The Council has also supported the ban on disposable vapes, protecting public health and biodiversity. Behavioural and media campaigns have raised awareness of waste minimisation, reuse, food waste reduction, and textile recycling across P&K.

**Circular Economy Strategy Consultation**

As we close this chapter, the Council is launching a new Circular Economy Strategy and Action Plan. This ambitious strategy focuses on four priorities: reducing and reusing resources, modernising recycling services, decarbonising disposal, and strengthening the circular economy through business and regional collaboration.

A public consultation on the Circular Economy Strategy is now open and closes on 31 October 2025. Residents, businesses, and stakeholders are invited to share their views and help shape the future of waste management in Perth and Kinross. The

consultation is available at [www.pkc.gov.uk/circular-economy](http://www.pkc.gov.uk/circular-economy), with paper copies available at local libraries and Council offices.

**Climate Action: UK City Net Zero Partnership Declaration**

At the most recent Full Council meeting, I was delighted to second the paper in support of the UK City Net Zero Partnership Declaration, marking a bold and necessary step forward in our collective response to the climate emergency. Below are a few extracts from my speech:

'In Perth and Kinross, we have long recognised that climate change is not a distant threat—it is a present reality. Our communities are already feeling its effects, and our responsibility as elected representatives is clear: we must act decisively, collaboratively, and with ambition.

'The City Net Zero Partnership provides a unique opportunity to bring together local authorities and the private sector in a shared mission—to reduce carbon emissions, accelerate clean energy innovation, and unlock the socio-economic benefits of a just transition. By signing this Declaration, Perth and Kinross joins cities like Glasgow, Bristol, and Manchester—who are not waiting for change, but leading it.

'Perth and Kinross is now positioned as a place of vision, investment, and action. Our inclusion in the City Net Zero Investment Portfolio, to be launched during New York Climate Week, will amplify our voice on the international stage and attract the partners we need to deliver real change.

'This is not just about carbon. It is about jobs, health, and prosperity. It is about creating a future where our children breathe cleaner air, where our homes are warmer and more efficient, and where our economy thrives on innovation.'

For more information about the UK City Net Zero Partnership Declaration and how Perth and Kinross is taking action, please visit the Council website.

*Councillor Richard Watters*

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## Jim Fairlie, MSP

'IT TAKES a village to raise a child.'

That might sound like a cliché, but for me it's a guiding principle. And if you want proof, look at Annie and her fantastic team at Broke Not Broken, who support families here in Kinross-shire facing the stifling effects of poverty. Their work shows how community can transform lives—even in a constituency as relatively prosperous as ours.



Government must play its part too. In Scotland, we've chosen a different path from Westminster by scrapping the two-child cap and introducing the Scottish Child Payment. Independent analysis by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation predicts these measures will significantly cut child poverty here by 2030, even as it rises elsewhere in the UK. This isn't about self-congratulation; it's about how local effort and national policy must align.

That's why I'm out in Kinross and the surrounding areas as much as I can. During Scotland Loves Local Week, I visited the Courthouse, Unorthodox Roasters, and Loch Leven's Larder. Each of these businesses tells a story of local talent and enterprise. They provide jobs, bring character and choice to the community, and help sustain our local economy. A healthy economy is the backbone of everything else—including giving children the opportunities they deserve.

The First Minister underlined this point during an event in Edinburgh last week, reflecting on his visit to the White House to promote Scotch whisky—our most valuable export. His message was clear: eradicating child poverty cannot be separated from building a thriving, diverse economy. Children who grow up free from the limitations of poverty are the innovators and entrepreneurs of the future. Deputy First Minister Kate Forbes made the same point when she and I visited Todd & Duncan in Kinross, stressing the need to support resilient local businesses that will stand the test of time.

Connectivity is also vital. In Parliament this week, I spoke in a debate inspired by the Scottish Youth Parliament's manifesto Dear Scotland's Future. As the Minister responsible for buses, I pointed to the Glenfarg Community Bus as an example of local ingenuity. That project inspired me to create a £4 million Plugged-In Communities Fund so other areas can build the kind of transport links that keep rural communities alive and connected.

So how does it all connect? Quite simply: strong communities, good jobs, resilient businesses, decent transport, and effective government policy all contribute to giving children the best possible start. Because it truly does take a village to raise a child. And nothing matters more than making sure we do it well.

*Jim Fairlie, MSP*



*Jim Fairlie MSP visiting Loch Leven's Larder in September*

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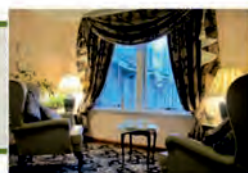


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## Liz Smith, MSP



10 SEPTEMBER was Back British Farming Day and this year certainly holds more importance than ever. The farming sector is facing existential challenges and that is felt even more keenly in rural regions like Kinross-shire which has such a strong agricultural identity.

Throughout the summer, I met with many farmers and rural businesses representatives whose livelihoods and very ways of life are in peril due to the inheritance tax policies imposed upon them. A few months ago, the *Daily Telegraph* reported that over 6,000 farming, forestry and fishing businesses across the UK have already shut down according to the Office for National Statistics – I can only expect this figure will be even higher now.

Statistics aside, it is all too painful to see several long-established businesses going under right here in the region I represent. This of course raises very serious questions about the future of the countryside and about food security itself. When I visited the Scottish Game Fair and other local agricultural shows during the parliamentary recess, these issues were unsurprisingly at the top of the agenda for just about everyone I met.

Despite the incredible challenges facing farmers, they have shown remarkable perseverance and tenacity. I want to show my appreciation to them here in Kinross-shire for the work they do in consistently delivering high quality British produce. It is these individuals who are responsible for feeding the nation, managing our countryside and sustaining employment and the economy in rural areas. Thank you once again for all that you do.

But this year's *#BackBritishFarming Day* requires more than just a celebration of the contribution of farmers to society. In these increasingly dark times for the sector, it is a reminder to us all, particularly in rural Scotland, to keep buying local produce and help out our rural businesses.

Liz Smith, MSP

## Pete Wishart MP



I WAS THRILLED to hear that Perth and Kinross Council recently gave the go-ahead for a £17 million redevelopment of Rachel House in Kinross.

Rachel House was Scotland's first children's hospice when it opened in 1996, and nearly 30 years later it continues to provide exceptional care for children with life-shortening conditions and vital support for their families. On my visits to Rachel House, I have always been struck by the dedication of the staff and volunteers, and by the warmth and dignity they provide to families going through unimaginably difficult times.

The redevelopment plans are as ambitious as they are inspiring. They include a new hydrotherapy pool, fully upgraded bedrooms, and accessible adventure gardens, all designed to give children the best possible quality of life. It's a project that reflects the commitment of Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS) to ensure that Rachel House remains at the forefront of children's hospice care for decades to come.

Of course, such a major investment will need the backing of the wider community. CHAS will soon be fundraising to make the project a reality, and I would encourage everyone who can to support them. Rachel House is a treasure not just for Kinross, but for the whole of Scotland.

Since my last column, we marked Scotland Loves Local Week, an initiative from the Scottish Government to encourage us all to shop closer to home and support our local businesses. Research shows that almost £283 million more could flow into Scotland's regional economies if each of us spent just £1 extra a week with local businesses. That's an extraordinary potential boost for our towns and villages.

Kinross has a huge variety of brilliant local businesses to choose from—cafés, restaurants, shops, and producers. These businesses not only add character and vibrancy to our communities but also create jobs and keep money circulating locally. Choosing to spend with them really does make a difference.

Finally, a quick note for our local sports clubs. Flutter UKI has announced the 2026 launch of Cash4Clubs, with £500,000 available for grassroots organisations across the UK. Grants of £2,000 will go to 250 community clubs—whether for equipment, coaching, training, or marketing to attract new members.

I would strongly encourage Kinross-shire clubs to take advantage of this opportunity. Applications can be made at <https://cash-4-clubs.com/>

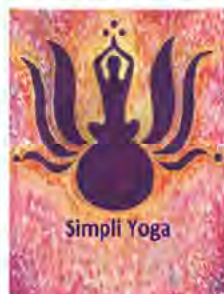
Pete Wishart, MP

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# Kinross Hub October Calendar

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<b>Wed 1</b>	1pm-3.30pm	<b>CATH</b> will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955 333163 or 07739 858987
<b>Thu 2</b>	10am-12noon 1pm-3pm	<b>Broke not Broken</b> – to offer advice, connections for support and also for foodbank referrals. 07518 913107 <b>Change Mental Health</b> – to offer advice, support and guidance around any mental health issues or queries.
<b>Thu 9</b>	10am to 12.30pm 1.30-3.30pm	<b>PKC Skills &amp; Employment</b> offers support & advice re CVs, Job search, support after redundancy etc. 07867 351268 <b>PKC Employment Support Team</b> – 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
<b>Wed 15</b>	1pm-3.30pm	<b>CATH</b> will support with form filling – PIP, Universal Credit etc 07955 333163 or 07739 858987
<b>Thu 16</b>	10am-12noon 2pm-4pm	<b>HEAT PROJECT</b> Craig will be here providing free energy advice to households, helping them become more energy efficient and reducing energy bills. 07868 864418 <b>Camille Vickers, Social Prescriber</b> – Community Connecting / Signposting 07775 701630
<b>Wed 22</b>	1pm-3.30pm	<b>Alison Tanner Support Choices</b> , provides free, independent information and advice about getting social care and support in Perth and Kinross 01350 729130
<b>Thu 23</b>	10am-12noon 2pm – 4pm	<b>PKC Trading Standards, SCAM AWARENESS</b> Melanie will give advice & information on avoiding scams and dealing with cold callers. 07557 214420 <b>PKC Housing Team</b> for housing advice and signposting to their service. 07917 552231

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# OH HECK, FORGOT MY TECH!

**WINNING WAYS** by Jo Middlemiss

**RECENTLY I WAS** fortunate enough to be invited to give a talk to the Probus Club in Perth. They hold their meeting in the lovely Mustard Seed café and restaurant, where they have a fabulous digital set up at the back with two great guys who can put up the pictures and slides without turning a hair.

They have three screens, set at the right level for the audience. The microphone clips on, and works a treat, which with all due respect, is not the same story at all organisations. Often they have no speakers, or the correct wires, or 'the person who understands all this isn't here today!' EEK!

Anyway, on this occasion, I had no nervous anxiety about how things would go. I had been to the group before. They had heard most of my jokes, stories and patter. 'Talk about anything you like,' was my remit.

So I chose the title '**It All Started With A Worm!**' I was excited and delighted to meet this kind, welcoming and generous group.

As I was sitting in slow traffic heading towards Perth, mentally revising my talk, and thinking about the order of the slides etc when suddenly the terrible thought leapt unbidden into my head, 'Oh heck, I forgot my tech.' Ouch! What to do? My lovely calm state of mind disappeared into thin air. No computer, no memory stick, no pictures. Just me and my chat and a hot sweat. Too late to turn back, I would need every bit of my brass neck to get me through the next few hours. I comforted myself with the thought that everyone who gives a talk should know their own stuff. I do know that a picture tells much more of the story, and definitely speaks to the visually oriented people among us.

On arrival, I firstly I had to confess, that despite their wonderful set-up I had no tech. Embarrassing.

Then I spoke to the clever tech guy, and it was he who said, 'I'll see what I can do for you.' By the time I started, he had found pictures, music and everything appropriate to my talk and saved the day.

The whole business brought to mind things forgotten that cannot be reversed. A passport lost just before getting on a flight (that happened in Spain). Vital equipment before a maths exam (too bad, exam failed!). The wallet left in a phone booth (before mobiles). All cards and money stolen in the middle of a holiday.

I won't bore you with all of my catastrophic and seemingly irretrievable forgettings. The truth is, that, in the end, I/we all got over all of them. They were all explained by the situation, stress, business and plain old dopiness. I'm willing to bet that you all have many similar stories to tell.

The important thing is not to put too much weight on the mistake, but put all attention and concentration on fixing it and going on. Many understandable emotions (anger, shame, disappointment and criticism) can get in the way of moving on whereas other, perhaps more useful emotions (understanding, humour, forgiveness and creativity), can help. When anything like this happened



Sad laptop by Sarah Kirk

in my childhood home, my father would inevitably chip in with, '*Let's analyse this.*' And we as a group would groan 'Let's not!' But of course it was sensible advice, if deeply uncomfortable. It did leave me with the mantra 'Own your mistakes, move on, and endeavour not to let it happen again.'

As I was about to conclude this article a friend who runs a very upmarket letting residence told me this tale. A recent visitor phoned in a panic to say that they had hidden a very valuable watch in a pillowcase, and had forgotten to retrieve it on departure. My friend had not found it, but had already put all the bed linen in the wash. It wasn't until she heard the clunk clunk in the dryer that she realised that it must be the watch. Indeed it was, and it was still ticking. That says a lot about the watch and caused enormous relief in the forgetful client. 'Let's analyse it!' I can hear my father's voice. I'm sure it will be a story oft repeated.

Jo Middlemiss MBE

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## BRAMBLE MOUSSE

Serves 4

### INGREDIENTS

450g brambles  
4 eggs, separated

25g caster sugar  
3 gelatine leaves  
300ml double cream  
Squeeze of lemon juice



**BLEND THE BRAMBLES** and sieve to remove the pips. Place the gelatine leaves in cold water. Make a custard by adding the cream to a pan and heating gently.

Once it comes to just on the boil, remove from the heat immediately. While this is warming, whisk the egg yolks and sugar until very light and fluffy and slowly add the heated cream.

Return to the pan and heat on low until thickened. Remove from the heat and whisk in the gelatine leaves and leave to cool.

Whisk the egg white to soft peaks. Add the bramble puree and the lemon juice to the custard, and gently fold into the egg whites, being careful not to knock out the air. Using a large metal spoon is best.

Pour into ramekins or glasses and chill overnight, or for at least four hours.



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

## Kinross Community Council News from the September Meeting

**Present** at the meeting on Monday 8 September were CCllrs B Freeman, D West, E Gilmour, L McKay, C Willsher, C Collins, Cllr D Cuthbert, H Collins (minutes) and 2 MoPs

**Apologies:** CCllrs S Sharp, D MacKenzie, A Vaughan, M West, Cllrs R Watters, W Robertson and N Freshwater

### Police Scotland Report

The Police were unable to attend the meeting as they were not on shift but had submitted a report which had been circulated. There were various assaults, break-ins and speeding fines issued. Vandalism at the Golf Ball at Balado was noted.

### Treasurer's Report

Grant application (for CAP) has gone to PKC but has not been actioned yet.

### CAP

Minutes from the last meeting had been circulated. Another meeting was taking place on 9 September. CAP event on Saturday 20 September. Volunteers were required.

### Parks & Recreation

E Gilmour had sent various emails to PKC Greenspace but these had not been answered. The person in charge is thought to be off work. DC said he would follow up.

### Planning Matters

CCllr Willsher advised that PKC Planning had resubmitted their drawing re 6 x industrial units backing on to MacDuff Place and were now retaining the belt of trees in question. However, the MoP pointed out that the 2m high security fence was now on the outside of the trees rather than on the inside, and she would retain her objection to the application believing it to be an interruption to a wildlife corridor as well as unsightly. It was voted to keep the KCC objection live on those grounds.

It was voted to keep the KCC objection live on those grounds – add "and advise PKC planning officer accordingly."

### BCA Planning Application Notice

Two public events scheduled for 17 Sept and 15 October where public can speak to the developers. It was thought that the CAP event would be a good place for any community objections/thoughts to be brought together. DC noted the importance of retaining the road to the pier.

No news on flood protection enquiry. A hearing must take place because of objections to the works.

### Green Issues

Green Living Fund – CC said it was not very clear who could

apply on behalf of whom. Further research to be undertaken.

### Cllr Reports

**DC:** CIF funding (previously decided by Kinross-shire committee) now going to a participatory budgeting session where public vote on priorities. Larger groups will apply and no doubt get funding. There is £17,000 for Kinross-shire. It was suggested that smaller groups could possibly be united under one banner in order for them to have a chance at gaining a good proportion of votes. KCC will lead application for all those who may otherwise lose out.

Formation of a Development Trust would help with this sort of activity. Will be discussed at CAP. Funding is available to Development Trusts.

**Road Safety:** DC noted the improvements required for crossings at Station Rd/Davies Park and Sainsburys/P&R. A new bus shelter should have been delivered. Kinross seems to get the least done in P&K, he is meeting with roads maintenance and road safety teams to find out why standard of repairs so much worse here than in Perth and to push for 1<sup>st</sup> time permanent repairs (not temporary ones). Road Safety have said they have been busy with pavement parking/20mph signs/Destiny Bridge. DC notes that A977 is much busier than A93/A94!

### Correspondence

Funding available for:

Royal Society – looking for those wanting to carry out community lead research on Green Topics.

Disabled toilets – installation of new toilets, funding available. Suggestions Day Centre, Kirkgate Park.

Ross Carruthers from (BCA site developers) to be invited to next meeting

### Comments from the Floor

**MoP:** Could we please arrange to have the 20mph sign at Renton Drive (10-12 houses) moved 2 lampposts down to where there are 60+ houses.

Streetlights soon to be repaired/replaced (yellow road markings all over Kinross noted).

Discussion on giving traffic from Milnathort priority at Station Road and creating a give-way for traffic coming from the South end of Kinross. Timescale would be long.

Car abandoned at Davies Park. Suggestion that car parking for 4 cars could be added by simply moving a bollard.

### AOB

Cllr L McKay:

Bowton Road water issues at park still not resolved. the

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## Community Council News

banking covered in weeds and water unseen. No signage that deep flowing water is hidden beneath. Local childminders have been raising the issue around safety.

KCC gazebo and signage returned to the CC and all other memorabilia/paperwork dropped at Kinross Marshall Museum.

Grow Wild – second and final cut of the year.

Banking Hub – when and where? Needs a vacant premises for application which takes 18 months. Courthouse business centre?

CC Meetings – can we now make available online. Would need to swap rooms in Campus with Andy's Man Club for tech.

KCC gazebo returned to KCC by LM.

Vote to allow DW and BF spend any surplus KCC money – look at Teams software etc. Proposed DW, seconded CC.

Stronger Communities Meeting – Glenfarg. CC member attended. Update to come.

CC Election date noted.

GrowWild – second grass cutting has now occurred.

*The next meeting of Kinross Community Council is on Monday 13 October in Loch Leven Community Campus. All are welcome to attend.*

## Portmoak Community Council

### News from the August Meeting

Present at the meeting held on Tuesday 12 August were Cllr R Watters; Cllrs A Miller, A Davidson, S McGregor, K Donaldson, J Hornal, L Hatch; and 3 members of the public.

**Apologies:** Cllrs D Cuthbert and W Robertson

### Matters Arising

**Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan:** R Watters provided an update on the Core Paths mapping app in development which PKC are planning to create a mobile 'phone mapping App to show all the footpaths within Kinross-shire and Glenfarg. Perthshire have also followed suit to create their active Travel Plan for projects going forward. For the first time PKC are applying for Tier2 funding from Transport Scotland for 2 projects in Kinross, it has not been confirmed yet if funding application has been successful. PCC agreed a Core paths mapping app would be welcomed for both residents and tourists and wished PKC all success with funding and the project.

**Portmoak Travel Plan:** The July meeting had been attended by D Smart from Glenfarg Community Transport who had talked about the initiative for a pilot for a bookable, on-demand travel service. Transport Community Forum on 28/08/25 to be held at Kinross Community Campus to discuss the pilot and App. PCC have an obligation to try and get as many people as possible to use such a service which would be a fantastic

opportunity for the Portmoak Community. Any people who are current users of the bus service, or non-drivers, who would be prepared to test the digital, on-demand service, particularly wheelchair users or people with pushchairs who would be keen to test the system and provide valuable feedback should reach out to Portmoak CC at [Secretary@Portmoak.org](mailto:Secretary@Portmoak.org) or via Portmoak CC on Facebook.

**Road Safety Action Update:** Chair had tried to obtain an update from MOCC about Speedwatch project, but had not managed to speak to Alan MacLean in time for meeting. It had been almost a year since the original Speedwatch meeting. There was increasing concern about heavy vehicles and lorries travelling at speed on Portmoak roads. A Davidson noted that there had been complaints from residents in Glenlomond about speeding on the Dryside Road and was keen to ensure that it was not just the A911 that was being monitored by the police for speeding. PCC noted that if there were "usual suspects" and residents could provide a vehicle registration plate no. and times speeding had occurred these details could be reported to Police Scotland for investigation.

**Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path:** The Chair had circulated to PCC and Cllrs 2 proposals provided by the landowner for the zoned field adjacent to the proposed path route. Proposals were part of the PKC Call for Sites for the Local Development Plan (LDP). The proposals had been circulated to Ward Councillors also with the intention of keeping all parties appraised of the intent. At this time, the proposals are not active Planning Applications with PKC and so are not in front of PCC for discussion as active applications at this stage. Information will be in the public domain as part of the LDP proposals if the sites are to be included as potential zoned areas for development.

### Portmoak Church – the future for the church and car park:

There had been another appeal for contributions to the GoFundMe appeal to raise money to secure the Church carpark for Community use.

PCC asked that residents could support this cause if at all possible to secure the car park for the future use of the Portmoak Community. KDT are providing the vehicle for the official purchase of the carpark.

**Adoption of road:** Wellside Park, Scotlandwell: no update at present from PKC. SUDS pond has been cleared. The inspection was imminent. W Robertson was not available at the meeting to provide more information. PCC would try to have an update for the Sep meeting.

**Restoration of Well at Scotlandwell:** requesting. Seeking considerable funding but also expressions of interest from various independent trades. Project is moving in the background.



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**Police Report**

The Secretary had received an update from the Police Liaison Officer. Since 8th July 2025 (last report) there have been approximately 16 calls to Police from the Portmoak area and 7 crimes recorded on Police systems. 6 of these are speeding offences with 4 speeding tickerts issued and 2 charged and reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

The Chair thanked the local Police for their patrols and was pleased to hear that speeding was being tackled.

**Planning**

**New Applications**

**Scottish Forestry:** Location: West Feal, Felling permission application, Ref# FPA-12762 Scotlandwell

<https://casebook.forestry.scot/w/webpage/prhome> Removal of circa 8000cbm of Sitka Spruce that has been blown down in recent storms. Plan to replant with native slow growing trees. PCC comment that during the felling that has gone on in area of recent times the timber lorries do drive very fast through local villages. Secretary to respond to Planning with No Comment on this item, but a request to remind haulage company to drive responsibly and preferably along the B9097 to join the motorway at Junction 5. There was a question about the possibility to move items at night? J Hornal asked about wildlife impact – The secretary highlighted there was a section the application about habitat regulations that the Forestry commission have to adhere to.

G Marshall enquired if the timber haulage company have any requirement to provide a levy back to the council for road repair. Cllr R Watters commented on a bond that was taken out for the B9097 for the Westfield lorry traffic but nothing specifically for other minor roads. Application for forestry does not come in front of PKC Planning. R Watters will email PKC Roads Officers to enquire about any consultation with PKC Planning. Chair to draft email to Forestry Commission.

**Westfield Site Update**

**(a) Progress with Developments:** Westfield Community Liaison Committee: no significant update. K Donaldson provided a brief update on his observations. Next meeting in September

**(b) Westfield Paths Feasibility Study:** no update

Paths Group update: The paths group have been busy cutting back the incredible growth on all the entrances onto the Michael Bruce Way, from the village. Following the recent storms, branches and debris on the path up from the Cobbles have been removed. The Ranger from PKC has helped with arranging a plan with the landowner to lay some chips/consolidate on a short boggy section of the Michael Bruce Way next to the bench - details on timing/costs still to be confirmed. PKC will provide Paths Group with additional batteries to support the group's strimming efforts. The Community Council have been asked to invoice PKC for the £150 grant for the Path's Group.

**Treasurer**

**CC Accounts:** no change from July update

**MBW Account:** £1276.50

**CC Account:** £ 562.54

Treasurer was preparing to collate the annual accounts in advance of the PCC AGM.

Paths Group need to notify of any invoices due that can be cleared before the financial year end.

**Councillors' Reports:**

**Cllr R Watters:** Temporary Traffic Regulation Order (TTRO) for Wester Balgedie up to Glenlomond to reduce the speed limit to 20mph. The order is temporary to allow PKC to move quickly to put the speed restrictions in place for up to 18 months when the change can be made permanent.

**Funding Opportunities:** local Community groups are encouraged to look at the Grants and Funding pages at PKC website (<https://www.pkclimateaction.co.uk/funding-and-grants>) at the many funds available, to see if they can apply for funding for equipment, building improvements, and other projects and Green Initiatives. Weighting for projects will apply where certain areas of focus will be favourably looked at. PKC Officers can help local groups with their applications to try to meet these weighting criteria.

**AOB**

**Portmoak Gala:** A Clark updated that £1013 had been raised at Gala, the day was stymied by rain midway through and due to the smaller crowd in the evening not as much money had been raised at the bar. A Family Race Day, with Pizzas from Pizza Via was being held at the Village Hall on Friday 19 September '25, to use up leftover supplies from the Gala Bar and raise some more funds for the Gala Committee.

**Easter Balgedie Speeding:** a local Easter Balgedie resident spoke about the continued speeding through the hamlet and the difficulties this caused for less able residents and wheelchair users to cross the road to the pavements and bus stops. Other villages in Portmoak were being moved to a 20mph speed limit through TTROs and E Balgedie should be included in this. Cllr RW atters advised that PCC could request that E Balgedie could be added to the list of TTROs in Portmoak. Secretary to email request to include E Balgedie in the 20mph TTRO to the PKC Roads team.

*The next meeting of Portmoak CC is on Tuesday 14 October at 7.30pm.*

**Cleish & Blairadam Community Council**

*The next meeting of Cleish and Blairadam CC will take place on Monday 6 October at 7:30pm in Tabernacle Hall, Keltybridge.*

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## Milnathort and Orwell Community Council

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell CC will be on Thursday 9 October 2025, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall

## Fossway Community Council News from the September meeting

**Present** at the meeting on Tuesday 2 September were CCLRs): A Cheape, T Lamb, N Marchant and K Williamson; Associate CCLr Farquhar; Cllr D Cuthbert; 12 MoP, PC B Samson, Sgt J Marshall and Special Police Constable G Morley

**Apologies:** CCLRs A Carter, S Bruce Jones and G Pye; Cllrs N Freshwater, R Watters and W Robertson.

### Police Report:

From 5 August 2025 (last report) there have been approximately 20 calls to the Police from the Fossway area, and nine crimes recorded on Police systems (two of these are road traffic related and two are the same domestic abuse related incident.)

Crimes of Note: On 7 August four suspects were arrested and released pending further enquiry in relation to the supply of a controlled drug after a car was stopped in Powmill. This is the subject of a live investigation.

On 14 August there was a report of fraud in Solsgirth where a person had booked a plumber via mybuilder.com, made a payment and the suspect did not complete any work. This is the subject of a live investigation.

A MoP reported that during the recent storm they came home to find a person on their roof and another person in their garden. They claimed to be there to quote for emergency fixing of the roof and were very intimidating. Eventually they left but returned the next day and again were very intimidating when asked to leave. PC Samson noted that unfortunately this is a common occurrence, and the MoP was right to ask them to leave. The MoP did contact the Police and Trading Standards.

Road Traffic Reports: Community officers will continue to make efforts to carry out speed checks across the area during their patrols. On 20 August two drivers were issued with conditional tickets for driving using mobile phone (A977 Crook of Devon.) On Wednesday 13 August 2025, PC Samson and PS Marshall carried out speeding checks in Powmill. During these checks one vehicle was stopped, and the driver was warned regarding their driving.

Fly Tipping: The CC have been made aware of fly tipping on the old golf course road. This should initially be reported to PKC, not the Police.

**Seamab School:** A MoP asked who they should inform if a child from Seamab school is found on their property or in a field containing cattle. Police stated that the first call should be

to the school and if they are not contactable, then phone the Police, if they think the children are at risk.

**Speedwatch:** CCLr Lamb asked for an update on the Speedwatch programme being led by Milnathort CC. In answer, PC Ben Samson confirmed that approximately 12 volunteers had gone through the process to approve for the Speedwatch initiative, that teams would consist of three at a time and that the scheme was being managed by Milnathort CC. This means that Speedwatch checks can now take place. Cllr Cuthbert noted that he had recently referred a new member to Milnathort CC.

### Matters Arising:

#### Windfarms

**Brunt Hill:** The CC has received notification of an amendment to the Brunt Hill wind farm planning application. The application has been amended in response to addressing consultee comments, namely the removal of five turbines and their associated infrastructure and refining the position of the remaining 13 turbines, removing two borrow pits and adjusting the track layout. The Additional Information can either be viewed on the applicant's website at <https://brunthillinfo.co.uk/> or on the Scottish Governments Energy Consents Unit website at [www.energyconsents.scot](http://www.energyconsents.scot) under application reference ECU00004654. Any new representations on the application should be received not later than 15 October by email to [representations@gov.scot](mailto:representations@gov.scot)

The CC is working with Carnbo Village Hall to agree a date where the revised plans can be reviewed. It was agreed that the CC should invite our MSPs and MPs to this event. The CC will be writing an additional objection for discussion and approval at our October meeting.

**Craighead:** No additional information has been received since the August meeting however it is noted that there are several new documents on DPEA website (PPA-340-2162 (Planning Permission Appeal) notably exchanges between the DPEA and Historic Environment Scotland, the Gliding Centre and PKC Planning. The date for a decision by the DPEA is now 6 Jan 2026. PKC had been asked to provide a list of planning conditions, but they failed to do so. The DPEA have then asked the Developer to provide their own list of planning conditions for PKC to review by 12 Sept. The CC are disappointed with the lack of engagement by PKC Planning and will submit to the DPEA our view on the proposed planning conditions.

#### Local Place Plan (LPP) Update

The Fossway and District LPP has now been registered with PKC and can be found on their website: <https://www.pkc.gov.uk/localplaceplanregister>

#### Community Development Trust (CDT)

The Trust will have a stall at the Fossway Gathering, residents are encouraged to come along and find out more about the workings of the Trust.

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**Road Safety in FDCC area including A977 mitigation measures.**

Review of proposed 20mph zones and other speed limit changes in Fossoway

The new temporary (18 months) 20mph speed limits are now in place although some of the Vehicle Activated Signs are still to be changed. After this time there will be a consultation process before permanent changes are made.

Residents have raised their disappointment at the refusal of PKC to change the speed limit at the Drum crossroads to 30mph where there have been two accidents in recent months. Several MoPs have reported cars going through red lights in Drum and Crook of Devon.

In addition, there is no safe walking route, due to lack of footpath, for children to walk to school from houses on the edge of Drum. There was a lively discussion regarding significant road safety concerns. The CC will write to Ward Cllrs and PKC Road Safety seeking an independent review of road safety on the A977 and A91 before any further changes are made e.g., consideration of introducing ramps.

**Fossoway Area Transport**

Cllr Lamb reported that the Glenfarg 23 service continues to operate well in spite of successive roadworks. It is hoped that the Powmill roadworks would end within two weeks. The 23/55 service is now approaching 2000 passenger journeys a week. Glenfarg CGT are also rolling out its Digital DRT service, which will be a pilot for four months and will need to be used to demonstrate the need and to secure future funding.

The Fossoway Community Bus has already been operating to support Carnbo Hall's Anniversary celebrations, and has a programme of events and trips in planning for the Autumn. It will be transporting people to and from the upcoming Fossoway Gathering at no cost to any individual. More trips are planned to Errol Sunday Market on the 21 September – there will be a small donation to support the ongoing running of the Bus.

**Seamab School Construction Work**

The CC raised concerns with PKC's Enforcement and Environmental Health Officers once more and have been advised that PKC have again contacted the contractor regarding dust and the open trench. They also stated that the work carried out on Saturday after 1pm was by Scottish Water who have access and work rights outside of the agreed planning conditions.

A MoP reported that they have had more samples from the track and their property privately analysed. The results show the presence of blue asbestos in the dust. Local residents are deeply concerned about the presence of this hazardous material as the dust suppression activities of the contractor are clearly inadequate. To date the MoP has had no response from HSE or SEPA and whilst PKC have visited them, they have failed to follow up to confirm that the material has been safely removed. Cllr Cuthbert will once again raise this urgent issue with PKC Officers. The CC will write to Ward Cllrs and PKC Environmental Health

Officers seeking an independent analysis of the soil without delay.

**Community Noticeboards**

The Trust has now received formal notification of the grant to provide these and will be working with the village shop, Blairingone, Carnbo Village Hall and Rumbling Bridge to choose appropriate noticeboards. The Trust will require volunteers to erect the new boards and remove the old ones.

**Crook Moss Travellers Site.**

A MoP again raised their concern on the state of the site and Cllr Cuthbert agreed to raise this with PKC Officers. The abandoned car is still in the woodland as SEPA have failed to have it removed.

**New Business**

**Dog Fouling in Parks**

Cllr Robertson has reported that there is a growing problem with dog fouling in our parks and sports pitches here in Kinross-shire. He requested a fenced off designated dog exercise area in our parks, but this has been refused by PKC. The CC agreed to send Cllr Cuthbert a map of the footpath between Drum and Aldie Road marking locations for new dog waste bins.

**Neighbourhood Watch Scotland**

Neighbourhood Watch Scotland have advised that the UK's telephone landlines are going digital. By January 2027, the old analogue network will be completely replaced by new digital landlines which work using broadband. This means that residents using telecare devices will need to ensure that their equipment is compatible with the new digital technology. Cllr Cuthbert reported that PKC are knocking on all impacted peoples' doors and arranging modification of their telecare system.

**Scottish Water**

There has been media coverage that Scottish Water has renewed their call for customers to help take care of Scotland's drinking water supplies, after the driest spring nationwide for 70 years. Also, Scottish Water advised residents of smelly water caused by Geosmin in which has a distinctive earthy or musty smell. To help reduce the taste or odour, they recommend chilling the water, adding ice, a slice of lemon, or a few drops of lemon juice.

**Community Council Business:**

Fossoway and District CC Elections: The next CC elections will be held on 6 November 2025 (<https://www.pkc.gov.uk/communitycouncilselections>). Nominations close at 4pm on 25 September. In the event of there being more than eight nominations there will be an election on 6 November 2025. To continue to exist the Fossoway and District CC must have a minimum of four Cllrs. Currently the Chair has advised that a number of Cllrs, including herself, will not be standing for re-election, and as a result we require new Cllrs in order that the CC continues to exist. Cllrs are all volunteers and if anyone wishes to find out more about becoming a Cllr please reach out to us on [fossoway.cc@gmail.com](mailto:fossoway.cc@gmail.com).

## Community Council News

It was agreed that the remaining Science Award fund of £201.56 would be transferred to the Fossoway Fund.

The Fossoway Gathering will be held on 6 September in Waulkmill Park featuring Historia Normannis Medieval Village and Display. Gates will open at 11.30 and close at 4.30. This year there will be a free Community Bus service running with pick-ups from Carnbo 12pm and 1pm and from Muckhart at 12.15pm and 1.15pm. Returns will run at 3pm and 4pm.

### Meetings Attended:

Cllr Lamb attended Stronger Communities PKC on 26 July and Kinross-shire Transport Forum PKC on 28 July.

Cllr Lamb reported on the recent PKC led Communities Together meeting and commented that there were concerns about its future existence as PKC, for various reasons, were intent upon ceasing management of it and asking the Community to take this on. A further report will be made when decisions have been made about its future.

Cllr Cheape attended the Kinross-shire Fund, where grants were made to Orwell Bowling club and Perth Autism.

### Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Cuthbert noted that the Fairer Communities for All Fund is now open, this has replaced the Community Investment Fund.

### Planning Matters

#### Planning Decisions

08/01561/FLM Easter Muirhead Blairingone S42 application to vary condition 12 (road widening) of permission.

The CC have been advised that the application has now been returned to the applicant/agent as Technically Invalid and will not be determined.

#### Planning Applications

25/01236/FLL Erection of 4 dwellinghouses, garages and associated works at Land 40 metres north-west of Ladieshall Vicar's Bridge Road Blairingone, no CC Comment.

Energy Consent Unit ECU00005240 Installation of a battery energy storage system and associated infrastructure with a generating capacity of up to 250MW located on land to the north-east of Kincardine and east of Kilbagie, Clackmannanshire, no CC Comment.

### AOCB

The AGM and next meeting of Fossoway CC will be on Tuesday 7 October 2025 at 7.30pm at Crook of Devon Hall Village Hall

## Fossoway Development Trust News

[www.fossowaytrust.com](http://www.fossowaytrust.com)

### Fossoway and District CAP 2025-2030 Newsletter

#### Funding

Nicola Marchant

The Trust has a JustGiving page where members and others can make donations.

### Fossoway Gathering 6 September

The Trust will have its own gazebo at the Fossoway Gathering so please come along to see us. We have also created a QR code and have purchased fundraising boxes which we will be using at the Fossoway Gathering to seek donations of £2 for the Fossoway Maps and hopefully attract more members for an initial subscription of £5 which will include a copy of our Community Action Plan.

The Trust has made a grant application to Gannochy Trust to cover 12 months administration costs and marketing which unfortunately has been rejected. It is essential that we raise funds to cover our ongoing administration costs over the next two months.

### Theme 1 – Traffic Transport and Active Travel

Tony Lamb

Members will like to know that the Community Bus was active during the Carnbo Hall's 35th

Anniversary celebrations and again will be out and about transporting Fossoway residents to the Gathering on 6th. Additionally, we have offered the chance of a Saturday night out at the Tillicoultry Bowling Club, transporting residents to and from the venue for a small donation. Keep a watch on the Facebook page - Fossoway Community Bus | Facebook, as we shall soon be offering up opportunities to visit Errol Sunday Market, the biggest market for miles, and Edinburgh IKEA. Places on the minibus will be strictly first come first served.

We also now have a new volunteer driver in training and one other potential driver. Finally, we are pleased to announce that we have successfully registered for a network support grant that means we will receive a reimbursement of 14.4p/km travelled in our Community Bus. This will help fund the ongoing regular maintenance and insurance of the bus.

### Theme 2 – Local Economy and Service

No projects

### Theme 3 – Community Facilities, Activities and Events

Marion Anness

#### Project – Replacement of Village Noticeboards and Moubray Hall Survey

Nicola Marchant

We are still waiting for the confirmation of funds letter from PKC and then we can engage surveyor for Moubray Hall and work with representatives from the communities and the Devon Stores to choose new noticeboards.

#### Project – CAT of Blairingone School-Marion Anness

Directors met with Sarah Kimmet from PKC and discussed the results of the Members vote for a long-term lease for Blairingone Village Hall. A project update will be made to the PKC Kinross-shire Committee on 18 September.

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The Blairingone working group continue to actively seek an anchor tenant.

**Theme 4 – Environment and Heritage**

*Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones*

**Project 1 – New Bridge Over River Devon**

*Mike Barnacle*

The Trust is in dialogue with PKC regarding previous planning application for the bridge that was washed away in 2011. We propose to update the engineering survey and design of new bridge using designated funds held in the Fossoway Fund

**Project 2 – Creation of a Local Paths Group**

*Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones*

The Trust is in the process of establishing a Project Scope for a Local Paths Group. Maureen Lamb, Luke Wilson & Bryony Malvenan are keen to be involved. If anyone else is interested, please email [info@fossowaytrust.com](mailto:info@fossowaytrust.com)

**Project 3 – Creation of Heritage Trail and Protection of Local Heritage**

*Sarah Bruce Jones & Nicola Marchant*

Sarah and Nicola met with Katie Evans and Hugh Wallace on 26 August to discuss and agree a Project Scope to develop a Heritage Trail booklet and renovate the Lade. A copy of the Project Scope will be posted on our website. The Fossoway School are keen to engage with researching the history of our Villages.

**Theme 5 -Future Development and Sustainability**

*Nicola Marchant*

**Project – supporting our Village Halls and residents in reducing energy usage.**

Nathan from the HEAT project met with representatives from all our Village Halls to look at opportunities to reduce energy costs and where possible achieve net zero. A report will be produced and shared with the Hall Committees and Members. All Fossoway residents can contact the HEAT Project to get free impartial advice on how to make energy savings and retrofit our homes. <https://fossowaytrust.com/news/free-home-energy-advicefrom-the-heat-project/>

**Kinnesswood Development Trust News**

Kinnesswood Development Trust (KDT) Directors met on 1 September 2025 to discuss current activities and upcoming projects. Consideration was given to progress with the Community Right to Buy of Portmoak Church car park, where the purchase is now underway.

The meeting was also attended by a representative from the Development Trusts Association Scotland (DTAS), who provided useful guidance on progressing community-led initiatives. Plans are being made to hold community engagement events in the near future to support this work. If you'd like to find out more or get involved, please visit [www.kinnesswood.org](http://www.kinnesswood.org) or email [info@kinnesswood.org](mailto:info@kinnesswood.org).



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## Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

[www.kleo.org.uk](http://www.kleo.org.uk)



### Kinross Farmers' Markets

The next market is on 25 October on the High Street from 10am to 2pm. The Festive Street market is on Saturday 22 November from 10am to 3pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. There will be a great variety of stalls and entertainment! If you are a local trader, crafts person or community group you might consider a stall. For a booking form for this event, please e-mail [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk).

### Kinross-shire Winter Festival Events



Loch Leven Community library and KLEO are delighted that the following authors come to Kinross during Bookweek Scotland. Come to the library and meet these award-winning authors. You can also have your books signed.

Dr Sandy Winterbottom will talk about whales, whaling, Antarctica and the climate crisis, all come-together

in a fascinating new nonfiction book, *The Two-Headed Whalen* on Tuesday 18 November at 7pm. Join crime author Heather Critchlow, the author of the Cal Lovett series and speculative thriller *The Tomorrow Project*, on Thursday 20 November at 7pm.

Bestselling author Elisabeth Gifford (*'A Woman Made of Snow'* and *'The Lost Lights of St Kilda'*) will talk about her new book *'The Mischief Makers'* on Sunday 23 November at 1.30pm.



All author events take place at Loch Leven Community library. Tickets are £6 and are available at the library or via our website.

### Comedy Night

Saturday 8 November, 8pm at Milnathort Town Hall will be an evening packed with laughs featuring comedians Billy Kirkwood and friends. Bar at venue. Tickets are £12 via our website.



## EDDI READER

Friday 28 November | 8pm  
Loch Leven Community Campus | £27

Celebrating over 40 years in the industry, Eddi Reader has effortlessly developed into one of popular music's most thrilling and affecting live performers.

### Eddi Reader Back In Kinross

The headline act for this year's Kinross-shire's Winter Festival is singer and songwriter Eddi Reader on Friday 28 November, 8pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. Tickets are £27.

### Anthony Toner: Some of Prine, Some of Mine

Belfast-based songwriter Anthony Toner opened the show for the legendary Barbara Dickson on her last visit to Kinross, and makes a welcome return for the Winter Festival with a unique afternoon concert on Sunday 16 November at 3pm in Milnathort Town Hall. Tickets are £10.

Tickets for the Eddi Reader/Anthony Toner concerts are available at Morgans Estate Agency in Kinross, online through our website

## ANTHONY TONER:

### Some of Prine, Some of Mine

Sunday 16 November | 3pm  
Milnathort Town Hall | £10

Belfast-based songwriter Anthony Toner opened the show for the legendary Barbara Dickson on her last visit to Kinross, and makes a welcome return with a unique afternoon concert, mixing his own material with a selection of songs from one of the masters - the late, great John Prine. Expect an afternoon of great songs and some entertaining stories from the road.



### Ten Minute Tales

Write a personal story and read it at a short story event in the library as part of Book Week Scotland on Monday 17 November at 7pm. We invite anyone to take part; you do not have to be an established author and the event is for all ages. However, the limit of your tale has to be 10 minutes! The theme is friendship.

The story should be about a personal memory or experience and could explore friendships that are deeply connected to our youth or maybe new and unexpected friendships. The only stipulations are that it is a true story, and it takes no longer than ten minutes to read (about 1400 words).

We are looking for eight or nine people to present their stories. If you are interested in taking part, please send an email to [info@kleo.org.uk](mailto:info@kleo.org.uk) to confirm so we know how many people are taking part. We will then send you some more specific guidelines for writing your piece and you have until 17 November to complete it. It will be a very varied and fun event. Everyone is welcome to come along to listen to the stories!

## Clubs & Community Groups

### Kinross Community Folk Group

Dust off your instruments and come along. We meet every Tuesday afternoon from 1pm to 3pm at St Paul's Church Hall on the Muirs. The fee is £3 a session to pay for the hall and coffee/teas. If you have any queries, contact Ian Hardie on 07941847657

### Acoustic Open Mic

These evenings are for anyone who would like to play a couple of songs in a live situation. They take place on the third Wednesday of the month from 7.30pm to 9pm in the lounge of the Green Hotel. Text Nigel on 07758559187

For more information about KLEO events visit our website.

## Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

### Perth & Kinross is a Fairtrade Zone

Fairtrade Fortnight: 22 September – 5 October 2025



The theme for this year is 'Do It Fair!'. We are thinking about tea producers and asking you to 'Brew It Fair!'. Tea provides work for an estimated 13 million people, but in Kenya (where most of the tea sold in Britain comes from) only 1 in 5 farmers earn enough to support their families with essentials. If you buy tea with the Fairtrade Mark you know that the farmers who have grown your tea have received a fair price. Please come to our Fairtrade coffee morning in the Kinross Centre on Saturday 4 October at 10am-12pm. There will be lots of stalls including crafts, plants and Fairtrade products. Most importantly, try our delicious Fairtrade tea! Please choose #Fairtrade and 'Do It Fair' for a fairer world.



## Kinross-shire Climate Cafe

<https://www.facebook.com/kleo.org.uk>

Kinross-shire Climate Cafe meets on the first Tuesday of the month at Loch Leven Community Library. Talks start at 7pm and we provide tea, coffee and biscuits. Just bring your own cup.

Here's what we have coming up next:

**7 October 2025:** Theme around food sharing and food waste as it is Harvest festival time. Please bring along any extra produce you would like to share.

**4 November 2025:** A talk about chemicals in clothes.

**2 December 2025:** Joint Christmas themed evening with Repair Café.

If you have any questions or would like to present/talk at one of our climate café meetings, please get in touch.

We would like to thank Loch Leven Community Library for hosting our events and providing technical support for the speakers.

Contact Kara Mackay - [kinrossshireclimatecafe@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossshireclimatecafe@gmail.com)



## Kinnesswood In Bloom

It's an autumn feeling in the air now and, at our village, we are cutting back lots of vegetation. It certainly is, but the bins full. However, there is still quite a lot of colour round the village and we hope that everyone enjoys walking around the areas we maintain. There are also lots of private gardens which have lovely displays. We do hear complaints about visits by deer which seem to choose the choicest plants unfortunately.

The school have started their gardening groups again and have a chance to visit the polytunnel and raised beds as well as getting a harvest bag to take home. Most children got a few tatties, tomatoes, half of a large onion and either a piece of courgette or cucumber. We hope they didn't end up too squishy in the school bag! We asked the children to either take a picture or draw what they cooked. By the October holidays all the children will have received a goodie bag.

One class planted some seeds in an empty raised bed to grow green manure. The packet didn't say what the seeds were, but they are varieties which can be cut down and dug in to enrich the soil. It will be interesting to see what comes up.

Beautiful Scotland, like everyone else, is tightening their belt and the award ceremony this year is on Zoom. Kinnesswood in Bloom seems to be the only group in Perth and Kinross which is taking part in the competitions this year. Elspeth Bruce of PKC is organising a get together on Tuesday 16 September at Forteviot Hall to cheer us on. Seven of us are going along for the evening. It won't be quite as exciting as having a meal and big build up at the Botanic Gardens like the last couple of years, but it is lovely that Elspeth has organised this and we will have plenty of supporters to cheer us on.

## Kinross Handcraft Circle

Classes are held in the Gateside Memorial Hall on alternate Tuesday mornings at 9.45am to 12.15pm. Dates are listed in the diary at the back of this magazine.

Annual membership is £30. For more information contact our secretary, Ann Caudrey, by email at [ann.jag21@gmail.com](mailto:ann.jag21@gmail.com).

## Common Grounds

[www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe](http://www.spanglefish.com/commongroundscharitycafe)

At the time of writing, we are looking forward to holding our 25th anniversary lunch on Tuesday 30 September and remembering all the good times and causes that we have supported over the years. Let us look forward to celebrating 30 years with your help as either a volunteer or as a visitor.

Our chosen charities for the month of September are both well worthwhile causes. Firstly, Open Arms Malawi, saving and improving lives of vulnerable children in Malawi. The charity works closely with families and communities to ensure they have the resources to raise healthy children and become self-sufficient.

Our second charity is Taste UK. This was a Christian charity registered in 1999 but working with people of all faiths or none, to spread the appropriate and sustainable technology in Nigeria in providing the construction of community boreholes. The focus on clean water and sanitation tackles issues of health/disease prevention, as well as reduction of poverty and quality of life. Volunteers from the UK travel to Nigeria to share their expertise, thus developing the skills required by the charity staff and communities they work with. We look forward to welcoming old and new friends in the coming months, with hopefully our warm fire on! We are open every Tuesday and Saturday from 10am-12.30 pm.

## Kinross-shire U3A

[kinross-shire.u3aite.uk](http://kinross-shire.u3aite.uk)

Find us on Facebook

At our speaker meeting on Tuesday 7

October Iwan Thomas will present a talk on the Fife Pilgrim Way. This will take place in Kinross Parish Church and doors open after 2pm for the talk at 2.30pm. Speaker Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month from September 2025 to April 2026. The AGM will be held in May 2026.

The cost of annual membership is £15 for full members and £10 for associate members (member of another u3a). Please note that the renewal payment for current members is due from 1 September.

We have 11 current interest groups as follows: places of interest, film and theatre, famous Scots, book club, gardening group, wine group, scrabble, rummikub, wine tasting, genealogy, walking group. We are planning new groups for gentle exercise and an introduction to mobile phones.

New members are welcome. Find us on Facebook or visit our website for more information.

## KADAC

*'Fabulous exhibition', 'such diversity and talent', 'a lovely evening, thank you!'*

were just some of the comments from the evening of Friday 5 September, when over 80 members and guests gathered for the opening of KADAC Art Exhibition 2025, held for the fourth year running at the delightful venue of Cleish Village Hall. In her welcoming speech, KADAC Chair, Amanda Hamza, thanked all KADAC members for their support, enthusiasm, and commitment to the club and to the exhibition. She then welcomed professional artist and the evening's special guest,



Amanda Hamza, KADAC, presenting Barry Allan-Scott with a thank you gift

Barry Allan-Scott. After introducing him, the evening's attendees were charmed as Barry gave a thoughtful and humorous speech before pronouncing the 2025 Art Exhibition open.

There was such a joyous atmosphere in the hall as Barry, members and guests mingled around the exhibition, enjoying wine and nibbles as they viewed the 176 artworks. Folk also browsed the wide variety of crafts and supported the popular raffle, keen to win one of the many prizes. The prizes included vouchers and gifts purchased by members as well as a framed print and a mounted print by Greg Drumm.

During the exhibition, Tom Sutton-Smith, the club's professional adviser offered one of his paintings, 'Spring Composition', for a donation to Broke Not Broken. By the end of the weekend, a fabulous donation of £450 was made for the painting and subsequently donated by a generous patron to this respected, local charity. Thank-you to both Tom and the donor for their kind and thoughtful acts.

Throughout the KADAC exhibition, 61 paintings in total were sold as well as a record number of craft items. Those members on duty were thrilled to encounter that the event was never without a visitor during the whole exhibition weekend. 90 visitors chose to take time to enjoy a cuppa and tasty home baking with many catching up with friends and family in the cheery, creative atmosphere. Support for the club from the wider community of Kinross and District was evident through the comments, footfall and the warm, friendly feeling. Thanks, specifically, to the people of Cleish for their incredible support throughout the exhibition weekend. Members felt so welcomed into this warm and supportive community.

During the weekend, visitors were encouraged to vote for their favourite painting of the exhibition in the 'People's Choice'. After counting all the votes, *'Kinnesswood'* by Robin Kent was announced as this year's worthy winner by chair Amanda.

After the excitement of the exhibition, members are happy to settle down again to the regular club painting sessions on Tuesdays and Fridays, and are looking forward to the two workshop/demos planned for October and November.

*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.*

**u3a**  
learn, laugh, live





## Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

[www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil](http://www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil)

Congratulations to some of our members and friends who recently completed the "Rob Roy Mighty Hike Half-Marathon" on behalf of MacMillan Cancer Support. They finished the challenging 15 mile walk in a very respectable 6.5 hours. The team raised over £3000.

### Tuesday Short Walks

Unless otherwise stated, these walks are usually about two hours long and a fairly gentle four miles. We often follow the walk with a visit to a cafe, farm shop or pub for refreshments, but this is entirely optional.

#### Tuesday 7 October, Dunbarney/Silver Walk, Bridge of Earn

Flat walk around the outskirts of Bridge of Earn, skirting Dunbarney Estate and Pitkeathly Wells before taking in the Silver Walk and Heughfield Road. A short section is walked

on the road between Dunbarney Estate and Pitkeathly Wells. A leisurely 4.5 miles.

#### Tuesday 21 October, Aberdour to Burntisland

The walk starts at Aberdour station from where we head along the side of the railway and down to the coastal path at Silversands Bay. There are great views as we continue to Burntisland where we walk along the High Street, across the Links and back along the promenade. Return to Aberdour by bus.

For further details of where to meet us for Tuesday walks, or for general enquiries, please contact Susan Tester on 01786 834535.

### Weekend Longer Walks

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

#### Sunday 12 October, Norman's Law

Circular walk on farm tracks and hill paths with great views over Fife and the River Tay. A 6.3-mile-long moderate walk with a 1140ft ascent. Walking poles are recommended.

#### Saturday 25 October, Falkland and East Lomond Circular

Sarting from Falkland Estate, the walk initially proceeds west on quiet roads and good forest tracks, passing by the Witches Cave and Temple of Decision. The circular route continues to the Craigmear car park, then up the steep East Lomond hill, back down and along the many steps to Falkland village. A moderate 6-mile hike. Walking poles are recommended. Toilet facilities are available at Craigmear car park.

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.

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## Portmoak Community Woodland Group



We are counting the days to our popular annual Portmoak Apple Day. It will take place on Sunday 5 October at 2-4pm and we are looking forward to celebrating a bumper crop.

This family event is in the orchard in Kilmagad Wood, Scotlandwell, opposite Portmoak Kirk car park. Kids and dogs are welcome. We shall be picking apples from the wide variety of trees and then pressing them to make fantastic, fresh juice.

Please bring any spare apples you have from your own garden and bring containers for juice. If you have any 'mystery trees', you can also bring an apple, twigs and leaves so that apple expert, Andrew Lear, can try to identify them. Our popular home baking stall will be full of apple-themed goodies and there will be tea and coffee to wash them down. If it's a very wet day, we shall move everything (except, of course, the apple picking) into Portmoak village hall.

The event is free but we do appreciate cash or card donations to help pay for the equipment and help us to fund other work in the community woodlands.

On that note, we have begun our autumn tasks, such as removing birch from the peat dome in Portmoak Moss. Not much of it is small enough to simply pull out, so we have to take equipment such as loppers, hand saws and 'tree poppers' to tackle the stubborn roots.

The aim is to stop the peat drying out and give sphagnum moss a chance to grow and create more peat.

We are extremely grateful for the help we received on Sunday

7 September, when we had a group of more than 30 people. Our old friends, the Lothians Conservation Volunteers joined us, as well as new friends, who usually volunteer for the Woodland Trust in the Livingston area of West Lothian. Some of our group visited their woods in the summer.

Having so many people meant we got a pile of work done and the time passed quickly, as we shared stories about woodlands and wildlife.

At lunchtime, everyone was treated to fruit crumbles made by Marje Smith from Kinnesswood, and (as she was away) brought, piping hot, by Elaine Carruthers from Scotlandwell. Altogether it was a great day!

## Kinross Garden Group



We had an excellent day at our outing to the Glasgow Botanic Gardens in September. There is much to see in the greenhouses, the outside beds and the wonderful Kibble Palace with its forest of ferns!

Our first meeting of the new season is on Thursday 9 October at 2pm when Elspeth MacIntosh, who used to be Head of the Alpine House at the Royal Botanics, Edinburgh, will talk about 'A Lifetime in Alpines'.

Membership fees remain at £20 for the year and £5 for visitors. We will be taking membership at this meeting. If you are new to Kinross-shire (or not) and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts, you will be made very welcome. Talks take place at Kinross Parish Church on Station Road and doors open from 1.30pm.

For more details contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589 or by email at [acaroline1000@gmail.com](mailto:acaroline1000@gmail.com).





Our featured photo is 'The Victorian Parlour' by Janet Lowe. It was taken at Kirbuster Farm Museum in Orkney.

## Kinross Camera Club

[www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com](http://www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com)

Find us on Facebook

### Thursday 2 October – Member's Talk, 'My Photography' by Wullie Marr

We begin October in the hall with a talk by club member Wullie Marr. Wullie is a professional press photographer, and we look forward to an evening of photography covering many genres and topics.

### Thursday 9 October – Member's Pictures/Critique Evening

We will be meeting in the hall for an opportunity to share images and request feedback from club members in a relaxed, informal way. A great chance to seek advice from our more experienced photographers and pick up tips on how an image could be improved.

### Sunday 12 October – Perthshire Alliance

This is the first of our external competitions. It is always an enjoyable afternoon and a chance to meet up with members of another camera club in friendly competition to win the coveted trophy.

### Thursday 16 October – Zoom talk, 'My Beautiful Light' by Jane Goodall

Jane is a cardiovascular research scientist and photographer who is inspired by the natural landscape and captivated by the fleeting moments of changing light and tides. She has been drawn to the British coast, especially Dorset, Cornwall, Northumbria and the Scottish Islands. Her recent work focuses on local scenes, from the majestic views of geese on King's College lawn in the mist, to rusting old diesel pumps hiding amongst the nettles in the fenland and the local fauna and woodlands.

### Thursday 23 October – Smartphone Competition

We will be meeting in the hall to enjoy an evening of members images taken on their smartphones. Participants are invited to submit four images on a set theme which, this

year, is 'My Local Area'. Members will have the chance to talk a little about their images and the overall winning image will be decided by members on the night.

### Thursday 30 October – Practical Evening, Photographing Snakes

We will be meeting in the hall for an exciting opportunity to photograph some pet snakes belonging to Wullie Marr. We are sure that this is something not many of us have done. Wullie will set up lighting and stations where we can try out our skills at photographing these incredible creatures. This is an evening not to be missed.

### Contact and Information

For further information about our syllabus events please contact our secretary by email at [secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk](mailto:secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk), visit our website or find us on Facebook.

If you have an interest in photography and would like to find out more about our camera club, please get in touch. All abilities of photographer will be made very welcome. No fancy camera equipment is required; all you need is an interest in taking photographs, learning how to improve your photography and meeting up with likeminded folk. We are a very sociable friendly, group and you will be made very welcome. You can even come along to a few meetings before deciding if you would like to become a full member.

## Kinross in Bloom



### Blooming Marvellous

Everything has been blooming marvellous this summer and, at the time of writing, the bloom plants continue to be the gifts that go on giving. However by the time of publication they will all be gone.

The winter pansies have arrived and are being nurtured in the poly tunnel. The next step is to get them planted out, then sit back. Well, not quite, as we will be planting 6000 crocuses and tête a tête daffodil bulbs in locations around the town during October!

Some readers may have noticed new plants in the large containers at Springfield Corner. These plants have been chosen for their hardiness and should appear year after year. They will still need to be pruned and watered but move Kinross in Bloom forward with their sustainable agenda.

Many thanks for all the compliments over the year and the help with watering and planting. The main aim of Kinross in Bloom is to continue to enhance the townscape with plants and colour.

For information contact [susan.mitchell50@gmail.com](mailto:susan.mitchell50@gmail.com) or [daviddickson2@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:daviddickson2@hotmail.co.uk).

## Portmoak Hall 100 Club

### AUGUST DRAW

1st No 77 Sue Wilson, Kinnesswood

2nd No 99 Joan Smith, Scotlandwell

3rd No 30 John Carr, Kinnesswood



## Milnathort Bridge Club



Since Covid-19, many of us have enjoyed the chance to play bridge online with people from all over the world. However, nothing compares to the pleasure of meeting and playing face-to-face. Being present adds something special to the club atmosphere.

This month's sessions at MBC were marked by a wonderful highlight as we were delighted to be hosts to two visiting players who had travelled from the other side of the world; Jenna Gibbons from New Zealand and Julian Foster from Australia. Their presence was a reminder of the global nature of bridge and the friendship it fosters. We also welcomed Ian Paton from Strathmiglo, not quite so far away, so hopefully he will return more frequently.

Finally, we come to the end of a wonderful summer season of bridge in Orwell Church Hall.

### RESULTS

North/South	East/West
<b>29 August</b> Sandy Greenshill/Jan Hill	Jane Smith/Pat Cook
<b>1 September</b> Diane Parmenter/Wendy Owens	Katherine & Peter Edgerton
<b>8 September</b> Diane Parmenter/Cynthia Reekie	Pat Cook/Ian Paton
<b>15 September</b> Jim & Catriona Marshall	Morag Riding/Marion Forbes

Frank, Residents Association Chairman, presenting the cheque to Kirsteen, Chapter Captain of Kinross-shire Trishaws. Also in the photo are residents Val and Cath and pilot Christine.

## Kinross-shire Trishaws and Community Cycling

### Glendevon Park Annual Fête

Back in August, Glendevon Park residents held their annual summer fête.

The proceeds were divided between Strathcarron Hospice and Kinross-shire Trishaws. Ian and Christine Cargill (two of our volunteer pilots who live on the park), provided rides throughout the day to highlight the role of the Trishaws and Cycling Without Age.

It was an amazing day with cakes and coffee, stalls, an auction and raffle. We were entertained by the Park Band, choir and pipes.

£1672 was raised on the day with £836 going to the Trishaws. We would like to thank all the residents for choosing to support us and to thank all who worked so hard to make it so successful.

### Weekly Rides

We have really enjoyed the fantastic weather this summer, delivering regular rides for the Kinross Day Centre clients, Causeway Court residents, An Cala residents, Rumbling Bridge nursing home and Ashley House nursing home each week. In addition, we offer rides to anyone in the community who wishes to go out with us. If you know someone that would like to book a free trishaw ride, please email [KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com](mailto:KinrossTrishaws@gmail.com).



  
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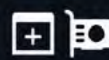
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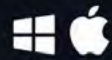
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## KYTHE

[www.kythe.org.uk](http://www.kythe.org.uk)

Although many young people attended the summer activities, everyone at KYTHE has been delighted to see familiar faces return after the summer holidays. We'll miss those that have headed off to college, university and employment, but it has been great to be part of their journey.

It has also been great to welcome new S1s. To give other S1s the opportunity to get to know KYTHE, we are having an initial series of events on Tuesday 23 and 30 September and 7 October at 3.45-5pm, with nine more sessions throughout the year. The purpose of these sessions is to give S1s, especially those from outlying areas, the space to make social connections with new pals and to experience a taste of what KYTHE has to offer. Keep an eye on our socials for more information.

We were absolutely thrilled with the very generous donation from the amazing Wullie at F4F Event Services, who kindly donated two fantastic picnic benches for outside the KYTHE Youth HUB for the young people to enjoy the sunshine or wind! A massive thank you to Yvonne and all her colleagues at (the ever wonderful) Rotary Club of Kinross and District who procured them.

These benches are a real asset for the young people of Kinross-shire! Many thanks all.



## Loch Leven Library

[www.culturepk.org.uk](http://www.culturepk.org.uk)

Tel: 01577 867205.

Email [lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk](mailto: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.

### Regular Sessions

#### Regular Sessions

Come along and join our fun storytelling sessions with your child every Tuesday at 4-4.30pm. Our storytelling sessions are suitable for primary school aged children. Booking is not required.

Bookbug sessions are held on Wednesday afternoons at 2-2.30pm and Saturday morning at 10-10.30am. They offer fun, friendly sessions of songs, rhymes, and stories.

These sessions are suitable for babies, toddlers, and pre-school children to enjoy with their parents and carers. To book a spot at any session, please contact the library.

A Knitting 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 and natter).

On the first Tuesday of the month from 10.30am to 12pm, Scottish charity Scarf will be at the library giving home energy advice.

Scarf is a charity and social enterprise offering free, impartial advice to help you save money and stay warm at home. From practical tips to funding support, they are here to make life a little easier.

## STEPPING STONES

Weekly in  
Kinross Parish Church  
Tuesdays, 10-11.30am.

Stepping Stones is for parents, carers,  
babies and toddlers.

**ALL WELCOME**



## Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

[krmfc.bmfa.club](http://krmfc.bmfa.club)

*Find us on Facebook*

The main excitement of the last month has been the club's waterplane event at Loch Leven, flying from Kirkgate Park. We had two glorious days of weather and very light winds which is always a bonus! There were lots of planes flying and they were all great to watch but the definite highlight of the two days was a jet powered plane from one of our visiting flyers. With spectacular aerobatics and tremendous sounds everyone stopped what they were doing and looked into the sky. Each time he landed there was a round of applause! If you didn't know better it could have easily been mistaken for the full-size version.

Lots of different clubs attended the event - Macmerry, Blackridge, Glenrothes, Balbedie, Garnock Valley, Cumbernauld, Dundee, Forfar, Alloa, Lanark, Warrix and Montrose. There are a lot more details about it on our club website if you are interested – have a look at the web address at the top of the page and look for “Waterplanes” in the “Our Activities” section.

We have also been doing a lot more indoor flying at Loch Leven Community Campus. Check out our Facebook post on 13 August for a great demonstration of what high level of flying is possible indoors!

In general, 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).



## Portmoak Film Society

### Portmoak Films Show Classy Vatican Thriller 'Conclave'

Portmoak Films got off to a cracking start in September with 'The Outrun', a breathtaking British indie film based on Amy Liptrot's memoir of addiction and renewal.

With a standout performance from Saoirse Ronan and the wild beauty of Orkney as its backdrop, it received an 80% top rating from our audience.

Our next film, 'Conclave' shows on Saturday 11 October. This is the tense and claustrophobic tale of the election of a new Pope, with stunning performances from Ralph Fiennes, Stanley Tucci and John Lithgow as scheming cardinals.

The film is based on the 2016 novel by Robert Harris and won the Oscar for Best Adapted Screenplay as well as being nominated for eight awards.

The outcome of the election is a shock to the Catholic Church, that you will not predict! Who knew that shenanigans in the Vatican could be such great entertainment!

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

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](http://www.ribi.org)



We returned to regular meetings on 8 September, with a delicious dinner at the Kirklands Hotel and a presentation from our new president, Yvonne Smith. Yvonne laid out plans for an exciting year of community involvement, international support, fundraising, fellowship and fun. This is a great time for you to get involved! Contact our secretary for further information.

### Specs Appeal

One of our new initiatives is to make provision for unwanted spectacles to be recycled. Collecting bins can be found at Loch Leven Health Centre, Sainsburys, Ferrier and MacKinnon Optometrists, Kinross and Phoenix Eyecare, Milnathort. We will collect these regularly and send them to the Rotary Club of York, Ainstey, where they are cleaned, graded and shipped to communities in need in Africa and other parts of the world. So please hunt out your unwanted spectacles and drop them in to the most convenient collection point.

### Youth Programme

Over the Rotary year we run a number of competitions for our young people in Kinross-shire. This year, there will be opportunities to participate in Young Chef, Young Artist, Young Photographer, Young Writer and the Primary Schools quiz. We encourage as many as possible to take part and we are proud of the successes achieved in past years. More details will be available nearer the time or from our secretary (see below).

### Shoebboxes

Once again, we will be participating in the Shoebox Appeal. This scheme has been running for over 30 years and over a million boxes have been delivered to needy and grateful individuals in Eastern Europe. Visit <https://www.rotaryshoobox.org/> for details and some moving photos. Please support if you can. Suggested donations are as follows:-

### Young Children

(Indicate on the box lid the suggested age range of your contents.)

Suitable items: Cars, trucks, etc, balls, complete jigsaws

colouring books, pens, crayons, yo-yo, bubble, blowers, wooden and plastic toys, pencil case, pencil sharpener, dominoes, playdough/plasticine and cutters, fluffy toys, dolls, stickers, writing pads, skipping rope, scarf, mittens /gloves, hat, harmonica, games, cards.

**Teenager Box** (for young people up to 18 years age)

Sportswear, scarf, gloves, socks, hat, football memorabilia, writing materials, games, playing cards, tennis ball, toothbrush and paste, roll-on deodorants, comb, mirror, costume jewellery, make-up, hairbrush, toiletries, school stationery, clothing repair kits, sketch pad, coloured pens / pencils...

**Household Box** (for older folk and families)

Scarves, gloves, hats, wrapped soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, disposable razors, shampoo, soap flakes, pan scourers, antiseptic cream, bandages, face or body creams, cosmetics, pens, writing pad & envelopes, tea lights, candles, sewing kit, scissors.

1200 boxes were collected by our district 1010 last year and our relatively small club donated 250 of these. Schools will, once again, be appealing for boxes to be filled and we are grateful to our associated schools for promoting this venture. However, any other group or individual may participate, and we would love it if you did! Details, again, can be obtained from the secretary or see our Facebook page.

### World Polio Day

Rotary clubs across the world involve themselves by raising awareness for 'End Polio Now', a programme by Rotary and its partners, the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF) and the World Health Organization (WHO), to eradicate polio. Rotary observes World Polio Day on 24 October to highlight progress, recognise the significant reduction in polio cases, and mobilise support for the final push to end this disease. One gesture is to help to plant millions of purple crocuses every year to raise awareness of these efforts. Look out in Kinross for Rotarians and helpers planting crocuses at 11am at Levenfields on 10 October. We have 4,000 bulbs and hope to make a welcome splash of colour in springtime when they grow.

### Summer Fair

Thanks to everyone who donated and/or bought coats at our stall in the Market Park. Over £270 was raised for funds and the few remaining coats and jackets were donated to CHAS.

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PHONE: 01577 865047 or MOB: 07870 291 783

## Clubs & Community Groups

It was good to chat to many interested onlookers. You would be made most welcome at many of our meetings if you found yourself interested in our many and varied activities.

### Santa is Coming!

Santa has confirmed that we are already in his diary for sleigh trips to his favourite place, Kinross-shire. These will take place on: Friday 28, 29 (Light Up Kinross) and 30 November; 5, 6 and 7 December; 12, 13 and 14 December.

Details of times and locations will be confirmed in the next *Newsletter* and on our Facebook page.

### Further Information and Contact

We welcome visitors to our club and have an interesting schedule of speakers coming up. To visit or for further details on any of our activities, contact [secretary.kdrc@gmail.com](mailto:secretary.kdrc@gmail.com)

## Kinross Squirrels

After a long, sunshine-filled summer, our Squirrel Scouts are back! We kicked off our first meeting of the term with loads of energy, laughter and learning. The little squirrels jumped right back in with Code of Conduct fun as we explored how to be kind, safe and brave together through team talks and playful role-plays. Our young adventurers helped create their own set of rules, proudly deciding what makes our Scout family strong and respectful. The squirrels also took part in summer reflections which was filled with great stories as everyone shared their favourite holiday memories—from beach days and camping trips to ice creams bigger than their heads! Of course, no Scout session is complete without some fun games as we played high-energy games to stretch our legs and shake off those summer cobwebs.

Who says a little rain can stop the fun? Not our squirrels! Despite a slightly soggy Friday, they rolled up their sleeves for their second meeting of the term as they tackled an amazing den-building challenge in the great outdoors. With teamwork, muddy hands and big smiles, the drizzle didn't stand a chance against their creativity as they produced some awesome dens to show off.

The squirrels were out exploring for our first meeting of September with a fun-filled litter pick and scavenger hunt in the Kirkgate Park. We're happy to report there wasn't much litter to be found – which thankfully means our local area is looking great! But that didn't stop our squirrels from working hard to help the environment. A member of the public even



came up to say thank you and that he was delighted to see our squirrels caring for the community. Afterwards, we turned our attention to a nature scavenger hunt – spotting leaves, feathers, nests and all sorts of insects! It was a fantastic mix of teamwork and fun.

*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 [kinrosssquirrels@outlook.com](mailto:kinrosssquirrels@outlook.com) for more information.*

## Kinross Beavers

As we returned from our summer break our first Friday back saw the Beavers building dens in the woods beside Kinross House. Everyone worked brilliantly in their teams with some fantastic builds taking place.

Our second week in saw the Beavers cover their Code of Conduct, Personal Challenge Badge and lots of games.

The following week there was no Friday night meet as some of the Beavers went to a camp at Auchengillan Outdoor Centre for their joint sleepover with the 10<sup>th</sup> Perthshire (Perth Academy) Beavers. On the Saturday the beavers had a fun filled day completing a variety of activities including making peg puppets, grass sledging, frisbee football, completing a blind trail, backwoods cooking, mug decorating and den building. Then on the Saturday evening the beavers played capture the flag and had a campfire and sang songs before bed. The next morning after breakfast the beavers were making Play-Doh models of their favourite thing from the weekend before getting some down time playing with Lego, trains and reading books. The final big activity of the weekend was a scavenger hunt around the campsite before the beavers got packed up to head home after lunch. It was a great weekend as the beavers got to make new friends and enjoy some new experiences. Our thanks to Adam and Alison from the Scottish Scout Service Team for doing all the catering and keeping the beavers well fed.

*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 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](mailto:kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk) for more information.*



## Kinross Cubs

The cubs returned from the summer holidays with a fun filled first meeting of the term. They were continued to learn about how to make the world a better place as they finished off the Global Issues badge which they started last term. The cubs were learning about what they would need to survive if they became homeless because of a disaster, like flooding or an earthquake. The cubs also learned about an international charity; what they do and why is it important and discussed what items they have at home which come from other countries. Also, on our first week back the cubs played some foreign games in the garden and got a refresher of the code of conduct.

Our second meeting of the term saw the cubs head to Lochore Meadows to cycle around the loch. The heavy rain during the afternoon cleared and the cubs got a lovely late summers evening as they cycled around the loch. Everyone had an enjoyable time and also got some time to play at the playpark.

We were back at the hall as we moved into September. Due to the wet weather we had to change our planned activity from putting up tents in the garden to campsite based games in the hall. The cubs played a game guess what the leader had packed to go on camp and if they guessed an item that the leader had missed then their team got an extra point. They also learned about how to be safe on camp and how to keep their tent and kit safe, tidy and secure.

*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 1<sup>st</sup> Kinross Cubs, then please email kinrosscubs@hotmail.com for more details.*

## Kinross and District Probus Club

We enjoyed a presentation from James Leggat at our meeting on 3 September. James gave us the most interesting insight into the work of the Commonwealth War Graves Commission.

Founded in 1917 by Sir Fabian Ware, the Commission has grown worldwide and maintains the graves of the fallen in the two World Wars, with over 1.7million commemorated in over 23,000 locations.

With headquarters in the UK, CWGC is supported by Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Canada and India.

For those of us who have visited the many sites in Northern Europe, we are familiar with the white headstones which stand proudly, row upon row, in beautifully maintained surroundings. The war graves are looked after by an army of gardeners and

CWGC has an annual budget of £60 million.

One of the most interesting facts is that all the headstones are uniform so there is no distinction for rank or status.

While the main war grave sites are abroad, there were just too many fallen soldiers to bring home, there are numerous CWGC sites in the UK and even on our doorstep. A number can be found in the

graveyards of our local churches in Kinross, Cleish and Orwell.

CWGC is such an important body that, as well as maintaining the war graves, it does a huge amount of work to ensure that the story of the World Wars, and subsequent wars, are not forgotten. Check out their website at [www.cwgc.org](http://www.cwgc.org).

A vote of thanks was given by Peter Reeves.

## Kinross and District Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association



The new session has started and new members are welcome in all three sections. There are no waiting lists. Anchor section for boys and girls in primaries one, two and three, junior section for boys and girls in primaries four, five and six, company section for boys and girls in primary 7, S1 and S2 and senior section for boys and girls from S3 to S6. All sections meet in the Kinross Centre at the following times; Anchors at 6-7.15pm, juniors at 7-9 pm, company and seniors at 7-9:30 pm.

Company section members took part in a Monopoly Perth Battalion competition. Each team of three had to find a number of random locations within a two-hour slot, taking photographic evidence of their presence at each location.

Company section members have an adventure day at Fordell Firs on Saturday 25 October with the whole company taking part in their annual enrolment parade and service at Kinross Parish Church on Sunday 26 October. The popular Hallowe'en party will take place on 31 October.

A variety of battalion events and competitions are planned for all members throughout the session.



## Kinross High School

### Parent Council

Thank you to all parents who attended this year's Parent Council AGM. We were delighted to see such a fantastic turnout from our school community.



KHS Barista students were on hand to fuel the discussion with a coffee at the start of the meeting. Then it was down to business and office bearers were re-elected for the 2025/26 session: Chair – Katherine, Vice Chair – Johnathan, Treasurer – Laura, Secretary - Niall and Lisa. Mrs Shaw gave a headteacher report and thanked everyone for the warm welcome to the KHS community. Mr Baxby provided an overview of this year's student success in exam results. We look forward to seeing more parents at the next meeting on 7 October.

### Green Flag Award

KHS has been presented with an Eco-Schools Green Flag Award for the third time! The accreditation was given thanks to activities such as litter picks and a clothes swap event organised by pupils. Well done to everyone who helped the school to achieve this recognition, including S2 pupils Simon, Max, Robert and Ryan who represented the school at an environmental conference.

### RMPS Moral Maze

It was great to welcome a range of staff from around the school to our S3 RMPS Moral Maze. S3 have spent time preparing presentations on the Blue Origin Spaceflight, AI and Animal Testing and the Buying and Selling of Organs. They confidently shared their knowledge of these topics, what makes them moral issues and the range of opinions their group held about them.

### Chocolate Workshop

A group of S4 pupils enjoyed a day in the hospitality kitchens at Perth UHI. They made pizza, strawberry tarts and created some very delicious chocolates, learning all about the science behind tempering chocolate. They also had a tour of UHI campus learning about all the different courses on offer.

### Edinburgh Book Festival

A group of pupils visited the Edinburgh International Book Festival. The day's events were memorable, joyful and educational as our young people were lucky enough to hear Laura Bates and Joseph Coelho talk. These authors and the Festival organisers encouraged our young people to open their minds and hearts to books.

Pupils found plenty to ignite imaginations, spark creativity, and inspire wonder; some went home weighed down with their literary purchases and their free copies of the authors' new books! What a super way to start a new school year.

### Travel and Tourism

S5/6 pupils went to Edinburgh College to take part in a cabin crew training day. At the beginning of the day pupils were a bit shy but, by the end of the day they were serving and boarding people on a mock aircraft and were brilliant in their roles. Everyone passed!

### Sporting Prowess

Kinross High won the large schools' overall trophy at county sports just before the holidays. There were some amazing athletic performances and lots of medals. We also won the Group A trophy which was for the best S5/6 team.

Our S3/4 Boys' Rugby team put in a fantastic effort securing a win against Balfour High and a hard-fought loss against Larbert High. They went on to enjoy a fantastic victory against

Waid Academy in their latest home game.

Our senior girls have a new netball kit thanks to the Parent Council. They are now on a winning streak after securing victory in their third game of the season. Results from the last two matches were, Kinross 44 - Perth Academy 2s 7, and Kinross 42 - Strathallan B 34.

The S1 football team had a successful year, making it to the semi-final of the Perth and Kinross league. We are looking forward to the coming year.

#### Technologies Ambassadors

Our Technologies Ambassadors are off to a great start! They held their first meeting to plan an exciting year of STEM-based initiatives. To achieve their Young STEM Leader Level 4, the ambassadors will be leading several projects for students this year, such as:

- A "Creative Thinking" outreach programme for primary schools
- The V&A Design Competition
- New extra-curricular clubs focused on computing and graphic design
- Leading various departmental events.

#### Abertay University

Pupils visited Abertay University recently to gain experience in the Sensory Evaluation rooms and learn about food science and sports nutrition courses. Harris, Elise and Emily took blood pressure to investigate how it changes after consuming energy drinks. Elise, Hanna and Mia enjoyed making bubble tea!

#### Starfish Way

Leven and ISP class pupils are continuing their Duke of Edinburgh experience with Starfish Way. The recent highlight was choosing apples from the orchard.

#### Intensive Support Provision

Our ISP offers a bespoke educational experience in a small class setting. Our learners follow a curriculum that is highly individualised and incorporates multi-sensory approaches. Learners are also encouraged and supported to access mainstream subjects both in discrete and peer groups and to be active and included members of the school community. As a new faculty they are committed to ensuring each young person receives a broad and meaningful education and is able to follow a curriculum that enables them to reach their full potential.

#### Barista Skills Logo

We are excited to launch our coffee logo. Congratulations to Grace (S5) and Abigail (S6) whose designs were voted for by pupils and then combined, and thanks to Mr Smith for supporting the project. This is our first year of running a Barista Skills qualification at SCQF level 5 and you will be able



to enjoy some delicious hot drinks during the school year at events such as Parents' Evenings and school shows.

#### Geography Field Trip

The Higher Geography class went to Edinburgh to gather data for their assignment, comparing Edinburgh to a geographical model of city. Thankfully, it was a lovely sunny day for counting traffic and pedestrians, and the pupils worked well. Back in class they will process and analyse their data, developing their critical thinking, creativity and communication skills.

#### China Trip

KHS pupils (Alex, Owen, Duncan and another Alex) joined pupils from across P&K schools on a two-week trip to China as part of the Chinese Bridge Summer Immersion. Visiting Tianjin and Beijing with Miss Yan, the group had an unforgettable time. Pupils took part in Mandarin lessons at Tianjin Normal University and participated in Chinese cultural workshops. They visited many famous sights, including the Great Wall, Tiananmen Square and the Forbidden City, as well as visiting a Chinese school and spending time with a Chinese family in their home. All participants were presented for the SQA China Bridge Award, so that they will have an SQA qualification as evidence of their studies.

#### Pupil Parliament

Our Pupil Parliament representatives have now been elected, and their first formal meeting took place on Thursday 18 September. Representatives from all year groups will have an opportunity to lead, collaborate and be consulted on a range of school improvement priorities, as well as work to further engage with our local community.

Our Pupil Parliament will provide a monthly update within the *Kinross Newsletter* as well as attend some Community Council meetings across the year to provide an update on improvement plans.

#### School Captains Report (Lily Stephen and Holly Smith).

This is our first update for the *Newsletter* as School Captains for Kinross High School, and we would love to update the community on what we've been working on. Firstly, the S6 committees have been set up and are well on their way to improving our school. One of the most important to the community would be the Charities Committee, who are currently deciding on this year's school charity.

We want to get it up and running as soon as possible to raise as many funds as we can this year. Another exciting development that we are working on is our own personal legacies. We won't share too much as they are still in development, but we hope that they will change the school permanently for the better. Earlier this month we made an appearance at the Parent Council meeting, and shared information about our plans for the year and how we wish to work in collaboration with them in the coming months.

One of the things we discussed is how each of the School Captains have been assigned an area of the school to collect information about and present it at Pupil Parliament which is starting this month. The two school captains who are writing this are currently working on the improvement of Our School Community and Our Relationships, two wide topics we hope to have a positive impact on.

We continue to collect the views of the student body and are currently working towards creating a place for people to collect free school uniforms to increase the quality and inclusivity of our school. We hope to be active within our community and are really excited to share more with you all.



## Kinross & District Men's Shed

[www.kinrossmensshed.org](http://www.kinrossmensshed.org)

Down at Swansacre, we have had a busy summer. Contractors have been at work re-pointing our lovely old building (which way back in Kinross's history, was the old school). We look after much of the maintenance of the building ourselves. However, some specialist jobs need outside contractors. We attended the Kinross Summer Fair in August. The weather was good, and we had a very successful day with healthy sales of our self-made products and orders for our garden benches and planters.

In September we were represented at the Kinross Community Action Plan Event held at Millbridge Hall. Members of our now legendary band, 'The Shrinking Violets', provided musical input! KDMS is focused on developing our already strong links with the Kinross community and we attend as many local events as we can. Another recent project has been the collection of surplus clothing for the Ukrainian Direct Aid programme. KDMS has delivered 16 bags of surplus clothing to Direct Aid's Edinburgh headquarters.

In conjunction with the Scottish Men's Shed Association (SMSA) our members will be involved with the 'Shed-wise' programme. With men being statistically more likely to take risks with their health, SMSA is co-ordinating visits to Men's Sheds all over Scotland. Fully trained Development Officers will offer frank advice on men's health to the members of each Shed and KDMS will be hosting 'Shed-wise' sometime this autumn.

Meanwhile, a couple of our 'special' projects should be mentioned. Firstly, Graeme Leak is undertaking a complete restoration of Milnathort Town Hall's 'tired' outside bench. This is a 'labour of love' for Graeme who has repaired and painted the rusty and damaged metal work and replaced several oak slats with reclaimed timber. It is a good example of KDMS assisting the local community. Thanks, Graeme, for your hard work.

Secondly, KDMS members are currently working on seven rocking horses. Kenny Macdonald had branched out on his own and is constructing a 'compact' version for a young family member. KDMS innovation at work!

## Milnathort in Bloom

Although the tubs and baskets in the village are starting to die back, there's very little rest for our hardy volunteers at this time of year.

With many heartfelt thanks to the Arthur and Margaret Thompson Trust, we have been able to progress our plans to replace the flooring in half of our polytunnel, which is a mess of torn, dangerous membrane currently. This will be replaced by grit grids and gravel, giving us a much safer and more stable surface to work on. A donation from the Trust is also enabling us to have our polytunnel re-covered. The current cover has lasted almost 15 years and has been ravaged over the years by kamikaze pigeons, resulting in a patchwork of duct tape and wind whistling through the rafters. So really, thanks so much for enabling us to keep providing colour for Milnathort.

It's that time of year when we'll also be swapping out the summer planting for spring. This means that the tubs and boxes will be emptied and replaced with spring colour. The work will be taking place over the 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> October, so if you see us out and about please stop to say hi, or even grab a trowel and give us a hand. We will also be removing the trees from the boxes at the Cross, which have outgrown the space they're in and soaking up vital food and water from the other plants.

Following a meeting with Perth and Kinross Council earlier in the year, the Council have agreed to fund two memorial benches for the War Memorial site. These will be installed before Remembrance Sunday and we hope they will be well used by the local community. We will also be cutting back and tidying up the garden at the back of the site ready for next year.

Some of you may have noticed that the cart on Stirling Road has been emptied. We think the planters worked well in there this year and gave some nice colour over the summer. We're currently having a think about the best plants to put in there over the spring and summer for next year, which is both sustainable and low maintenance.

So, a fairly busy time for us... and we're also planning for next year in terms of colour schemes and plants for the village.

If you would like to know more about Milnathort in Bloom or would like to get involved, please get in touch via our Facebook page.

## Kinross Historical Society

By now, all existing members of Kinross-shire Historical Society should have received their membership form/programme for 2025-6 either online or in paper form. As usual our meetings will be held in Kinross Parish Church at 7.30pm and membership remains at £10 for all six talks.

We think it is a good programme of talks covering many interest subjects, some local topics and some local speakers. There has had to be a change to the programme. Unfortunately, one of our speakers has just had to cancel his talk due to health reasons. However, the space has been filled at short notice by another local speaker Dr Allan Kennedy who will give a talk on the November date about the Darien scheme.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back to our meetings and a chance to catch up over the teas/coffees at the end of the evenings. Visitors are always welcome to come along, £5 per talk, well worth joining.

## Kinross (Marshall) Museum

This is the first opportunity we've had to say thank-you to everyone who called in to see us at the Kinross Show, or in our tent at the summer market, in August. A particular thank-you is due to those who bought all our tombola prizes! It is always good to meet with old friends and hopefully make new ones.





Kinross Museum at the summer market

There were a few people who seemed surprised to learn that Kinross has a museum, but there was a museum in the Carnegie Library from 1974 until it was closed in 1996. The Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust was set up after that, and was finally able to open at the Community Campus in November 2009.

As well as our exhibitions in the Loch Leven Community Library, our study room is open 10am to 7pm on Thursdays and 10am to 1pm on Saturdays. We are always happy to try to answer questions on local history, and even happier to welcome new volunteers.

## Potager Garden

It has been a strange summer and some of our plants are not sure which season it is. We have had very wet, windy weather, a storm on 4 August and an unusually large number of still, hot, dry days. We escaped quite lightly this time, and the only storm damage was to some plants.

Over the summer two creative sessions were run by two of our volunteers as part of the Summer Reading Challenge at Loch Leven Community library. In one session the children learned how seeds grow and planted a broad bean to take home; they also used flowers, grasses and leaves which they pressed into air dry clay to create a plaque. It was a very popular session and some of the adults would have liked a similar session aimed at them. In the other session, as well as learning about seeds, the children decorated a cup and sowed grass seed to grow as hair for their creations. Two of our volunteers attended a course about counting pollinators which they found very useful.

During the summer we have been selling plants at the Crook of Devon shop and at our new venture at Loch Leven Laundry. Plant sales will start again in the spring. We are grateful to Richard Scott at Loch Leven Laundry and the owners of the Crook of Devon shop for their support. The funds raised will support the running of the Potager Garden. We are also grateful to people who have donated plants and compost to the garden.

We are having a very good crop of runner beans this year and our sweet peas have been magnificent. We have also had broad beans, have lifted some potatoes as well as onions and shallots. Our tomatoes have not done so well this year, possibly because our melon appeared to have cucumber mosaic virus. It was swiftly removed from the greenhouse and disposed of. We have had some beautiful flowers though and the new herb garden created by one of the volunteers is filling out nicely.

As we move into autumn we are starting to put the garden to bed. We are hoping to have a volunteer outing in October before we finish at the end of the month.

The gates continue to be open during school hours until the

October school holidays. We are very grateful to a pupil from Kinross Primary School, who unlocks the gates for us and then locks them at the end of the school day. Please do come in and enjoy the peace and quiet if you are passing. Volunteers are usually working in the garden on Monday mornings but some of us pop in at other times too. We would be very pleased to chat to you. If you would like to visit when the garden is usually closed, please get in touch with Amanda or Pauline to arrange this.

Please follow us on social media. We have a dedicated Facebook Page for 'Kinross Potager Garden' but also post on the Kinross-shire Community Group and Kinross-shire Plant and Seed Share or Swap. You can also contact Amanda James on 07963 476803 (Convener) or [amandajames1577@gmail.com](mailto:amandajames1577@gmail.com), or Pauline Cobbold (Secretary) on 07866 467982.

## Kinross Day Centre

This month we have been taking part in Go4Gold which is an initiative that PKC have put together to give all care homes and day centres in the district the opportunity to compete in various events. Everyone in the centre has been hard at work designing and decorating shields, making sashes and Mascots to identify each team. We had nine teams. This year the teams' names had a theme of the Highland Games.

We were:

- *The Haggis Hurlers, The Kinross Hammers, The Very Short Shot Putter*
- *Welly Wanglers, Kilted Warriors, The Crossed Swords, Tug o' The Caber*
- *The Helin Coos, and The Proud Pipers.*

The teams had to do several events including Beer ping pong, floor netball, Golf putting target & football. We had a fantastic time were everyone was involved.

Award ceremonies will be held on 1 October at 1.30pm. If you want, you can check out the Go4Gold YouTube account for more updates. We hope everyone one has a great month and remember if you feel you would like to come along and join us just pop in or give us a call. On 01577 863869 we would love to hear from you.

## ENGLISH AND MATHS TUTORING KINROSS

With term now well under way, would your son/daughter benefit from some extra support in Secondary English and/or Maths?

We are both highly experienced and committed teachers who will work with your child throughout secondary school to boost confidence, consolidate learning, help with revision, prepare for exams and achieve better results. In conjunction with your child, we will draw together a personal learning programme to meet their identified needs.

Tel: 07947 233279

Email: [englishandmathstutoringkinross@gmail.com](mailto:englishandmathstutoringkinross@gmail.com)  
for further details or find us on Facebook at  
<https://www.facebook.com/englishandmathstutoringkinross/>

or online at

<http://englishandmathstutoringkinross.co.uk/>

## Scottish Women's Institute



### Cleish SWI

President Anne Douglas welcomed members to Cleish Village Hall for our first meeting on Monday 8 September. After business, attendees enjoyed a fun evening with some brain teasing games and lots of chat. Our next meeting is on **Monday 13 October** in Cleish Village Hall at 7.30pm and will feature a talk from The Bulb Man. Competitions will be handmade flower, three pieces of traybake (uncooked) and flower of the month.

#### Competitions

**Holiday Photograph: 1st Elinor Craig;**  
2nd Fiona Barnfather; 3rd Judith MacLaren.

**Non-Alcoholic Cocktail: 1st Ann Bayne;**  
2nd Marion Laird; 3rd Fiona Campbell.

**Flower Of The Month: 1st Lynn Hewitt;**  
2nd Fiona Barnfather; 3rd Ann Bayne.

### Carnbo SWI

President Mhairi Lavender welcomed members back after the summer break and welcomed our speakers Rhonda & Jan from Causeway Creations.

Rhonda gave a talk on the items they produce and a demonstration of how to decoupage an item.

We all had a transfer to apply to a coaster. A lovely item to take home. Heather Dennis then presented prizes from Kinross show.

The Stewart cup and Hilton Cup to Mhairi Lavender, the Irene Whitson Salver to Linda Band, and the Jane Elliot Bell Cup to Carnbo Institute. Mhairi gave a vote of thanks.

*Below: Powmill were 1st in Kinross Show Community A Handicrafts.  
Right: Donna McBain with Kinross Show President Mark Thomson and the President's Quaich.*



#### Competitions

**Flower Of The Month: 1st June Brunton;**  
2nd Heather Dennis

**An Up-Cycled Item: 1st Sheila Reid; 2nd Mhairi Lavender**

Our next meeting is at Carnbo Hall on the 20th of October at 7.15pm. All welcome.

### Powmill SWI

Powmill SWI reconvened after the summer break on Wednesday 17 September in Moubray Hall, Powmill.

The evening was spent going through photograph albums and paperwork which dates back to Powmill division formation in 1920. These are going to be digitally archived by head office so they can be preserved for the future.

The competition results were:

#### Interesting Item Beginning With G

**1st Mary Wilson, 2nd Donna McBain, 3rd Tricia Greer**  
**3 Pancakes**

**1st Janice Young, 2nd Debbie Carter, 3rd Donna McBain**

#### Greenfingers - A Foliage Arrangement: Mary Wilson

We also celebrated the success of the Powmill SWI efforts at Kinross Show.

Powmill SWI were 1st in the 'Community A Handicrafts'. Donna McBain got the President's Quaich for her beaded scissor pouch.

President Sharon Buchanan received the Paperweight for the best item in the handicraft section and the group Rose Bowl for most points in the floral art.

Powmill SWI will be holding a Bingo Tea in aid of Moubray Hall funds on Oct 1st at 7.30pm. All are welcome, £5 for adults, £2.50 for children.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 15 October and will be a cookery demonstration by Helen Christie.



## Sports News



Winners Brian and David

### Orwell Bowling Club

Well, by the time you sit down and read this the outdoor season will have finished for another year, and what a



season it has been! It is hard to believe where the time has gone as it seemed like yesterday that we opened the club back in April. The weather this year has been brilliant and there was only one day when bowling was stopped as a torrential rain shower hit us. However, it passed as quickly as it came and we continued to bowl away into the twilight hours.

So, what has been happening at the club over the last month? We hosted the Orwell Open Pairs at the end of August. This consisted of 24 pairs teams coming from around Fife and Clackmannan to participate in our annual competition which started at 9.30am and concluded around 7pm. Matches were tight throughout the group stages, which led to the group winners reaching the semi-finals. The four semi-finalists were from Orwell, Leslie and two teams from Dunning. The eventual winners were Brian and David from Leslie Bowling Club who played exceptionally well all day.

The majority of our singles, pairs, triples and fours competitions have almost concluded and next month we will list all the winners after they have all been completed.

However, the ladies and gents singles competitions have both been completed. In the ladies' singles Jean Menzies overcame her opponent Maz Thorn in what was a close contest. In the gents singles final Kieran Wilson fought back in another tight final to beat Gordon Clark in a cracking night of bowls and, once

again, the weather was kind to us. Congratulations to both Jean and Kieran, who will be representing the club next year in the Scottish Championships. For the rest of us, they are the guys to beat next year! We have also enjoyed our friendly matches which have taken place most weekends. These are a great way to socialise and meet people, especially when the weather has been so good. Our last match took place on Saturday 13 September. The closing of the green this year took place on Saturday 20 September and was well attended.

A special mention must go to our greenkeeper for keeping the playing surface at Orwell as one of the best in the county. Another thank you to all the new members this year who joined the club. We do hope that you will continue to enjoy playing this wonderful game. However, just because the bowling season has finished, it does not mean that the club will be closed until next year. We have Probus meetings, whist and bridge clubs on over the winter period which means that the club will still be busy.

On 11 October we will have The Organic Dukebox playing at the club (tickets are available). On 21 October our quiz nights will start up again. Details will be available on our website and Facebook page. Our AGM this year will be held on Saturday 29 November (date for your diary) and will be followed by the presentation dance in the evening.

Once again, thanks to our sponsors this year for their contributions, especially by bringing colour to the bowling club with their new advertisement boards.

Playing bowls should always be a great experience with many benefits. It gets you out and about, is a form of exercise, an opportunity to meet new friends or catch up with old ones, and it is a very skilful and challenging sport at times. It is also a low-cost sport to get involved in.

Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned pro, if you are aged 8 to 88, bowls could be the sport for you. So, if you fancy it, please come along to the club and have a try. We are confident you will enjoy it!

As always, we will be sharing our events on our Facebook Page. Please check us out as it would be great us to have as many people there as possible. We appreciate your feedback. Please do not hesitate to contact us on 01577 863739 or by visiting our website. As the year progresses, we will update you on events both on and off the green!

Please note that we hire out our hall for functions and social events. Clubs and groups are welcome.



Kieran



### Kinross Road Runners

<https://kinrossroadrunners.weebly.com>



This month KRR hosted the annual mob match against Perth Road Runners (PRR). It was the fourth running of the event and 121 runners turned out to toe the line for their respective clubs, 62 for KRR and 59 for PRR.

It was a fantastic night of running, the ladies won the female competition, however overall the win went to PRR. The results stand at 2 wins for each club so we'll be all out next year to bring the trophy home for the club.

### Kinross Tennis Club

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

Email: [kinrosstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstennis@gmail.com)

[kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com)

Find us on Facebook @kinrosstennisclub and @siobhannacleodtennis

The tennis season is drawing to a close with the final club championships events upcoming at the time of writing. Congratulations to all those who were involved, especially those who managed to take the honours in the junior event or the men's, ladies', mixed and singles events that also happened over the past few weeks.

Our Junior Club Championships were particularly well-attended, with over 50 junior players aged 5 to 15 taking part. Through sunshine and very heavy rain showers, the players

managed 233 matches in just under 7 hours on court! It was great to see so many juniors taking part - many competing for the very first time. It was also terrific to see the tennis leaders in action helping coaches Siobhan and Jenni on court. Well done everyone!

The match players experienced a mixed season this year, with several being promoted in 2024, leading to a much more significant challenge in 2025. The highlight was the Ladies doubles 1st team, who did well to retain their place in Division 2 of the Tennis Tayside league, getting great results against bigger clubs from Perth and Dundee. We also had teams in junior, men's and mixed leagues, and it's great that the club is able to provide our members with opportunities to play organised tennis across the region.

The darker evenings of autumn provide more opportunities for members to enjoy the low energy LED floodlights that were installed earlier in the year, saving energy and costs for those looking to enjoy tennis through autumn and winter months.

Those passing the courts as they pass down Station Road may have noticed that the surface of the courts has been treated to a new coat of paint in recent weeks, with blue and purple providing a fresh new look at the club. After 6 years the previous paint had become a pale shadow of its previous appearance and the new paint really has brightened-up the courts.





### October Holiday Tennis Camps

We'll be running a 3-day holiday camp 22-24 October & everyone is welcome!

- All equipment is provided
- Single session booking available
- No need to be a club member
- 10% sibling discount

The session times are:

10.30am-12.30pm (7-9 years)

1pm-3pm (10-16 years)

To book, visit <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/SiobhanMacLeodTennis/Coaching/Camps>

Tennis will be continuing in Kinross through the autumn and winter with a few hardy souls playing whenever the weather allows, so please feel free to get in touch if you would be interested in joining us at the club - [kinrossstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossstennis@gmail.com) - or check-out the website for more information - <https://clubspark.lta.org.uk/KinrossTennisClub>

If you have any questions, please just get in touch with coach Siobhan by text or What's App on 07443 223408 or email [kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossstenniscoaching@gmail.com).

We would also love to hear from anyone interested in trying our social tennis or playing in one of our teams. You can find more information about the club on our website, and you can email [kinrossstennis@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossstennis@gmail.com) with any questions.





Photo shows some of those who turn up for coaching sessions on Monday evenings (new members also welcome).

## Volleyball

Indoor volleyball coaching/training sessions have resumed on Monday evenings from 8-9.45 pm at the large games hall at the campus.

The club will be entering two teams in the local Perth & District Volleyball league; one team in the premier league and one team in the recreational league. Kinross High School will also have a team in the recreational league.

League cup games were played in September with league matches starting after the school October holidays.

Active School Wednesday sessions continue at Kinross High School with 'pop up and play' at lunchtime and coaching sessions after school. There is a first term focus on S1 and S2 pupils.

The Scottish Volleyball School Festivals will take place in October and November for S3/4 pupils and S5/6 pupils. The S5/6 festival will take place on 10 October at the Dunfermline Learning Campus with the S3/4 festival taking place on 14 November at the Michael Wood Leisure Centre in Edinburgh. A number of Kinross players will be playing national league



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volleyball this coming season as part of Perth teams formed to compete in both the men's and women's national competition. Their home games will take place at Perth College UHI.

### Petanque Club

Would anyone be interested in playing petanque (better known as French Boules)? Perhaps you were on holiday and played it on a beach, or with the grandchildren in the garden. We would love to set up and start a petanque club right here in Milnathort as Orwell Bowling Club have a suitable green space that can be utilised for a petanque playing surface. This would allow people to play this traditional French game in a relaxed and social setting. It's a game of skill and precision, where the objective is

to toss metal balls (called boules) as close as possible to a smaller target ball. The game is, of course, very popular in France, but it is also popular in many European countries and is increasingly enjoyed around the UK.

It is a game that's perfect for a leisurely afternoon with friends or for serious competition, depending on how you wish to approach it. We currently have part funding in place and aim to reach our target to get the project off the ground and completed by April 2026. For now, all we need to find out is if there is enough interest within the local community. Please note your interest in an email to Peter Hampson at [phampson54@gmail.com](mailto:phampson54@gmail.com) or drop him a message on 07468 790296. We look forward to hearing from you.

### JKS Shojiki Karate

On 23 August we had another grading in Dunfermline at the JKS Scotland headquarters. I am happy to report that over 30 of our students from Kinross and Milnathort classes attended and passed their gradings. We have continued to train hard since then.

We have also been fortunate enough to carry out taster sessions in Kinross and Portmoak Primary schools. This week our club is off as the instructors will be competing and coaching at the JKS European Championships in Denmark.

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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](http://www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven)

Telephone: 01577 862355

# Christmas Is Coming...

SEPTEMBER WAS ANOTHER busy month filled with bat walks, lots of osprey sightings and a second hand book sale! Keep an eye out for our next book sale. There are always lots of bargains to be found. We are also always happy to accept donations of books if you are having a clear out. All the money raised goes back to the RSPB to help support nature.

At the end of August, I was lucky enough to visit our two other sites looked after by the RSPB staff at Loch Leven. The first was Loch of Kinnordy, not far from Kirriemuir. There are three hides at various points around the loch that have great views across the water.

We are also lucky to have a family of beavers inhabiting the loch there. We didn't spot any that day, but we could see the trees they have been gnawing away at! The second visit was to the Tay Reedbeds on the banks of the river Tay. The reeds were way above our heads, it was very relaxing to hear the wind swishing through the stems. The reeds are cut and used for thatch; more information can be found on our website [www.tayreed.co.uk](http://www.tayreed.co.uk). If you would like to visit the Tay & Kinnordy Reserves more information is available on our website.

If you are looking for activities for the October holidays, then starting on 4 October and running till Sunday 2 November we have the Big Wild Halloween Trail. We also have three Discovering Pond sessions throughout the month, two early-morning Dawn Goose watch sessions and Red Squirrel watch sessions too.

Plans are starting to take shape for the Festive season. On Sunday 30 November I will be running a Christmas-wreath decorating workshop here at the Reserve. We will forage some of our materials from the RSPB grounds then add them to our pre-made wreaths along with some extra decorations. There will also be Festive punch and mince pies to really start off the Christmas season! Spaces are limited, please head to our events page on our website to book.

Don't forget you can also hire pond dipping kits every day until the end of October and Nature Quest backpacks every day between 10-4pm, you don't need to prebook these. To find out more about our events programme head to [rspb.org.uk/lochleven](http://rspb.org.uk/lochleven) or get in touch using our contact information below.

We have some lovely Christmas gifts in our shop already, it is never too early to start your shopping! Why not visit our café for a warming hot drink at the same time and enjoy the stunning views across the loch. As always, our car park, trails, hides and toilets are open 24/7. Please keep an eye on our website and social media for any changes to our opening hours.

Thank you for taking the time to read our update. 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](http://www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/loch-leven), or get in touch on [lochleven@rspb.org.uk](mailto:lochleven@rspb.org.uk). We hope to see you soon!

Elinor Craig, RSPB



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## Super Sounds Of Kinross

WE HAVE RECENTLY welcomed back the pink-footed geese to the reserve! Everyone will start to become accustomed to the sound of them as they fly over town and on to the loch every evening to roost, and also when they leave the roost to feed in nearby fields every morning.

Dawn and dusk are the best times to go and see them, and soon their numbers should build up to over 10,000!

NatureScot staff and RSPB staff will start to head out at first light every month through the autumn and winter to count them. As well as the geese numbers of ducks and other waterfowl will also continue to increase as more arrive to spend winter on the loch.

After a busy summer of Balsam bashing and pulling, our volunteers have moved on to the next task of grass cutting! As well as making sure to cut back rank and overhanging vegetation along the heritage trail, we also cut the grass back on our meadows. We have a rotary Allen Scythe which is a great tool to avoid mulching the grass, and anything in it, which we let sit for a wee bit to allow seeds to fall and insects to escape before removing. Removing the cuttings will increase soil fertility and promote wildflowers over grasses, allowing these meadows to become richer in biodiversity. We also have our manual hand scythes, a more sustainable method of cutting as it uses no fuel, and has less on of impact on the environment, although it does take a lot longer so certain areas like our meadow at Kirkgate Park are treated to this.

There is a Wildlife Watch group being set up in Kinross in October. Overseen by the Wildlife Trust for Scotland, this group will be run by local volunteers and is aimed at children from the ages



of 5 to 8, and will be hosting a range of activities around Loch Leven, incorporating creepy crawlies and woodland wanders! The sessions will be on the second Saturday every month and will have limited spaces.

At the end of September we will be saying goodbye to another of our seasonal reserve staff Stuart, who joined us for a second season this year. We do still have Bella until November, so she will be helping the reserve staff with plenty of practical tasks around the reserve, and with our Goose and Webs counts.

*Sally Reay, Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer*

### Loch Leven Castle

Castle Island, Kinross

Tel 07836 313769



LOCATED ON AN ISLAND in beautiful Loch Leven, this is one of Scotland's oldest castles, probably built in the early 1300s.

Mary, Queen of Scots spent a traumatic year in captivity here, when she miscarried twins and was forced to abdicate. She dramatically escaped in 1568.

The property is reached by boat, operated by Historic Scotland and departing from the fishery pier (Pier Road, KY13 8UF).

Due to limited capacity, it is recommended that all visits are booked online at [www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle](http://www.historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle).

#### OPENING TIMES

**1 April – 30 Sept:** Daily, 10am – 4.30pm (last outward sailing 3.30pm)

**1 to 31 Oct:** Daily, 10am – 3.00pm (last outward sailing 2pm)

#### PRICES

Adult (16-64yrs)	£10
Concession (65yrs+ and unemployed)	£8
Child (7-15yrs)	£6
Family (1 adult, 2 children)	£20
Family (2 adults, 2 children)	£29
Family (2 adults, 3 children)	£34

Historic Scotland members travel free.

*The Pier: Hannah Collins*



# Autumn Almanac



**THERE'S A DISTINCTLY** autumnal feel to the days now, the temperature is dropping a bit and with it, some fairly significant rain-fall coming hand in hand. The days are getting noticeably shorter and the heady days of harvest seem a long way behind us.

Even here, at Backward Farm, our two fields of spring barley were combined on the earliest ever date for us, although there was a big contrast between the two fields, with one being very ripe and the other being just ripe enough.

The yield of grain wasn't particularly good and the job was easily completed in an afternoon by Andrew and his 'big lexie' combine harvester, with another friend and neighbour Alasdair carting the grain into the shed for us. This allowed me to get on with the job of treating the grain with acid to preserve it, which works just the same as pickling vegetables and gives it a nice taste for the animals to eat. Most of it will be fed to the pigs and there will be some spare for feeding to the cattle, although not as much as I would like.

The straw was baled the next day before the weather turned wet the next day after that – just in time.

Although the main reason for growing the barley is to have the grain to feed, in particular to the pigs so we are as self-sufficient as possible in feeding our livestock, the straw is also really important. We use it to bed the animals over the winter months and we will also feed some of it to the breeding cows.

One of the barley fields had quite a bit of grass growing through it so I decided to wrap some of the straw bales just like we do with silage bales. We have started feeding some to the cows out in the fields already and they love it. It complements the wetter lush grass of this time of year very nicely and it will be fed along with some more lush silage once the grazing season is over and the cows are brought into their sheds for the winter.

We have some late silage to gather in to complete our stock of winter feed and this should be done by the time you are reading this. It's not ideal trying to make silage at this time of year, but hopefully we will get a few dry days together again to get it baled in good condition.

Currently we are sorting through the ewes, checking feet and udders in preparation for the sheep-breeding season. An analysis of dung samples taken from them suggested they would benefit from treatment with a wormer, which isn't bad as they haven't had anything since before lambing time. We are separating them accordingly to breed, how fat or thin they are and keeping lame ones separate. They were lumped into two big batches after shearing and weaning so it will be good to get them back into smaller batches again, before I am away helping bring in the potato harvest, which will be starting soon.

John

## Weather

### Recent Weather Reports From Kinross August 2025

Total Rainfall	53.7mm/2.14in
Heaviest Fall	11.3mm/0.45in (4 Aug)
Total Sunshine	192.4 hrs
Sunniest Day	10.8 hrs (17 Aug)
Max Temp Average	20.31°C
Highest Temp	28.3°C (13 Aug)
Min Temp Average	6.24°C
Lowest Temp	-0.8°C (9 Aug)

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# The Nights Are Drawin' In...

**THE NIGHTS ARE** fair drawin' in, eh? But what a great summer we've had. Rainy and windy in parts but overall, sunny and warm for prolonged periods... can't ask for much more in my opinion.

So, the time has come my fellow gardeners and potters, for the final article of the year. It's been a blast as always and I'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on the good, the bad and the ugly of the season.

Let's start with the good. There have been a few plants which have stood out this year as providing long-lasting colour from early summer until (probably) the first frosts. Way ahead of everything else has to be the humble *Alstroemeria*. This is a perennial that I treat almost as an annual because it's in a pot, which means it may not survive a hard winter if left outside. If you have them planted in the garden they last year after year with a bit of mulch etc spread over them to protect from frosts. I take mine into the greenhouse in their pots to give them the best chance of survival.

Other plants that have provided months of beauty and colour have been *Nemesia*, *Diascia* and *Begonias*. *Begonias* detest the cold so they will be removed from their pots soon and left to dry out slightly in the greenhouse for a week or so. Then I'll strip the stalks and flowers and wrap the corms in newspaper – these will then be put in a box in an unheated room in the house until early March next year. *Begonias* have been absolutely brilliant this year, flowering from the end of June to the end of September, coming a very close second to the *Alstroemerias*.

*Alstroemeria*.



*Brachyscome*

*Nemesia* (I went for orange this year, but in retrospect, think I prefer the red variety) are an annual and I don't tend to try and overwinter them, buying fresh each year. They have given months of colour and have outlasted most other annuals. Similar with *Diascia*, they've flowered for months with very little care (apart from feeding and watering!). If it's a very mild winter, they may come back next year – I don't usually remove them until the spring, just in case!

An honourable mention should go to *Brachyscome*, an unassuming little plant with lovely daisy-like flowers that has flourished in both baskets and pots for months on end. I often overlook this plant in favour of its more 'blousy' neighbours, but every time I notice it, it brings a smile to my face.

Of course, it goes without saying that the compost I used this year – Jack's Magic – has been an absolute joy to work with, from seed germination to planting out, it has surpassed all my expectations.

Right, the bad. I love *Petunias* in all their varieties but crikey, they're hard work. Every time I plant them I think right, this year will be better, this year I will have *Petunias* which will flourish all summer long. Nope. Nah-ah. Once again, they've beaten me. They are beautiful for about three or four weeks, then the green/blackfly move in, and no amount of spraying will shift them. Or it rains copiously and they're ruined by the wet. So, no more! Until the next time I convince myself that this time will be different.

The only 'ugly' I can think of from this summer is the amount of watering that had to be done. I ended up with a loose rota where every day something would be watered, be that pots or baskets or sections of the garden. But that's the price we pay for having a nice garden.

Right, it looks like that's me for another year. Time to get out and start clearing some pots of dead stuff, dig out the seed catalogues and start planning for next year. Thanks so much for putting up with me again and I wish you all a happy autumn and winter – see you next year!

Teresa



## Kinross-shire Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity no SC015523)

*Worshipping God – Following Christ – Serving the Community*

**At the start of 2025 the local Church of Scotland congregations united 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.  
*This vacancy has now been advertised with a closing date for applications of 10 October.*

Interim Moderator for the Charge B vacancy: Rev. Marc Prowe  
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](http://www.kinrossparishchurch.org)

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship; Instagram: [kpscotland](https://www.instagram.com/kpscotland)

E-mail: [office@kinrossparishchurch.org](mailto: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 Kinross Church 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 10.30 then joins in at the end of the service. Within the church there is a corner for parents with babies and toddlers

**Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall** after most services

**Sunday morning services are also available online:** live on YouTube and Facebook; thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD

6.00pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom

6.00pm: **Crossfire**, church centre. Age P7 & up

#### 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

#### 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.*

#### OCTOBER

**Sat 4** 10am-12pm: **Fairtrade Coffee Morning**, in the Kinross Church Centre. The final event of Fairtrade Fortnight, with Fairtrade, craft and plant stalls.

**Sun 5** 10.30am: **Morning Service**, followed by

11.45am: **Informal Communion**

**Mon 6** 8am: **Guided Silent Meditation**

**Sun 12** 2.30pm – 4pm: **Let's Sing** in Church Centre. Tea and sing song. All welcome, but particularly for those living with dementia

**Tue 14** 7pm: **Guild**, in Kinross Church Centre: 'Visit to Debrecen'

**Thu 16** 9pm: Evening service of **Compline**

**Sat 18** 11am: **All Friends Together** for adults with learning disabilities

**Sun 26** 7pm: **Sunday@7** informal worship

**Wed 29 – Fri 31** **Brass Ensemble Concert.** A German Brass Ensemble, part of the 'Posaunenchor' movement and connected with their local church in former East Germany, are being hosted by Kinross-shire Parish Church over these dates. *Details of their concert to be confirmed – see 'Kinross Parish Church' website or Facebook*

## 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](mailto:revcsime@gmail.com)**

**Anne McKay: 07766 418016, [annemckay90@gmail.com](mailto:annemckay90@gmail.com)**

**Christine Maclure: 07704 884584, [maclure19@gmail.com](mailto: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.

#### OCTOBER

**5 Oct: 9.45am, Sunday Morning Worship at Fossoway** followed by **11.15am, Sunday Morning Worship at Cleish**  
*Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after both services*

**12 Oct: 9.45am, Sunday Morning Worship**  
*Refreshments will be available after the service*

**19 Oct: 9.45am, Sunday Morning Worship**  
*Refreshments will be available after the service*

**26 Oct: 9.45am Harvest Festival**  
with collection for Broke not Broken

Refreshments, including bacon rolls, will be available after the service. Vegetarian and gluten free options will also be available.

#### 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 3 Oct 7.30pm: THE BEST OF MEN (12)**

In 1943 a refugee doctor revolutionised life for paralysed people by introducing sport into their rehabilitation. This heartwarming and uplifting film, starring Rob Brydon, George Mackay and Eddie Marsan, reveals the true story behind the birth of the Paralympic Games. Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits. Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether. All welcome.

#### ADVANCE NOTICE: NOVEMBER FILM NIGHT

**Fri 7 Nov 7.30pm: MR BURTON (12)**

A British biographical drama film about the early life of actor Richard Burton.

#### 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](mailto: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 27 Sept from 4-6pm at Orwell Church with all the usual crafts, activities, fun, and food.

#### OCTOBER

- 2 Oct** Ashley House Service at 2.00pm.  
**5 Oct** Family Service with the Praise Band  
**17 Oct** Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 2pm - 3:30pm  
**26 Oct** Praise Service in Portmoak Church at 3.00pm  
**31 Oct** Oasis Ladies Group, Portmoak New Room 10:15 - 12pm  
Christmas Craft with Norma

The Church Office and Shop is open 10am-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: [orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com](mailto:orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com)

Website: [orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk](http://orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk)



## St. James' RC Church

### Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld

5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW

Te: 01577 863329 Mob: 07540 534480

E-mail: [stjames@dunkelldiocese.org.uk](mailto:stjames@dunkelldiocese.org.uk)

Website: [www.catholickinross.com](http://www.catholickinross.com)

Weekly newsletter available online

**Parish Priest:** Fr. Martin Pletts

**Permanent Deacon:** Rev. Des Connors

#### TIMES OF HOLY MASS

Sat: Vigil Mass at 7pm

Sun: Holy Mass at 9am

Confessions after Vigil Mass

## St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY



Website: [www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk](http://www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk)

Find us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross](http://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](mailto:revelaine212@gmail.com)  
07977 101742 (texts preferred) Not Tuesdays

**Chair of Vestry** Malcolm Strang Steel

*e-mail* [steel@greenheadfarm.co.uk](mailto:steel@greenheadfarm.co.uk) 07970 744102

**Associate Priest:** Rev Fliss Shaw

*e-mail* [rev.fmshaw@btinternet.com](mailto: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. Apologies, this information is in obeyance at present

We look forward to seeing you in person or online. All Are Welcome!  
Our Meeting Room is available for hire at competitive rates.

#### OCTOBER EVENTS AND SERVICES

**NB:** There are no midweek Communion services at the present time.

**Sun 5** Creation 5  
10am: Sung Eucharist.

**Sun 12** Pentecost 18  
10am: Sung Eucharist  
11.15 - 12pm: Fairtrade Stall in the Church Hall  
18.00: Taize Service in the hall led by Rev Elaine Ryder

**Sun 19** Pentecost 19  
10am: Sung Eucharist.

**Sun 26** Pentecost 20  
10am: Sung Eucharist.

#### NOVEMBER

**Sun 2** All Saints Sunday  
10am: Sung Eucharist.

#### DATES FOR THE DIARY

**Sat 24** 3pm: A Service of Thanksgiving for and Blessing of our pets

Art @ St Paul's has started up again.

**October 4 & 5, 18 & 29. 10am - 4pm**

## Acknowledgements

### MORRIS

ALISON AND AILSA wish to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for the many kind expressions of sympathy, cards, letters and flowers received after Colin's death on 2 August. Special thanks to all the staff in Tummel Ward at Murray Royal Hospital for their loving care, kindness and attention given to Colin over the past year. Also thanks to Stewart Funeral Directors and Angela McCormack for their kindness and guidance, and to all who paid their last respects to Colin at Perth Crematorium.

### Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

[info@lochlevenchurch.com](mailto:info@lochlevenchurch.com)



Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven

Community Campus, at 10:30am each Sunday. Our sermon series in September is 'Fly Through the Bible: Part 2: Five Events from the Life of Jesus Christ'. This month we'll be hosting the following services:

5 Oct: Born (Robin MacLellan, SU Scotland)

12 Oct: Tempted (Gavin Matthews, Solas)

19 Oct: Crucified (Richard Gibb, LLC)

26 Oct: Risen – Gordy Mackay, Perth Baptist Church

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](http://www.lochlevenchurch.com), or email us at [info@lochlevenchurch.com](mailto:info@lochlevenchurch.com)

### Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

[www.kinrossgospelhall.info](http://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.

## LIGHT UP KINROSS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

AT GREENS' CAR PARK

HIGH STREET



**J&D Funeral Directors**  
We care for your loved ones

7 South St, Milnathort. KY13 9XA

Personal 24 hour service.  
01577 208070

[jdfuneraldirectors@gmail.com](mailto:jdfuneraldirectors@gmail.com)  
[www.jdfuneraldirectors.co.uk](http://www.jdfuneraldirectors.co.uk)

## Obituary

### CUTHBERT

**Margie Wilson Cuthbert (Margie)**

**1 December 1932 - 17 August 2025**

IT IS WITH regret that I am reporting the death of my mother Margaret Cuthbert, or Margie to her family and friends.

Margie was born and brought up in Kinross as the daughter of Dave and Mima Sands, who owned and operated the David Sands supermarket on Station Road in Kinross (now Greens).



Along with her brother Lindsay, she worked in the shop as a young person, before attending Dollar Academy, followed by Edinburgh University, where she met and fell in love with my father, James Cuthbert (Jim).

Jim was the son of the County Clerk and I understand that their relationship was something of a Romeo and Juliet situation, as the County Clerk was the administrator of rationing during the war and the David Sands supermarket was charged with filing returns! This was compounded by Margie's uncle, George Wilson being the 'other' lawyer in town.

My parents moved to England to find employment, where they produced four children.

Then in 1964, they set up the holiday firm Canvas Holidays. Canvas Holidays offered ready erected tents across Europe and was one of the largest holiday companies of its time.

Returning to Scotland in the 1990s, they lived in St Andrews for the rest of their lives.

Margie never lost her love for Kinross and in 2011 (aged 78), she published a book called *Kinross-shire – A Century Of Stories*.

When I drove her around Kinross, she would tell me which relation stayed in which house and it felt like most of old Kinross was related in one way or another!

Margie was the grandmother of 15 grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren when she died, each of which she lovingly cherished.

She will be missed by us all.

*Dave Cuthbert*

## Weekly Programme For October

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (6 Oct ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Careers Drop in (13 & 27 Oct ONLY)	10.30-3pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble, Dominoes	1.30pm
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
Tuesday	Vision PK (7 & 21 Oct ONLY)	10-11.45am
	Exercise Class	11.30am
	Trishaws (weather permitting)	1.30pm
	Singing Group (14 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Curling, Quizzes etc	1.30pm
Wednesday	Church Service	11.15am
	Go4Gold Party & Awards (1 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Reminiscence Group (1 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Fun Quiz (8,15,22,29 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Craft Group (8 & 22 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes	1.30pm
Thursday	Chiropody Service (2 Oct – appts only)	10am-1pm
	Interactive Games	11.30am
	Exercise Class with Kenny from Live Active	11.30am
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble	1.15pm
	Art Group	1.30pm
Friday	Exercise Group	11.30am
	Halloween Party (31 Oct ONLY)	1.30pm
	Trishaws (weather permitting)	1.30pm
	Bingo	1.30pm
	Life Story Books	1.30pm
	Board Games	1.30pm



Film shows • Cards  
Dominoes • Art Class  
Exercises • Chiropody  
Trips • Daily Papers

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

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](mailto:kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com)

COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm

Dominoes; Exercises; Lunches Daily

## The Newsletter on Facebook

We use our Facebook page to announce:

- Our deadline and publication dates
- What's in the next issue
- Reminders of some local events
- Occasional breaking news

'Like' our page to be kept informed.

Search for *Kinross Newsletter* or go to:[www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter](http://www.facebook.com/kinrossnewsletter)Here if you  
need us

Talk to us, we'll listen

Call free day or night on

116 123

SAMARITANS

## LOCAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.kinross.cc), organise the Better Place To Live Fair, Networking Breakfasts and the Community Champion Award Event. We are looking for someone with book keeping experience and someone to take minutes at meetings, held approximately 8 times a year. The finances are very straightforward. Please email Richard on: [kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@brokennotbroken.org).

### Greyhound Rescue Fife

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Baltree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. 01592 890583. [www.greyhoundrescuefife.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

### Volunteering with Aberlour!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to support Aberlour, Scotland's Children's Charity. Visit [www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer](http://www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer).

### 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:administrator@kvd.org.uk)

### Guide Dogs Kinross

We would love new volunteers to join our fundraising group. Email [she61@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:susan.mitchell50@gmail.com).

### Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights. Please contact [davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk).

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

**HOPE NEEDS ACTION**  
 Take action with me, and help some of the world's poorest people build hope in the face of the climate crisis.



Thanks to clean-coal zones, families in Nepal have a healthier future.

**What:** Coffee Afternoon £5 admission  
**Where:** Orwell Church Hall  
**When:** Sat 11th Oct 2-3.30pm  
**Contact:** Kjarvie@btinternet.com

Practical Action is a global development charity.  
 practicalaction.org

I'm fundraising in aid of **Practical ACTION**

FR Registered with FUNDRAISING REGULATOR  
 Practical Action is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.  
 Company Reg. No. 2706987. Registered Office: 100, The Quadrant, London SW10 6HQ, UK.

**LOUISE'S GROUP**  
**COFFEE MORNING**  
 for MacMillan Cancer Support

Kinross Centre, 9am to 12pm  
 Saturday 27 September

Homemade baked goods, hot and cold drinks, a raffle, and other fun activities!

Join us for an evening of fun, friendship, fundraising and dancing to the Gallivanter's

**Saturday 11 October**  
 7.30pm – 12.30am  
**Kinross Rugby Club**

To raise money for a new wheelchair for well-known local man, Graeme Paterson £25, including buffet (children under 16 free).

Tickets from Colin Hogg: 07845 193 297 or Alison Hogg 01577 863660

Children welcome  
 Raffle and Auction

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/graemes-new-wheelchair-mnd>

**P & K SCHOOL TERM DATES**  
 Term Ends: Friday 10 October  
 Autumn Holiday: Monday 13 – Friday 24 October  
 Term starts: Monday 27 October

**NEWSLETTER DEADLINES**

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
November	Friday 17 October	Saturday 1 November

**MUSIC IN DOLLAR**  
 Programme for 25-26

**Saturday 18 October 7.30pm**  
 A Night at the Opera

**Sunday 2 November 3pm**  
 The Scottish Chinese Ensemble

**Sunday 9 November 3pm**  
 Children's Piano Day

**Sunday 23 November 3pm**  
 Tim Kliphuis 'jazz' trio

**Saturday 24 January at 7.30pm**  
 Chloé Piano Trio, violin cello piano

**Sunday 1 March 3pm**  
 Jia Ning Ng - solo piano

**Sunday 15 March at 3pm**  
 Charlotte Rowan (violin) & Charlotte Stevenson (piano)



**Fairtrade Fortnight**

**22 September- 5 October**  
**Fairtrade Coffee Morning**  
**Kinross Church Centre**  
**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> October**  
**10am-12pm**

Come along & enjoy Fairtrade Tea, Coffee & baking & buy from the Fairtrade Stall, craft stall & plant stall.

Admission £3 at the door.

# Milnathort filmhouse

Spooktacular Halloween Double Bill:  
Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> November  
Milnathort Town Hall 3pm & 7.30pm



When monsters want to get away from it all, they go to Count Dracula's (Adam Sandler) Hotel Transylvania, a lavish resort where they can be themselves without humans around to bother them. On one special weekend, Dracula invites creatures like the Invisible Man, the Mummy and others to celebrate the 118th birthday of his daughter, Mavis (Selena Gomez). However, an unforeseen complication unfolds when an ordinary human unwittingly crashes the party!

Tuck Shop will be open selling popcorn, drinks, crisps and other ghoulish things. Prizes for best dressed vampires and monsters...

For all of you who can remember the nose wiggling sorceress Samantha. But this time chuck in an egocentric failing actor who is looking for someone to revive his career. A star-studded cast with Nicole Kidman, Will Ferrell, Michael Caine, Shirley MacLaine and Steve Carell (spoiler; he actually steals the show!)



Bring a bottle (18+) and join us at 7.30pm for a fabulous evening of witchy tales and laughter. Snacks available to buy on the night.

Book your tickets using our PayPal account milnathort filmhouse, or reserve by email at milnathortfilmhouse@gmail.com.

## MOBILE LIBRARY 1 & 22 OCTOBER

[www.culturepk.org.uk/library/mobile-library](http://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.



**Music.**  
KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL

# CONCERT SERIES 25/26

13:25

**LOCH LEVEN COMMUNITY LIBRARY**

TUESDAYS THURSDAYS



**OCT 7TH**



**DEC 18TH**



**FEB 10TH**



**MAR 26TH**



**JUN 2ND**



**ARTS.**  
KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL

KINROSS-SHIRE RED SQUIRREL GROUP

## HELP SAVE RED SQUIRRELS

AND PROTECT NATIVE SPECIES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS

**GET INVOLVED**

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:

[kinrossshirered squirrelgroup@gmail.com](mailto:kinrossshirered squirrelgroup@gmail.com)



# DOLLAR MUSEUM BOOK SALE

**Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> and Sunday 9<sup>th</sup>  
November, 10 am to 5 pm**

We are happy to accept donations of books.  
Please bring books to the Museum during  
normal opening times:

Saturdays 11 to 1, and 2 to 4.30  
and Sundays 2 to 4.30

or contact Cecilia Condal on 07712 841963  
or email: [dollarmuseum@btconnect.com](mailto:dollarmuseum@btconnect.com)

## THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

*All Profits Returned To The Community*



Faculty of  
**Pupil Support**  
KINROSS HIGH SCHOOL

Pupil Support Café

Every Thursday at Kinross High School

From 11.00am to 12.15pm

in the meeting room beside the library.

Enter through school library -  
all welcome.

Selection of cakes plus either tea or coffee  
- £1.50

Funds are used to buy new resources for the  
Pupil Support Faculty



**BROKE  
NOT  
BROKEN**



## Christmas Hamper Donation List

Shortbread and Biscuit Tins  
Oatcakes, Crackers  
Jam and Chutneys  
Cranberry Sauce  
Turkey Gravy, Bread Sauce  
Seafood Sauce  
Christmas Pudding  
Mince Pies  
Christmas Cake  
Selection Boxes  
Chocolate and Sweeties  
Hot Chocolate & Marshmallows  
Sharing Crisps and Nuts  
Non-Alcoholic Festive Drinks  
Christmas Crackers and Napkins  
Gift Sets - small gift sets for  
adults and children



## 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.**

# Step up!



**Make a Difference  
Where You Live**

Be the voice your  
neighbourhood needs  
and join your local  
community council.

**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

<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>8-10am</b>
<b>TUESDAY</b>	<b>8-10am</b>
<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>8-10am</b>
<b>THURSDAY</b>	<b>8-10am</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>8-10am</b>
<b>SATURDAY</b>	<b>8-12pm</b>
<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>

**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](mailto:cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com)

**Fossoway & District:** Chair: Nicola Marchant  
Email: [fossoway.cc@gmail.com](mailto:fossoway.cc@gmail.com)

**Glenfarg:** Chair: Douglas Fraser  
Email: [secretary@glenfarg.org](mailto:secretary@glenfarg.org)

**Kinross:** Email: [kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com](mailto:kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com)

**Milnathort & Orwell:** Chair: Neill Bingham  
Email: [communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com](mailto:communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com)

**Portmoak:** Chair: Andy Miller  
Email: [portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk)

## Kinross Community Councillors

David West	Chair
Bill Freeman	Vice Chair
Andrew Vaughan	Secretary
Margaret West	Treasurer
Members	Chris Willsher, Elliot Gilmour, Chris Collins, Lynne Mckay, Steve Sharp, Dave MacKenzie

Have a look at our website [www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com](http://www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com)

## Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller	Chair	E: <a href="mailto:Chair@portmoak.org">Chair@portmoak.org</a>
Ann Davidson	Treasurer	
Sue McGregor	Secretary	E: <a href="mailto:secretary@portmoak.org">secretary@portmoak.org</a>
Dave Patterson	Member	
Kenneth Donaldson	Associated Member	

Have a look at our website [www.portmoak.org](http://www.portmoak.org)

## Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

**CLlr DAVE CUTHBERT (Independent)**  
Tel: 01738 475110  
Email: [dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk)  
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

**CLlr NEIL FRESHWATER (Scottish Conservative & Unionist)**  
Tel (office): 01738 475108  
Email: [nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire](http://www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire)

**CLlr WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)**  
Mobile: 07909 884042  
Email: [wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk)

**CLlr RICHARD WATTERS (SNP)**  
Mobile: 07557 812513  
Email: [rwatters@pkc.gov.uk](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:claire.baker.msp@parliament.scot)

### Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative)

Email: [murdo.fraser.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:murdo.fraser.msp@parliament.scot)

### Roz McCall MSP (Conservative)

Email: [roz.McCall.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:roz.McCall.msp@parliament.scot)

### Alex Rowley MSP (Labour)

Email: [alex.rowley.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:alex.rowley.msp@parliament.scot)

### Mark Ruskell MSP (Green)

Email: [mark.ruskell.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:mark.ruskell.msp@parliament.scot)

### Liz Smith MSP (Conservative)

Email: [elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot)

### Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative)

Email: [alexander.stewart.msp@parliament.scot](mailto:alexander.stewart.msp@parliament.scot)

## KINROSS GARDEN GROUP

2025/26 Season

Thursday 9 October, 2pm

Parish Church, Kinross

Elsbeth MacIntosh

'A Lifetime in Alpines'

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](http://kinrosscommunitycouncil.com)

# Diary

## September

Friday	26	Charity Concert for Medecins Sans Frontieres, Campus
Sat	27	MacMillan Coffee Morning in memory of Louise, Kinross Centre
Sat	27	Kinross Farmers' Market, High Street
Tues	30	Common Grounds 25th anniversary lunch

## October

Wed	1	Kinross Handcraft Circle, Outing to Fife Folk Museum, Ceres
Sat	4	Fairtrade Coffee Morning, Kinross Church Centre
Sat/Sun	4/5	Arts@StPaul's Exhibitions
Sun	5	Portmoak Apple Day
Mon	6	Cleish and Blairadam Community Council meets
Tues	7	Kinross Handcraft Circle Gateside Village Hall 9.45am - 12.15pm
Tues	7	USA meetings & sauna, 9pm at 89C - 811c Oldgate Way
Tues	7	Fossoway Community Council meets
Tues	7	Climate Cafe, library
Tues	7	Carnbo Hall Talk: Tracing The History Of Your House
Wed	8	Public Transport Consultation, Day Centre
Thurs	9	Garden Group Outing meets, see Club Entry
Thurs	9	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Sat	11	Portmoak Film Society shows 'Conclave'
Sat	11	Practical Action Event, 2pm, Orwell Church Hall'
Sun	12	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Meets – see clubs entry
Sun	12	Loch Leven Catchment Community Springboard, Kinross Rugby Club
Mon	13	Kinross Community Council meets
Tues	14	Portmoak Community Council meets
Wed	15	Shoobox for Ukraine appeal deadline - please hand items in at campus
Fri	17	Newsletter Deadline for November issue
Sat	18	Repair Cafe, Campus
Sat/Sun	18/19	Arts@StPaul's Exhibitions
Tues	21	Aero Space Kinross Discovery Centre Community Consultation
Tues	21	Kinross Handcraft Circle Gateside Village Hall 9.45am - 12.15pm
Sat	25	Kinross Farmers' Market, High Street
Sat	25	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Meets – see clubs entry
Sun	26	Reminder: Clocks go back

### The Kinross Newsletter is available from:

Greens of Kinross	High Street, Kinross
Premier Stores	High Street, Kinross
Read & Relax	High Street, Kinross
Sainsbury's	Station Road, Kinross
Giacopazzi's	Lathro, Kinross
Keystore More	Green Road, Kinross
Giacopazzi's	New Road, Milnathort
Stewart & Smart	Stirling Road, Milnathort

Heaven Scent	South Street, Milnathort
Lochend Farm Shop	Scotlandwell
Kinnesswood Shop	Main Street, Kinnesswood
Fossoway Store	Crook of Devon
Fossoway Garage	Crook of Devon
Mona's Coffee Shop	Muckhart
Powmill Stores	Powmill
Loch Leven's Larder	Near Wester Balgedie
Glenfarg Village Shop	Glenfarg