



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the January Issue
5pm,
Monday 8 December, 2025
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Contributions

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

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

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

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Post or by hand to:

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

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

Editor Hannah Collins Deputy Editor Chris Collins

Advertising Julia Fulton Treasurer and Subscriptions Ross McConnell Distribution David Anderson

Letter From The Editor

IT WAS VERY SAD to hear that David Colliar, a stalwart of the Kinross Community, had passed away. David was one of the *Newsletter* board members and will be much missed by everyone who knew him. He volunteered on the Community Council for almost 40 years, and was active in the community right up until his death. David gave his all to Kinross and I was honoured to count him as a friend.

I know that he was saddened in his later years at the difficulty in recruiting new, younger members for the Community Council and Light Up Kinross, both of which were causes close to his heart. With recent events and resignations, we need new people in the community to step up and give some of their time to the various organisations and groups who have now been left with gaps in their committees.

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

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

Letters Policy

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

Note to Readers: Advertising

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

Abbreviations

PKC: Perth & Kinross Council
CC: Community Council

Cllr: Councillor
CCllr: Community Councillor

If you live in Kinross, please do consider taking on a role as part of the Community Council or with some of the other organisations who organise local events. It is not an arduous task, and it's a great way to meet more people in your vicinity, away from social media and out in the world!

More importantly, it really can help to make a difference to your community. It seems that it has never been more important to represent local opinions, when so many decisions are being devolved to national organisations, instead of being made by those who actually live in the communities that they affect.

I hope that in 2026 we can have a thriving community with more helpers than we need, whether it's plentiful manpower for large-scale events like the markets, or just bums on seats to support the monthly CC meetings where important local issues are brought to our local Councillors for discussion and, hopefully, action at a higher level. If you want to make your voice heard on local issues, the Community Council exists for you. Meetings last no longer than two hours (often less!) and are only once a month. You would be very welcome to come along to the Campus in January when we next meet and see what goes on.

Finally, another sad farewell, this time to my assistant editor Joyce, who has now stepped down due to other work commitments. Joyce has been with the *Newsletter* since before I started as Editor and as well as being ferociously accurate with comma placement, had a sharp eye for errors and often managed to stop them slipping through the net. She will be much missed by the *Newsletter* team but I am pleased to be able to count her as a good friend. Thank you (comma) Joyce!

Hannah Collins, Editor



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We will collect and recycle your real Christmas tree. It's a hassle-free way to dispose of your tree, while helping children with life-shortening conditions and their families.

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Collections will take place the second weekend of January. We'll be collecting from Postcodes: HY13, PH2 9QL, PH2 9NW, PH2 9PX, PH2 9QQ, PH2 9QJ, PH2 9PY, PH2 9NL, PH2 9NR, PH2 9QF

Children's Hospices Across Scotland (CHAS) is a Scottish charity. SC039724, regulated by the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR)

Nature Photographs For The Raingardens Trail

THE PRIZE-WINNING Kinross Raingardens Trail now extends from the Park and Ride down Junction Road to Koronka, with features of interest along the way including the woodland at Dance Connect, the wild native vegetation thriving all spring and summer at Kipper Hire (with overwintering habitat there too), roadside swales which enable the carriageways to be free of surface water during very heavy rain, two constructed wetlands treating road or car park rainfall run-off, plus new ponds in the South Queich designated flood area (triangular piece of land bounded by the lower end of Junction Road and the footpath which goes off up alongside the Clash Burn towards Levenfields houses). Three remarkable new raised-bed raingardens at the Koronka factory sustain interest in the water management elements of the business park/industrial estate, not far from a further stroll around the former BCA site to join the Heritage Trail at the loch.

After good discussion with TRACKS, facilitated by Kinross in Bloom and the network of local environment and nature interest groups in Kinross, we are thinking once more about getting interpretative, durable and attractive weatherproof signs along the Kinross Raingardens Trail. Ideally, we need great pictures of the wildlife and other points of interest to be seen in a gentle stroll along the trail, at various seasons.

The challenge is to be able to show in close-up the variety of intriguing insects and other creatures which are so easily overlooked when walking and talking or jogging and simply seeing a swathe of 'overgrown weeds'. As well as butterflies and bumble bees in spring summer and into early autumn, which most of

us can spot and even cautiously (in my case) possibly identify, there is so much more. A close peep into a stand of wildflowers to look at a bee often shows there are tiny hover flies buzzing about, even pollinator beetles such as the reddish brown soldier beetles, day flying moths too, and perhaps this autumn numbers of ladybirds (in the news in England as this is written).

Terms such as biodiversity and ecosystem begin to have more meaning as we enjoy the discovery of what lives here or there and what are the dependencies for habitat. And what can we do to keep our green spaces so rich?

It would be great to be able to show interest through the seasons – so if nature photography is one of your pleasures, please look through your own archives and see if you have stunners you would be prepared to share with us and maybe get some of them used in the info signs we hope to create ready for spring 2026. We will of course put names against pictures so our local photographers get the credit. An inspiring photo beats a page of text any day!

Please forward photos – plants, vegetation, individual blooms, seed heads, leaves, whatever makes a good interesting image, as well as any of the insects and other fauna your lens may have captured along the Raingardens Trail or close by to: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org.

Brian J. D'Arcy

Help With Woodwork

ARE YOU A carpenter, joiner, expert DIY-er? Could you help us build the raised beds for our sensory garden?

The Nest @ KHS ISP are looking for community volunteers to share their skills. We have lots of ideas but would love the KHS community to help develop them into an amazing, inclusive and accessible learning space. If you can help in any way, please get in touch via KinrossHigh@pkc.gov.uk.

Melanie Wilton

Congratulations!



Well Done, Shona!

CONGRATULATIONS to Shona Fowler, NHS Community Liaison Officer, who worked tirelessly for the Kinross Community for many years and retired on 11 November. The *Newsletter* and the wider community all wish her a very happy retirement.



THE KINROSS NEWSLETTER

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Thanks!



Blythswood Shoebox Appeal 2025

THE WELL COUNTRY INN was a hive of activity on Monday 3 November as the Scotlandwell in Bloom team and friends had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon filling shoeboxes for the Blythswood Shoebox Appeal. We filled an amazing 141 shoeboxes and were rewarded with coffee and delicious cakes. Proceeds from refreshments and cash donations enabled us to donate a cheque for £208 towards transport costs. A huge thank you to everyone who came along to help and to those who very kindly handed in donations (shoeboxes, goodies and/or cash) – between us we made it happen. A very special thank you must go to Jinty and her friend Irene who seem to have been knitting non stop since last year, and provided us with a marvellous selection of very much needed woolly hats.

Many thanks to Lynne at the Well Country Inn for allowing us to host the event and for donating the refreshments – we really are very grateful. Thanks also to those who helped pack up the cars prior to delivery. The boxes were delivered to the Blythswood lorry on 5 November. We very much hope our boxes are making their way to help spread a little Christmas cheer to those less fortunate.

Scotlandwell in Bloom

Thanks For The Brolly!

WE WISH TO THANK the gentleman with the large golf umbrella who kindly came to share its shelter at the Remembrance Service as we all stood in the pouring rain. My wife was in a wheelchair, and his kindness and thoughtfulness were very much appreciated.

Beth and Gordon Paterson

Thanks From Poppy Scotland

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

We would like to give a big thanks to those who assisted in placing tins and collecting them, and to the shops and businesses who put up terrific displays in their windows, in particular Richard and team at the Loch Leven Laundry, Mandy at Mandy's Hairdressers and the new Kinross Pharmacy and to all others who did similar, we greatly appreciate that effort.

Huge thanks to all of our readers for donating by QR codes on tins, by texting, in cash, or on our online Giving site. We tried hard to make digital giving easier again, although we do notice that many people still carry cash in their wallets and their donations are greatly appreciated.

As of the time of writing, we do not know the final tally for our collections throughout Kinross-shire.

Thanks to Sainsbury's staff, for taking the poppy boxes and for letting us do in-store collections again. We were at the store on

the Saturday before Remembrance Sunday and it is always lovely to speak to many people who wanted to stop for a chat, to tell us about their family members, and make a donation for a poppy.

Thanks to local schools and churches for their involvement in the collection.

It was wonderful to have such a great turnout at the Kinross-shire Parish Church, at the parade and at the War Memorial this year and all this despite the rain! Sincere thanks to Lynne McKay and to the Community Council team for their careful planning, our parade commander, Dale Caldwell from the ACF and the youth organisations turning out in great numbers. Thanks also to Rev. Alan Reid for leading the lovely service and to the wonderful Kinross pipe band, St Serf's Lodge for use of the hall for a cuppa soup and eats afterwards, and Police Scotland too.

Finally, a huge thank you to you the Kinross and district people, including Milnathort, Cleish, Fossoway, Portmoak and Arngask, who came out in large numbers for the Silence despite the rain! Also, thank you to Jamie Montgomery in his role as Deputy Lord Lieutenant to lead the wreath laying in Kinross on behalf of HM The King.

Veterans – you're always welcome to march with us every year. Those in the watching crowd this year will be very welcome to march with us next year.

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

*Niall Bennet and Rosemary Tolson
Scottish Poppy Appeal Area Organisers,
Kinross, Milnathort, Fossoway and Portmoak*



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GO-AHEAD FOR FIRST WINDFARM

RENEWABLE ENERGY COMPANY, Galileo Empower, has been granted planning permission for a proposed eight-turbine wind farm development, located north of Carnbo. Planning permission was granted following an appeal to the Scottish Government Reporter (Planning and Environmental Appeals Division) in June 2025, following non-determination of the planning application by PKC.

The appeal was determined by the Scottish Government rather than by local councils. With two more windfarm proposals currently being discussed, there are increasing concerns about the cumulative impact of multiple windfarms in the Ochils.

The project, with an operational lifetime of 40 years, will have a generating capacity of 49.6 megawatts (MW). Three of the turbines will have blade tip heights of up to 180m, and five will have blade tip heights of up to 200m.

Galileo Empower say that their windfarm will contribute significantly to the decarbonisation of the electricity grid, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and deliver lasting economic benefits for the local community. The windfarm could power up to 48,200 homes with clean, zero-carbon renewable electricity annually.

They estimate that throughout the construction and operational phase up to £9.1 million is anticipated to be spent within the local economy, with the creation of up to 66 jobs. Galileo say they are committed to ensuring that, wherever reasonably practicable, local suppliers and contractors are used in all aspects of windfarm development.

Jason Morin, Senior Project Manager for Galileo Empower, said, 'We're delighted that Craighead Wind Farm has been granted planning permission, delivering secure, clean, homegrown energy. This decision marks a significant step forward in Scotland's renewable energy journey, and we're committed to ensuring that local



communities and businesses share directly in the economic opportunities this project will create. We have engaged extensively with local communities on this project and are keen to maintain that engagement as we deliver investment, generate local jobs, boost the skills of our current and future workforce and deliver sustainable economic growth.'

Cllr Neil Freshwater pointed out, 'Residents feel there is a 'democratic gap' in this process, as the applications for both the Craighead and Brunt Hill windfarms were (or will be) determined by the Scottish Government, each for different reasons, rather than by the local council. Their concern centres on the cumulative impact of potentially three new windfarms in the Kinross-shire Ochils, with the Brunt Hill proposal currently before Scottish Ministers and a possible Windburn expansion also under discussion. It is encouraging that, in approving

the Craighead application, the Reporter acknowledged this cumulative impact. I would therefore urge my fellow councillors on the Perth & Kinross Planning and Placemaking Committee to take this into account when formulating their response to the Brunt Hill application.'

Willie Robertson noted, 'Given that the decision on the Craighead Windfarm was taken by the Scottish Government Reporter it was almost guaranteed that consent would be given. I think that the process would have been much more democratic had the decision been left to the Council's planning committee. At least then members of the public could address the committee and witness first hand the decision being taken and hear the arguments that led to it being granted.

'Planning precedent has now established that it is acceptable to site large scale windfarms in the Ochil Hills. For that reason, and given the Scottish government's policy on renewable energy, I think that the much larger application at Brunthill will most likely be approved by the government's Energy Consent Unit.

'I would be more in favour of windfarms if it meant cheaper energy for people. But it doesn't. We have to pay a green levy as part of our electricity bills to subsidise the owners of these windfarms. The average household pays approximately £142 on their electricity bills per year for this. We have the highest energy costs in Europe when with all these windfarms surely we should have the smallest.

'Added to that the turbines that will be erected at Craighead, will like all the thousands of other turbines erected in Scotland, be manufactured abroad. So we are doing nothing to replace the jobs of the thousands of highly skilled workers in the North sea oil and gas industry who are losing their jobs and are having to move overseas.'

Mike Barnacle, Kinross-shire Ward Cllr

Current view



Projected evening view with aviation lighting scheme





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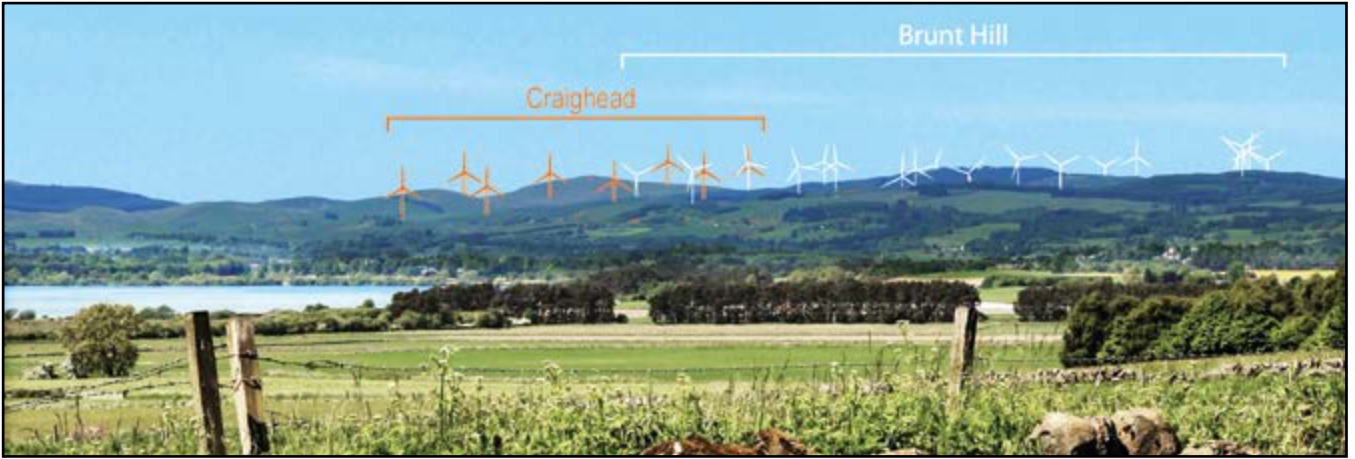


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The view of the hills if both windfarm applications are successful

from 1999-2022 and Member of Rural Scotland's Council, and Chair of Fossoway Community Development Trust said, 'I apportion most of the blame for the Craighead approval with PKC Planning officers. They have failed in their supposed duty of care to the community they purport to represent by not prioritising assessment of the above timeously, thereby allowing the Craighead developer to appeal on non-determination to the DPEA, and then compounded that by late submission to the Reporter on conditions supplied by the applicant.

'The community were denied a right of audience because the Planning Committee were never appraised or met re the situation on these windfarms, neither did the Kinross-shire Area Committee discuss the

potential impact of over 20 very large turbines.

'I am informed that the Planning Committee will meet on 3/12/25 to discuss the Brunthill proposal for 13 turbines, citing potential cumulative impact if the ECU approve same (the Craighead Reporter stated that consent for both windfarms will give the impression of a single much larger windfarm with significant effect on the landscape along with aviation lighting).

'Although the community will have no right of audience on 3/12/25 I still intend to write to the Committee members to urge objection on the grounds of cumulative impact. This is important because the Planning Portal makes no reference to community representation.

'It's clear from the Craighead decision

that NPF4 (a flawed document with no standalone landscape policy that should be reviewed by the Scottish Parliament) carries far greater weight than PKC's supplementary guidance and the Ochil Hills LLA.

'We have the potential for six windfarms next year, culminating in a landscape that completely scuppers any Regional Park aspirations unanimously supported by the Kinross-shire CCs in January 2022.'

'The John Muir Trust warned of the "Steady Creep of Wind Farms destroying the Highlands" and that "...the approach to renewables is piecemeal; cumulative impacts are hidden and our planning system is blind to the steady creep of industrialisation disguised as site-by-site approvals". This latest approval vindicates that warning.'



LAUNCHPAD

From Scotland to Space

An evening with:
Dave Mackay - Former Virgin Galactic Chief Pilot
 Friday 5th December 2025, Loch Leven Community Campus
 6pm




Scottish Astronaut and Aero Space Kinross Ambassador Dave Mackay, will present a talk at 6pm on Friday 5th December at Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross.

As the first Scot to visit space, his talk, entitled 'Launchpad - From Scotland to Space', will document his life from the Highlands to exploring space as former chief pilot with Virgin Galactic.

This FREE event is exclusively reserved for ASSET members and their guests. To become a member of the society, please register at: <https://aerospacekinross.com/membership/>. This will involve making a donation of £10.

Once registered, members will be sent a separate link to sign up for the event.

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ON YOUR BEST BEHAVIOUR, KIDS – SANTA'S ON HIS WAY!

THE MUCH BELOVED Kinross-shire Santa Sleigh will be out and about in December and hopes to meet local children who are excited for a visit from Santa to their own street! More detailed routes with streets are below.

ROUTE	DATE	STARTING
Milnathort	Friday 28 Nov	5.00pm
Mawcarse, Cuthill Towers & Glenfarg	Sunday 30 Nov	4.45pm
Kinross South	Friday 5 Dec	5.00pm
Kinross Central South	Saturday 6 Dec	5.00pm
Classlochie, Hatchbank, Cleish, Crook of Devon and Middle Balado	Sunday 7 Dec	4.45pm
Glenlomond, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell	Friday 12 Dec	5.00pm
Kinross Central North	Saturday 13 Dec	4.45pm
Kinross North	Sunday 14 Dec	4.45pm

SOME OF THESE dates coincide with lighting-up ceremonies and the Rotarians look forward to joining you there. See the poster on p92 with QR code to follow the Rotary Club Sleigh for live updates on the night. You can also donate via the QR code.

A spokesperson said, 'We are so looking forward to meeting you at the community lighting up events and out on the Santa trail. All of us at the Rotary Club of Kinross and District wish you a very happy and peaceful festive season!'

This year, The *Newsletter* has managed



to procure a detailed street route for Santa. Based on the North Wind Modelling Theory,

it uses GPS and satellite technology to pinpoint the exact location of every excited child in Kinross. Super-Advanced Sleigh technology measures pot-holes, bends in roads and anticipates the likelihood of rogue sheep and small black-and-tan dogs who have escaped on to the road, as well as having a special black-rabbit sensor.

The overpowering smell of chicken farms helps the sleigh to move at a super-advanced rate (not the recommended 20mph) in rural Kinross-shire.

28 November, Milnathort: starting 5pm
Auld Mart Rd, Auld Mart Lane and Auld mart Wynd; South St, Bridgefauld Road, Fleming Ct **stop point**, Whyte Place, Stirling Road Croft Wynd, up Wester Loan, North Street; into Muir Way, **stop point**, Ba-hill, New Springfield houses **stop point**, Curler Cr, Manse Rd into Victoria Avenue; Burleigh Rd Mayfield Gardens, Balfour Crescent, Reid Cr & Coventry Way; Burleigh Rd; Perth Rd, Stewart and Smarts, **stop point**

30 November, Mawcarse, Cuthill Towers and Glenfarg: starting 4.45pm
Mawcarse Mains, Mawcarse Crossroads, Mawcarse Station; on to Cuthill Towers, then to Glenfarg, Hilton View and Eden Crescent. Main Rd to Greenbank Rd junction. **stop point**, Greenbank Rd tHayfield Rd junction **stop point**, Duncruevie Rd Ash Grove; Birch Lane Elm Row onto Duncruevie Rd to Duncruevie

5 December, Kinross South: starting 5pm
High St: turn left into Smith Street; Myres Tc, Montgomery Street & Way, Ross St; Bowton Road, **stop point** School Wynd ,High St, Burns-Begg St and Pier Rd, Sandport Gait, Sandport, Nan Walker Wynd **stop point**

6 December, Kinross Central South: starting 5pm
Levenbridge Place, Devonvale Place and Hopefield. **stop point** Junction Rd; Station Rd, Douglas Crescent, Ochil View and Green Rd, **stop point**, Emslie Drive, McDonald Drive, Alexander Drive, Greenwood, Simpsons Wynd **stop point**, Green Rd, The Muirs, Sir Alan Smith Gardens.

7 December, Classlochie, Hatchbank, Cleish, Crook of Devon and Middle Balado: starting 4.45pm
Newton of Classlochie, Hatchbank, Cleish to switch on Christmas tree lights, Crook of Devon Main Rd, Waulkmill, Drummond Park **stop point**, Church St; Saint Serfs Rd junction **stop point**, church Rd then Main road, West Crook Way Main Rd, Naemoor Rd; Moubray; Main Rd, Hall car park **stop point**, Middle Balado, **stop point**.

12 December, Glenlomond, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell: starting 5pm
Glenlomond, Wester Balgedie , Gamekeepers Rd **stop point**, Main St, Bruce Road. Buchan Ave **stop point**, White Craigs Onto A911 to Scotlandwell Leslie Rd, Bankfoot Park **stop point**, Friar Pl; Wellside Park **stop point**.

13 December, Kinross Central North: starting 4.45pm
Wilson Court, Springfield Rd, into Sutherland Drive **stop point**, Morlich Place, Renton Drive; Argyll Rd **stop point**, Sutherland Drive, Rannoch Place, Argyll Rd, Seaforth Drive, Cameron Avenue, Leven Place, Maree Place, Springfield Park, McBain Place; Springfield Park, McWilliam Place, Beveridge Place, Springfield Rd, Muirs; Broom Rd, Gallowhill Rd and Gardens



14 December, Kinross North: starting 4.45pm
Burnbank Meadows: Main road and into Lathro Park; (clockwise) Calling into Gallowhill Wynd, Highfield Circle junction **stop point**, Lathro Lane & Lathro Court. Main Rd, Acremoar, Dalwhamie St, Kepitknow Cr, **stop point**, Drumeuther Wy, Lathrocht Grove, Drumeuther Wy, Acremoar Drive, Latch Dubh Lane junction **stop point**, Acremoar Drive.

20 December, Sainsbury's car park: between 12.30-4.30pm.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IN KINROSS-SHIRE

THERE WERE A NUMBER of events around Kinross-shire to mark Remembrance Day and recognise the contribution of British and Commonwealth military and civilian servicemen and women in the two World Wars and later conflicts.

Despite it being a very driech day, there was a good turnout at the events and residents of all ages came out in their droves to pay their respects to the fallen. Thanks to all who went along, laid wreaths and to all the organisers and helpers at the various events across the shire.

Milnathort Community Councillors received many compliments about their striking Poppy projection (pictured right) on the Town Hall. It had quite an impact; large numbers gathered compared to previous years.



Pictured opposite is the war memorial at Kinnesswood.

Right: Milnathort Town Hall Below, the parade through Kinross and the Kinross War Memorial on a very wet morning.



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DAVID'S LIFE OF SERVICE



DAVID COLLIAR'S LIFE was steeped in Kinross-shire. He was born in Milnathort in 1943 and attended Milnathort Primary School and Kinross High School. He was a beloved husband to Willis, much-loved father of David, dear father-in-law of Emily and proud grandad of Angus.

In 1958 he became an apprentice at Loch Leven Garage in Kinross while attending Lauder College in Dunfermline in the evenings, where he obtained a City & Guilds for Motor Engineering.

He worked at various garages and started his own business at 'the smiddy garage' in 1979. David ran a successful garage in Milnathort, along with Colliar's Taxis. With the help of his wife, Willis, they took on the school run and transported the outlying children to school. With the garage and taxis businesses, David knew everyone and he was the go-to person if you needed to contact someone in Kinross-Shire.

David lived in the Kinross area for almost his whole life. His voluntary service within the local community over many years was exemplary. He was always generous with his time, striving to improve and do what is best for Kinross-shire. Some might have regarded him as stubborn, but in actual fact he liked to ensure things were done properly and for the good of the community.

Dave Cuthbert notes, 'David was a stalwart of Kinross Community Council, having sat on from its inception until very recently. He gave his free time willingly to improve the area he loved, and he will be sadly missed.' His long service with the CC (almost 40 years) involved working with the planning department to bring T in the Park to Kinross and a local supermarket Prestos, now Sainsburys. He was a founding member

of the Kinross-shire fund who give grants to local groups. He served on both the Newsletter Fund and the Kinross-Shire Fund ensuring that funds were distributed fairly. David fought hard to get a Common Good Fund for Kinross established. His hard work and dogged determination paid off in 2006, with the sale of assets by PKC arising from property previously owned by the former burgh of Kinross, monies were transferred to the Kinross Common Good Fund.

David was instrumental in organising Remembrance Day for many years. For his services to community, he was nominated and attended the Queen's Garden Party at Holyrood twice. He was generous not only with his time but also with his skills. He was often to be found fixing minibuses for schools and local community groups.

His fundraising activities included Kinross Swimming Pool, minibuses for schools and Light up Kinross, for which he fundraised tirelessly to grow it to what you see today. He remained an active member till his death. He was also a Trustee of Hayfield Trust Charity.

David was also a Past Master of St Serfs and a member of the Provincial Grand Lodge. His long list of service also includes Member and Chairman of Kinross Primary PTA, Member and Chairman of Kinross High PTA, Member of Schools Council (Kinross-shire), Treasurer of Kinross ATC civilian committee, Treasurer and past chairman of Light Up Kinross, and a Trustee of Hayfield Trust Charity. He made an enormous contribution to life in Kinross and everyone who knew him will miss the fountain of wisdom he had accumulated over the years of dealing in local affairs – and with which he was so generous in his willingness to help others.

George Lawrie said, David was one of life's true gentlemen – you only had to ask and it was done. Everything he did was for the betterment of the community. We have all lost a loyal friend in David and he will be sadly missed, not only by his family, but the wider Kinross-Shire community.'

Cllr Willie Robertson said, 'David Colliar was the epitome of a person who not only loved the community where he was born and brought up but who was prepared to give so much of his time to the service of that community. He always took a great interest in what was happening in Kinross-shire and did his best to improve the quality of life of all of us who live here, whither through his many years on Kinross CC, Light Up Kinross or the many other local organisations he was involved with. He was a great example to us all.'



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YOGA MOVEMENT AND MUSIC MEDITATION



YOGA MOVEMENT AND Music Meditation (YMMM) has been created to bring together the creative passions of Eilidh Robertson (Kingfisher Dance) and Ola Stanton. They have seen the opportunity to provide the benefits experienced in both flowing movement and cleansing sound through an hour and a half of selfcare, especially during these winter months.



The class provides the chance to come and be with like-minded people in a candle lit, warm studio where you experience a blend of yoga with contemporary dance release movements inspired by the training of dancer Eilidh (BA (Hons) Trinity Laban and MA University of Chichester). This is then followed by cosy layers and blankets wrapping you up to be immersed

in the musical sound bath utilising both glass bowl frequencies with vocals and violin played live by musician Ola (BMus(Hons) Classical Performance, Royal Northern College of Music).

Both Eilidh and Ola were students at Kinross High School, and since returning from their degrees they have brought together their skills and passion for all things well-being, a personal interest of both young women. The first classes started in November and have quickly

filled up with interested clients who leave feeling the peaceful and restorative benefits of the class.

For those who are interested in attending, YMMM is excited to announce Christmas special classes being held on 28 December: a chance for you to take some personal time during the hectic festive period and find a moment of reset. There will be additional special elements to experience for this festive class with a focus on well-being during the winter and positivity looking towards the New Year. YMMM cannot wait to welcome anyone and everyone to enjoy time for themselves this December and to future events in 2026!

Places can be booked through the weblink <https://calendly.com/info-kingfisherdance> Or email: info.kingfisherdance@gmail.com to request further information.



Win For Solsgirth Home Farm

SOLSGIRTH HOME FARM, near Dollar, have won the national award for Best Community Tourism and Events Initiative at the 2025 VisitScotland Thistle Awards!

They say, 'We are overjoyed and so grateful to our team, volunteers, local stallholders, schools, and everyone who has supported our farm and community-led tourism journey.'

"Thank you for this incredible honour! This is a testament to our amazing team at Solsgirth Home Farm; thank you to them, to our supportive friends, family, and local community.'



O.A.P. WINTER FUEL PAYMENT SCAM

THE LATEST REPORTED winter fuel payment scam involves a text message saying it is from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) about the winter heating payment subsidy.

Watch out! It contains a link that leads to a page that looks like an official DWP web page. This opens to a form that asks for your name, contact information and the details of your bank card. The DWP would not need this information to pay you a winter heating benefit and would never ask for personal details of any kind unless you contacted them first.

In Scotland, both types of winter heating payment are paid by Social Security Scotland to anyone living in Scotland who is entitled. Most people don't need to do anything – they will automatically receive the payment if eligible.

Social Security Scotland will send the payment to the same account as an individual's State Pension, or any Social Security Scotland benefit received.

DOORSTEP CRIME: MAN CHARGED

FOLLOWING reports of persons requesting payment for non-existent gardening work from elderly people in Kinross, police have confirmed that a male has been arrested, cautioned and charged. He will appear at Perth Sheriff Court on 5 Dec.

REMINDER ADVICE

IF YOU LIVE near to any vulnerable people, please keep an eye on them. Are they having work done?

IF THEY ARE having work done in the garden, is the 'worker' seen entering the house?

IF YOU HAVE suspicions, please contact the police on 999 if the incident is ongoing or on 101 if non-emergency.

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Carnbo Community Events

CARNBO & DISTRICT Community Hall Association are delighted to offer some Warm Welcome events this winter.

Their popular monthly Hall Talks and Coffee and Chat mornings are back, along with

a one-off Christmas Community Singalong.

Carnbo Hall would like to thank Perth & Kinross Council's Warm Welcome Fund 2025/26 for their support in helping make these activities possible and accessible to all.



DECEMBER EVENTS

HALL TALK

Mon 1 Dec, 7:30pm. All Welcome

NATURE WRITER Keith Broomfield returns to Carnbo Hall to talk about the wildlife of Edinburgh, where he grew up and a city that sparked his passion for nature, and which led to the publication of his book, *Wild Edinburgh*.

COFFEE AND CHAT MORNING

Wed 10 Dec, 10am – 12noon

A WARM, friendly space to enjoy a cuppa, home baking, and a good chat. A great way to catch up with friends or meet new ones in the community. All ages welcome!

CARNBO'S CHRISTMAS COMMUNITY SINGALONG!

Sun 14 Dec, 4pm

JOIN IN AT Carnbo Hall at 4pm on Sunday 14 December for a joyful afternoon of Christmas favourites and community spirit. After the singing, stay to enjoy a finger buffet and festive refreshments – a lovely way to celebrate the season together. All welcome!

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LIFE FROM DEATH: ICONS on AMMO BOXES



IT SOUNDS LIKE a strange combination, but it is one of deep meaning and the title of a charity fundraising exhibition of Icon Paintings (on 3/4 January at St Paul's Church) in support of medical care on the front line in Ukraine. Entry is free but please give a donation.

The Icons can be purchased. A spokesperson said, 'If we can raise a minimum of £1500, we could buy an Icon to share between all the churches in our area and

ed against the background of Ukrainian and European history of the last millennium.

The wood on which the icons are painted are parts of ammunition boxes which are all brought from the war zone. In this way, the icons painted onto them are silent but eloquent witnesses of this war. The painting technique used is Tempera. A traditional technique, it combines pigments with a water-soluble emulsion such as egg yolk, or an oil-in-water emulsion such as oil and a whole egg. One Icon on display is part of a series entitled 'Saints from the Front' all of which were painted at the frontline using only materials available at that time such as coal, chalk and earth as pigments.

This project has been displayed at a great number of educational and diplomatic institutions all around the world, including at the 2023 NATO Summit and in 21 countries, 115 cities and 208 locations since the spring of 2015. It was also at the Parliament of Ukraine when Russian forces vainly attempted to target the latter with the Kh-47M2 Kinzhal, hypersonic air launched ballistic missile, in May 2023.

On 18 May this year President Zelensky met Pope Leo

XIV and presented him with an Icon from the Marian Cyle of Icons on Ammo Boxes. President Zelensky said the gift represents children 'who suffered from the war, who were deliberately kidnapped and deported by Russia and who are very much awaited at home in Ukraine'.

This is very much a reminder of how much the civilian and military population of Ukraine continue to suffer and we in Kinross and district could do something to help the work of charities Sunflower Scotland and Edinburgh Spiders for Ukraine.

A spokesperson said, 'We are bringing some of the ICONS on AMMO BOXES to Kinross. Symbolically 11 ICONS, one for each year of the conflict. Ten of them will be displayed in an exhibition in the church meeting room and the eleventh, of St Andrew, will rest in the church.

'Alongside the exhibition over the two days there will be an eleven-hour prayer vigil in the church to pray for peace. You would be most welcome to join this time of quiet reflection, meditation or prayer when you come to see the eleventh Icon of St Andrew who is represented in one of the stained-glass windows in the church and on an Ammo Box!'



*St. Margaret of Scotland, 2025
Granddaughter of Yaroslav the Wise
Fragment of an ammo box, tempera. The board
was brought from near Kostiantynivka by Air
Assault Forces.*

Spiders for Ukraine are also holding a Charity Christmas Concert for Ukraine at Greyfriars Kirk, Edinburgh on 12 December at 6pm. For tickets and full details visit their website www.spiders4ukraine.org.uk.

ICONS on AMMO BOXES

at St Paul's Church.

**Sat 3 and Sun 4 January
From 10am Sat and 11am Sun until 4pm**

Free admission but please make a donation. Find out more about the project at <https://icons-ammo-boxes.eu/en/>



Nataliya from Spiders for Ukraine explains: 'This is the moment when another icon was given to HM The King at a Ukrainian Catholic church in London. The Icons exhibition and gifting of Icons to leaders throughout the world is a huge morale boost to the Ukrainian people who must by now be feeling the constant assault from Russian military will never end.'

display it in the library as a piece of living history and an expression of solidarity with the Ukrainian people.'

ICONS on AMMO BOXES is the work of two Ukrainian artists, Sonya Atlantova And Oleksandr Klymenko. It combines two incompatible things: the attributes of modern war, and the ancient artistic language of Icon painting, which dates back to the Middle Ages in Europe.

Sonya and Oleksandr began this work in 2015 in an attempt to draw attention of the world to the ongoing Russian aggression and the needs of the Ukrainian people. Their main idea in this project is to transform death; the symbol of which is an ammunition box, into life, which in Ukrainian culture is traditionally personified by an icon. So, the Russian war against Ukraine is comprehend-



CHRISTMAS AT LOCH LEVEN CHURCH

- 7th December Kid's Christmas Party
Loch Leven Community Campus – 10:30 am
- 14th December Nativity family service
Loch Leven Community Campus – 10:30 am
Kid's Party at Kinross Pool – 12:30 pm
- 19th December Advent Concert with the Shepherd's Quartet
Kinross Church – 7 pm
- 21st December Christmas Service
Loch Leven Community Campus – 10:30 am

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LITTER PICKING HEROES

A GROUP OF LOCAL children from Crook of Devon organised their own village litter pick, led by 11-year-old Orla Barry.

The idea came from Orla after she counted up her sweets from trick-or-treating and reflected on the kindness shown by neighbours, many of whom had put together special Halloween bags, treats, and decorations (one even included a pound coin). It reminded her of the thoughtful things her late grandparents used to do for local children. Wanting to 'give something back' and known for her environmental enthusiasm, she suggested a litter pick and quickly gathered a group of classmates to join her.

The children spent around two hours clearing litter along the High Street and the Waulkmill Park area, supported by a couple of parents and an older sibling. Armed with litter pickers, gloves, bags, and plenty of enthusiasm, they kept spirits high throughout – even extending the session beyond the time they'd planned.



The girls: Orla, Arabella, Eliana, Isla, and Iona.

They collected six full bags of rubbish and said they were proud to see a visible improvement in the areas they covered. Neighbours thanked them as they passed, adding to the sense of community spirit, with many local residents praising the children and thanking them for their efforts.

One small challenge came at the end of the clean-up, when the group discovered they weren't sure what the proper process was for disposing of rubbish collected during a community litter pick. In the end, a couple of parents sorted and disposed of the bags using their own household bins. Families noted that guidance on disposal would be very helpful for any larger future efforts.

The group finished their clean-up with hot chocolates to warm up after their efforts. Orla said she felt happy and proud that something small could make a difference in the village and help the environment too.

The initiative has already sparked wider local support. Both the Village Hall and the Fos-

soway Community Development Trust have offered to help gather volunteers for future litter picks after seeing the children's efforts. The school's eco-council ethos also supports pupils to look after the environment and contribute positively to the community, and Orla is an active member.

A Glittering Final Exhibition

SEASONAL CELEBRATORY GLITTER awaits at ARTS@ST-PAULS final exhibition on Sat 6 and Sun 7 December, 10am – 4pm.

As they approach their final exhibition of 2025, they are celebrating with samples of work from a wide range of our artists to compliment the exhibition of paintings by Dunfermline based professional artist COLIN JOYCE.



Colin Joyce

Colin spends a lot of his year travelling and tutoring on cruise ships, residential courses and this year he was also a tutor in a Plein Air Painting Festival in Co Durham. So, you will find that his subject matter is wide and his mastery of composition and media exemplary.

Accompanying him in 'temptation corner' will be GILLIAN SKENE JEWELLERY. Gill has a regular and devoted following, and her beautiful range of hand-made jewellery is always made to the highest standards. Gill has been knitting more silver wire to enclose river pearls and also has a



Dave Rae

new range of bold statement costume jewellery pieces to contrast with her finer ones. She is complimenting this with a range of her hand knitted scarves to keep you stylishly snug in this colder weather. You will undoubtedly find a present here for someone or yourself!



Gillian Skene receiving birthday flowers with Anne Taylor – Chair of Arts@StPaul's left and Glenys Andrews – Arts@StPaul's artist liaison.

Showing for the first time with us this year is DAVE RAE with his CRAFTY THISTLE work in wood and resin which ranges from tables and larger wood turned items to unique table lamps and smaller affordable items including Christmas trees. Another irresistible collection of individual beautifully crafted items from a talented skilled crafts person.

So come and spend some time admiring the work and chatting with our artists and makers who so appreciate having the opportunity to show their work and talk about it.

A huge thank you to all of our regular supporters. We wish you all a Happy Christmas and hope to see you again next year with a new programme of exhibitions.

RINK PURCHASE SECURES CURLING FUTURE

THE FUTURE OF CURLING in Kinross has been secured thanks to efforts by members who have helped Kinross Curling Trust purchase the rink. Kinross Curling Rink is a four-sheet ice rink with a bar and lounge providing high quality curling ice and an excellent off-ice facility. With other Scottish rinks recently facing closure or threat of closure, this is an exciting development which will allow the Trust to finalise development plans for future years in line with the wishes of their local curling community.

Kinross Curling Trust announced the conclusion of a deal on 30 October for the purchase of the rink from Montgomery Hotels Ltd.

The sale takes place against a backdrop of other curling facilities in Scotland closing (Ayr), being brought back from the brink of closure (Moray), or under threat of closure (Dewars in Perth). Through the Trust, the curlers of Kinross now own the facility and, with a robust business plan in place, curling in Kinross is secure for many years to come.

Kinross Curling Trust entered into a 50-year lease agreement with the

owners and took over operations in 2013. The Trust successfully raised over £1 million to fund a significant upgrade which was completed in 2014. Further developments have included an extension to increase the space upstairs, the installation of a lift and the replacement of the viewing windows overlooking the ice pad.

The purchase of the rink has been funded by individual members of those clubs who curl at Kinross – a truly tremendous effort and measure of support. The deal secures

the future of curling at Kinross, a high-quality facility with staff providing a warm welcome for from the wider community both on the ice and in the excellent 9th End Cafe.

Given the Trust's successful record, members were asked to consider providing loans and donations to support the purchase. The response was amazing. Within just a few weeks, the Trust had sufficient offers without any need for commercial borrowing. The future of curling in Kinross is now secure!



Kinross Chippy Best in Central Belt!



CENTRAL FISH AND CHIPS on the High Street scooped a major accolade at the prestigious 2025 Scottish Fish and Chip Awards. The popular local takeaway has been officially named the *Best Chip Shop in the Central Belt* at a glittering ceremony held in Glasgow.

The community-run shop, a staple in Kinross-shire, fought off fierce competition from across the region to secure the top prize.

Donato Andreucci told the *Newsletter* of the hard work and passion that goes into the daily operations, with the team expressing their gratitude to their 'great, hardworking team' and 'lovely customers' for their support and votes that made the win possible.

The Andreucci family with their award



DON'T BE LONELY THIS CHRISTMAS!

WILL YOU OR someone you know be on their own on Christmas Day? If so, why not join with others in the Kinross Centre for Christmas Lunch and entertainment? Lunch is served from 12pm and transport can be provided if necessary. The lunch and entertainment are all free of charge, although donations are welcome.

- *Home Made Soup donated by the Kinross Centre*
- *Turkey and Trimmings donated by Hunters of Kinross Butchers*
- *Fruit Trifle donated by Reminisce Coffee Shop*

This event is kindly supported by Kinross Parish Church and the Warm Welcome Fund.

For further information or to book a place either: call or text Richard on 07 999 510 500 or call Nan at the Kinross Centre on 01577 863 869 or contact Kinross Parish Church Office on 01577 862 570

THE CHRISTMAS THAT COULDN'T WAIT

CHAS HAS LAUNCHED *The Christmas That Couldn't Wait Appeal* to bring moments of joy and comfort to children with life-shortening conditions and their families, at a time when they need it most.

Darcy McGuire from Glenrothes knew she would not live to see her next Christmas, so CHAS brought it forward. Darcy was referred to Rachel House when she was just seven years old after being diagnosed with Chordoma, a one-in-20-million rare cancer.

Darcy's spirit never wavered, and her family and staff ensured that her time spent at the hospice was full of life, colour, laughter, glitter, and love. In November of that year, Darcy told her mum she felt she would not be there for Christmas.

CHAS brought Christmas Day forward a month for Darcy. A Christmas tree arrived in her bedroom, and the staff brought crafts to her bed, where she made paper chains and covered everything with glitter. The family room was filled with food and presents.

The family enjoyed making Christmas memories together. Darcy sadly died on 15 December 2019, aged just eight years old.

Six years on, the family still visit Rachel House to relive happy family moments. Urging people to donate to the appeal, mum Carol said: 'I'll never forget that these memories only exist thanks to CHAS donors. Some families only get one Christmas. So please, dig deep. You might not realise how much it means. Your donation could give them memories that last a lifetime.'

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NAME THAT GRITTER!

A TRIBUTE TO SCOTTISH football legend Denis Law will lead the line for Amey’s gritters as part of the 2025/26 winter service. This winter there will be 40 Amey gritters working around the clock to tackle whatever the north east weather throws their way. A new name on Amey’s team sheet will be Den-ice Law, named in honour of the Scottish football icon, which was chosen as one of the winners of last year’s public naming competition.

Joining Den-ice Law on the pitch (or rather, the roads) will be four other winning names from last year’s competition:

- **Clearopathra**
(Keith depot)
- **Thaw: God of Thunder**
(Nairn depot)
- **Miracle on 34th Sleet**
(Perth depot)
- **Shovelly Jubbly**
(Kinross depot)

Amey will soon be launching the 2025 gritter naming competition. Severe Weather Manager Stuart Green said: “The public’s creativity in naming our gritters adds a brilliant sense of fun to a serious job. Our gritter drivers work unsociable hours in bad weather and face all kinds of

challenges on the roads, but they do a tremendous job helping to keep Scotland’s trunk road network moving.

In addition to 35,000 tonnes of salt, Amey will have 50,000 litres of potassium acetate and 50,000 litres of magnesium chloride in stock for teams to deliver alternative treatments on roads and paths during the lowest temperatures.

A 9,000-tonne capacity salt barn at Amey’s Kinross depot will add increased resilience in tackling adverse weather conditions across the network.



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SAVING CLEISH CHURCH

VILLAGERS IN A KINROSS-SHIRE hamlet are having a final push to raise funds to save their local kirk. Cleish Church is to be closed following a recent parish merger, but a local charity has been set up to take it into community ownership.

Cleish Village Trust SCIO has until the end of 2025 to raise the needed funds, following an in-principal agreement with the General Trustees of the Church of Scotland. Over £72,000 of a £110,000 target has been raised or pledged so far following an appeal launched at a public meeting in March.

A public update meeting will be held on Saturday 29 November at 5pm in Cleish Village Hall. All are warmly invited to attend. Tea and coffee will be served, and guests will have the opportunity to find out more and ask questions. Plans for the first year of operation will be included.

Additionally, a fundraising Christmas car-

ol concert featuring guest choir Bel Canto, followed by a mince pie reception, will take place on Saturday 13 December at 5pm at the church.

Ron Kitchin, chair of the Cleish Village Trust said: 'We are so very grateful to those who have donated or pledged so far to keep this beautiful historic building in the hands of the community. We are almost there, but we need a final bit of help to get us over the line so that we can realise our ambition. We'd love to hear from anyone else who would like to help with fundraising or get involved'.

Founded in 1208 as St Mary's Chapel, Kirkton of Cleish by the Abbot of Dunfermline, the Trust's business plan would see the building become a community venue for concerts, weddings, church services and other celebrations. In the summer, wildlife cameraman and Strictly star Hamza Yassin gave a talk to nearly 200 people in the church, which shows the potential of the building.

The current church was rebuilt in 1832 and is the third on the site. Worshippers at Cleish have included Sir Walter Scott and former Prime Minister Sir Alex Douglas-Home. It hosts stained glass windows by Scottish artist Joseph Noel Paton and an organ from Edinburgh's St Giles Cathedral.

Fellow trustee and local councillor Neil Freshwater added, 'There is real public interest in saving these buildings, not only as community assets but as pieces of our heritage and history. The high number of church closures means competition for grants is fierce and so the funds are coming from community action and local donors. We will keep pushing until we get there.'

The Trust has also applied to several small charitable funds for support. Supporters can learn more and donate online via cleishvillagestrust.org or contact info@cleishvillagestrust.org.



CHARITY CONCERT FOR JOSCELYNE

FIVE LOCAL BOYS – Rory Palin, Andrew Steele, Gregor Lapsley, Luca Townsend and Rory Abel play in a band called The Walkers.

The Walkers officially become a 5-man band in January. Rory said, 'We started fooling around doing covers of songs we all enjoyed, from Chelsea Dagger by The Fratellis to My Generation by The Who.' Luca acquired them a gig in Glasgow with B12 Entertainment. The band name was created after a brainstorming session in school, after Luca surprised them with their first show, a gig

played to 186 people in March at the Classic Grand in Glasgow.

Since then, the boys have had six more gigs in Dundee, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Rory told *The Newsletter*, 'We have four more gigs scheduled, with one at King Tut's Wah Wah Hut. We are just five local lads who came together to try and spread our music, and make enjoyment out of performing together.'

The band is performing at the campus on Monday 22 December at 6.30pm. All donations will be going towards Joscelyne's Journey.

Rory told us, 'We wanted to give the money to something very meaningful and local to us. We would love if people could make an effort to come see us. We will be holding extra things on the night such as a raffle, and there will be food and drink on hand for everyone who comes. Come and support some local talent for a good cause; we hope to see you there.'

Please do go along and support these young people in their endeavours to raise money for local girl Joscelyne Kerr, who has been battling a rare brain tumour.

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KINROSS CAP – LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

Momentum Builds for 2026 and Beyond

2025 HAS BEEN a landmark year for Kinross, with residents taking the lead in shaping the town's future. Hundreds of people contributed ideas, feedback, and priorities through surveys, conversations, and the hugely successful Open Day at Millbridge Hall in September.

The Open Day brought the community together to celebrate progress, share ideas, and vote on the themes that matter most — from local services, housing plans, and infrastructure to wellbeing, sustainability, and community life.

All this input has now been carefully analysed by the KCAP Steering Group (comprising of representatives from Kinross community groups), ensuring that

community voices remain central to the plan's next steps. Workstreams are already forming to turn ideas into practical action. One area under early discussion is the potential establishment of a Banking Hub for Kinross, reflecting local interest in improved face-to-face banking services. Further details will follow in the new year when the full plan is published.

KCAP is keen to see residents continue to be part of the process. Please consider how you might like to be involved — through volunteering, sharing skills, or supporting community projects — helping turn shared priorities into tangible outcomes.

The background materials that informed the plan are available online, including the Profile and Stakeholder Re-

port, Survey Report, and Event Report, at: kinross.cc/community/community-action-plan

As 2025 draws to a close, the message is clear: Kinross is a community ready to move forward together, and our Kinross Community Action Plan will help bring our ambitions alive.

The Kinross Community Action plan steering group are so grateful to the guidance and support provided by the Star Development Group and the initial funding from Perth and Kinross Council.



New Calling For Anne



CONGRATULATIONS TO KINROSS resident Rev. Anne Redpath who has been 'Introduced' as Associate Minister to the Carse of Gowrie congregations of Errol linked with St Madoes and Kinfauns in a special service run by the Presbytery of Perth.

Anne was presented with an engraving of the St. Madoes stone – an eighth century Pictish stone testifying to the long history of Christian worship in the area. Anne was previously a member of Kinross-shire Parish Church and the sermon at the Presbytery Service was preached by its minister, Rev. Alan Reid. A number of Kinross-shire folk attended to show their support for Anne in her new post.

KINROSS NEWSLETTER

WEBSITE:

www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com/kinross-newsletter

what's on?



december

gather & gab

Our late night for December is now fully booked, be sure to keep an eye out for next year's dates!

festive afternoon tea

Our beloved festive afternoon teas will be back and available from 21st November. Call the shop to book in as spaces will fill up fast!

festive opening hours

We will be closing the shop for 1 day on November 11th to allow our staff to enjoy a day out together before the festive fun begins...

We will also be closed 25th and 26th December as well as 1st and 2nd of January. Opening hours may vary over the festive period, keep an eye on socials for updates.

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A Kinross Time Capsule

DOWN AT SWANSACRE this month a historical dimension has touched KDMS. Whilst our builder, Murray Mitchell, was carrying out work to the exterior brickwork of our Swansacre building a void was discovered. KDMS, as forward thinking as ever, decided that a 'time capsule' might be an interesting project to undertake!

On Saturday 1 November 2025, a Time Capsule was sealed in the walls of the Kinross and District Men's Shed.

Our 'capsule' records the current community life of Kinross; the project being led by Hugh MacPherson.

KDMS therefore reached out to many individuals and groups within the community to request appropriate items that would leave a historical footprint of life in Kinross during this current decade.

Items donated included an exercise from Kinross Primary School depicting what Kinross might look like in the years ahead, examples of local art and photography, letters of support from the



Rev Alan Reid and Jim McIntosh, Chairman of KDMS, and of course, a copy of the *Kinross Newsletter*!

Other items of interest included a sample of Kinross Gin and a horseshoe from our very own 'Corrach Rambler', winner of the Grand National in 2023. Many thanks to all who donated the items. A short, 'sealing up' ceremony was held on Saturday 1 November kindly lead by local councillor Richard Watters.

The event was celebrated afterwards with coffee, tea & snacks.

One might look ahead 100 years or so; a 'time capsule' unexpectedly unearthed by AI quantum robots – whatever will they think!! (*At least they won't drink the gin... Ed.*)

The Members of Kinross and District Men's Shed we would like to send our best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Left to right; Murray Mitchell, Shona Fowler, Richard Watters, Jim McIntosh, Hugh MacPherson.

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The Dead Man's Penny

SOME YEARS AGO, I walked into the then Stamp Shop in Kinross, where WINSKIs is today. I had seen one of the above memorial plaques for sale in the window, so went in and I bought it. I went home excitedly to find out about the name on the plaque – CHARLES SAVAGE – from the excellent Commonwealth War Graves Commission site.

Imagine my surprise, when it turned out that Charles Savage was a 19 year old from my Regiment – the King's Own Scottish Borderers – (KOSB) - who drowned on his way to Gallipoli in August 1915, after his troopship was struck by a U Boat torpedo, and sank with huge loss of life. Of the over 1 million plaques issued, this had come my way. It was like Charles had been calling me to find him. I love incidents like this – almost psychic. They are not coincidences.



The Memorial Plaque

The bronze 'Memorial Plaque (1914–18)', was awarded to the next of kin of all British and Empire service personnel, who died during the First World War. Nicknamed the 'Dead Man's Penny' due to its colour and shape, the plaque was a tangible symbol of sacrifice. The plaques were designed following a competition held in 1917. The winning design was by the sculptor and medallist Edward Carter Preston. They are circular bronze plaques, approximately 120 mm in diameter (about 4.7 inches) and bear the name of the person who died.

The winning design includes an image of Britannia holding a trident and standing with a lion. In her outstretched left hand, Britannia holds an olive wreath above the tablet bearing the deceased's name, cast in raised letters. Below the name tablet, to the right of the lion, is an oak spray with acorns.

The name does not include the rank, since there was to be no distinction between sacrifices made by different individuals. Two dolphins swim around Britannia, symbolising Britain's sea power, and at the bottom a second lion is tearing apart the German eagle. The reverse is blank.

Around the picture the legend reads 'HE DIED FOR FREEDOM AND HONOUR', or for the approximately 600 plaques issued to commemorate women, 'SHE DIED FOR FREEDOM AND HONOUR'.

It came with a scroll, including a replica signature of the King, with these words:

'He whom this scroll commemorates was numbered among those who, at the call of King and Country, left all that was dear to them, endured hardness, faced danger, and finally passed out



of the sight of men, by the path of duty and self sacrifice, giving up their own lives, that others might live in freedom.

Let those who come after, see to it that his name be not forgotten.'

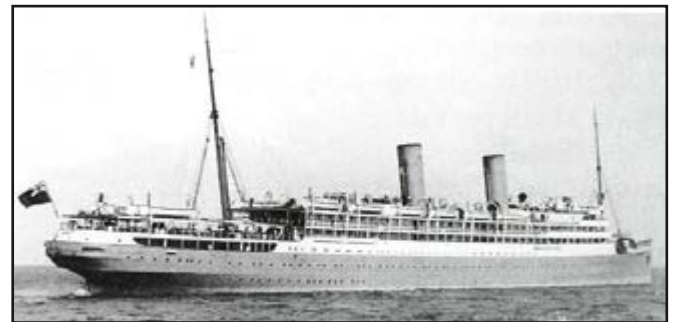
The purpose of the plaque was to provide a tangible token of remembrance and recognition of the ultimate sacrifice made by soldiers, sailors and airmen in the Great War. It was a lovely idea to send these out, and defies my imagination as to why any family would ever lose or give away or sell their 'Penny'.

The Man: Private Charles Savage, 1 KOSB

The 1st Battalion KOSB was already fighting the bloody battles in Gallipoli, Turkey, in gruesome conditions. Charles was on the troopship with hundreds of others, as reinforcements for the many casualties all units were taking. Men were just sent where the gaps were, and for Charles – a Lancashire lad – reinforcing a Scottish Battalion was not unusual at all.

The Disaster: Sinking of HMT Royal Edward

On 13 August 1915, the troop ship Royal Edward was torpedoed by the German submarine UB-14 in the Mediterranean Sea, near the island of Kos – then under Greek control.



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German submarine UB-14 fired two torpedoes from about one mile away; the Royal Edward was hit in the stern. She sank within six minutes. Rescue efforts by the hospital ship Soudan, French destroyers and trawlers managed to save about 440 men. But fatalities were huge — 982. Among those lost were 59 men of the KOSB draft.

Charles Savage's death was part of this calamity: his ship never reached its destination and an enemy submarine turned a troop despatch ship into a deadly tragedy.

Why the Plaque Matters

The connection between the sinking and the plaque is poignant. For the family of Private Savage:

His death occurred in circumstances away from the trenches and typical Western Front combat — at sea, as part of a transport ship disaster.

The plaque acts as a personal anchor: while many regimental histories and battles get recorded, individual names like Charles Savage might otherwise fade into obscurity; the plaque ties his name to remembrance.

Given the scale of the Royal Edward disaster, each individual casualty, including Savage, contributes to a collective story of loss beyond the battlefield.

In this way, the 'Dead Man's Penny' becomes more than an object — it becomes the link between the individual — Charles Savage — his regiment, the event, and the broader national memory of sacrifices made.

Reflections and Legacy

Several points of reflection:

Many families receiving the plaques would have had little more than notice of their loved one's 'Missing, presumed drowned' status. The memorial plaque provided something tangible.



German submarine UB-14

The fact that the Royal Edward disaster occurred en-route to a campaign highlights how the war's dangers extended well beyond the trenches: in transport, at sea, from submarines, and in transit.

The KOSB losses were very significant in the context of a single incident. For us today, the plaque and the story help reconnect us to individual soldiers, rather than only to big battles.

Conclusion

Private Charles Savage represents one of the many who lost their lives during the First World War in circumstances that diverged from the stereotypical image of trench warfare. The sinking of HMT *Royal Edward* on 13 August 1915 was a maritime tragedy of war, and for Savage's family, the award of the 'Dead Man's Penny' offered both recognition and remembrance.

Ownership

My final point is this. Feeling that this plaque should really be in the possession of the family, I have tried hard to find the Savage family in Lancashire and return the plaque to them, but have hit a dead end. His mother was a widow, and his family trail goes cold after one generation. So I will keep it, as a very precious memento of a young life taken, in defence of freedom in very tragic circumstances.

RIP CHARLES SAVAGE, WHO WILL BE 19 FOR EVERMORE

Andy Middlemiss BEM DL

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Councillor Richard Watters



Active Travel Progress in Kinross-shire

Four years ago, I first raised concerns with Council Officers about the poor state of bike storage at Kinross Park & Ride. Since then, the council twice secured funding from Tactran for new bike storage and bus infrastructure upgrades. Unfortunately, on both occasions, the council was unable to deliver, and the money was either returned or reallocated to other projects.

Building Capacity for Delivery

One of the main challenges was that the council's Active Travel Officer often became tied up with other projects, leaving limited capacity to progress Active Travel initiatives. Recognising this, a restructuring and relocation—along with extra staff—has strengthened the team and freed up officers to focus on meaningful projects.

New Funding Model

Changes to Active Travel funding now mean the council receives direct Transport Scotland Tier One funding worth £796,000 annually, plus £132,000 from the People and Place Local Authority Direct Award. This now supports a proactive team of five people and enables projects to be delivered on the ground. The team also has the resources to apply for additional funding streams, including Transport Scotland Tier Two funding. I'm delighted to share that the council has been successful in securing Tier Two funding for a feasibility study on an Active Travel route connecting the Park & Ride with Kinross town centre.

Strategic Foundations

This foundational work, combined with the Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Active Travel Masterplan (2024), is paving the way for real progress. Numerous projects are underway, all contributing to a bigger strategic goal:

Active Travel Path through Lathro Meadows

- A major upgrade is planned to make the path more all-weather, wheeling and walking friendly, with solar studs for lighting. Planning is progressing, funding identified, and completion hoped for next year—subject to finalising maintenance plans.

Pedestrian Crossing at Davies Park Corner (Springfield Road)

- This long-awaited crossing is moving forward and is expected next summer. It's something all local councillors and Kinross Community Council are keen to see delivered.

Additional Crossing

- Officers are exploring a Toucan crossing on Station Road to allow safe access to Sainsbury's and the Park & Ride from the Ochil View side of the road.

Together, these improvements will create a pedestrian- and wheeling-friendly route from Milnathort and the north side of Kinross down to Sainsbury's and the Park & Ride. The new scheduled pedestrian crossing at the Park & Ride will then link into the Active Travel path serving the south of Kinross, connecting to the Heritage Trail at the old BCA site and next to Todd and Duncan.

Pop-Up Mobility Hub Brings Free Bike Checks and Health Walks
Perth & Kinross Council, in partnership with CoMoUK and Tactran's People & Place Programme, is hosting a series of free community events at the Kinross Park & Ride pop-up mobility hub this December.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Dr Bike Sessions

Wednesday 10 December, 11am – 2pm
Bring your bike for a free safety check and minor repairs by an expert mechanic. Adults' and kids' bikes welcome – no booking required.

Benefits of the Pop-Up Hub:

- Accessible seating for those with mobility needs.
- Bike repair stand and pump for quick fixes.
- Secure bike parking to encourage cycling.
- Colourful planting and greenery to create an inviting space.
- Free community events promoting active travel and social connection.

The hub will remain in Kinross until mid-December before moving to another location in Perth and Kinross. It is funded by Transport Scotland through Tactran's People & Place Programme and supports Perth & Kinross Council's plans for a future permanent mobility hub.

Have Your Say

The Park & Ride bike facilities and sheltered bus waiting areas are due to be upgraded. Share your feedback via <https://www.como.org.uk/> or email the Active Travel team at activetravel@pkc.gov.uk. You can also contact me directly at RWatters@PKC.gov.uk or call 07557 812513. I'm happy to discuss further with interested individuals.



Councillor Dave Cuthbert



Roads Maintenance And Road Safety

I WROTE LAST month about the roadworks due to be carried out in Kinross-shire over the next few months. One area I did not mention was the new Puffin Crossing on Stirling Road in Milnathort.

I was informed on 28 October that the installation of the new puffin crossing had been completed. However, before completing the road markings and turning on the lights, officers felt that a section of the road should be re-surfaced.

As Tayside Contracts were programmed to be resurfacing the car park on Stirling Road, they have agreed to do the puffin crossing section of roadway at the same time.

I was pleased to see that officers were doing this work, but also slightly concerned as the condition of the road at the puffin crossing is like many of the roads in Kinross-shire and better than quite a few.

I continue to raise the issue of the condition of roads in Kinross-shire with officers and I have been in discussion with the deputy Chief Executive to organise a second meeting of officers to go through the current policies and procedures.

I have been told that the first meeting I had on this, resulted in several operational changes and I understand that this resulted in some focus on Kinross-shire roads and input into a review being carried out by the council on the current policies. Sorry for the disruption, but I guess I have been more effective than I anticipated. Watch this space.

Vans At The Bottom Of High Street, Kinross

I HAVE BEEN trying to get these vans removed and the area around them cleared up as they are very unsightly.

So far, I have hit a brick wall, however, following a discussion with senior officers, the council's planning enforcement team are looking to get something done.

I don't know if this will be successful, but I will keep trying.

TRACKS Improvements To The Heritage Trail

I HAVE HAD people tell me these improvements are making a big difference, which is good to hear. I recall the walk with Cllr Willie Robertson and the Leader of the Council in November 2024 where we secured the funding in the March 2025 budget necessary for this maintenance.

Festive Market At The Campus

THIS IS ALWAYS a busy time for KLEO. This year we are making the most of an opportunity to use the Campus following being diverted there due to bad weather last year. As I write we are expecting 114 stall holders and are using more areas of the Campus. I am pleased that the High School Parent Council are working with staff and pupils to add some festive cheer with decorations KLEO have funded. Thanks to Headteacher Jillian Shaw and Business Manager Lynne Prentice as well as all the campus staff for helping bring the campus into this usage. The *Newsletter* will be out after the event but KLEO hope it will have been a great success and that you will have used buses and been on foot to get there. We are testing the parking capacity to the limit!

Craighead Windfarm

PERMISSION WAS granted on 7 November by the Planning and Environmental Appeals Division of the Scottish Government (DPEA) for eight wind turbines in the Ochils.

Three of these will be 180m high and five will be 200m high. These will be visible over much of Kinross-shire and will have an impact on the environment in the Ochils.

This application was being considered by Perth and Kinross Council and was due to come to the Planning and Placemaking

committee on which I sit, so I have not commented on it previously. However, the applicants decided to appeal to the DPEA based on 'non-determination', which basically means that the council had not decided in the required timescale.

This is very disappointing as the DPEA carry out a desktop analysis of applications and do not allow deputations to express their views. On top of this, the local authority is the planning authority for the area, and the views of elected members are excluded from consideration.

My view on this is that it is undemocratic.

Brunt Hill Windfarm

MEANWHILE, ANOTHER application for 18 wind turbines, each 200m high is being considered by the Energy Consents Unit. This site is to the West of the Craighead development, but when combined with the Craighead development could lead to what is referred to as Cumulative Impact, *i.e.* there will be a big visual impact.

I won't comment on this as it is coming to committee, and I can't express a view on it before the meeting.

South Kinross Flood Defences

THERE WAS A two-day hearing on the Council's proposals to build flood defences to prevent flooding in South Kinross on 28 and 29 October following two objections to the proposals. The outcome of this is not yet known.

Electricity Substation On Curlers Crescent, Milnathort

FOLLOWING MY intervention, I was pleased to see that SSE has now removed the trees around the substation. Hopefully, this will see the end to the power cuts experienced in Milnathort in recent storms.

David Colliar RIP

I WAS VERY sad to hear of the death of David Colliar. David was a stalwart of Kinross Community Council, having sat on from its inception until very recently. He chaired Light up Kinross which brought Christmas decorations and the light up ceremony to Kinross, along with numerous other local groups. He gave his free time willingly to improve the area he loved, and he will be sadly missed.

Volunteering

KINROSS-SHIRE RUNS on volunteers and there are some superb groups who do amazing work, but they are almost all struggling to recruit new volunteers.

Season's Greetings

FINALLY, I WOULD like to wish you a happy Christmas and a good new year. Hopefully, 2026 will be a good year for us all!

You can see more detail and photos on my Facebook page, just search for Dave Cuthbert Independent Councillor.

Councillor Dave Cuthbert

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Councillor Willie Robertson



New Speed Limits

WE HAVE HAD a period of confusion with regards to the speed limit reductions throughout Kinross-shire. Many of our speed activated signs are still set at 30mph even though the limit is 20mph, some 30mph signs haven't been removed in 20mph areas and there are still 30mph painted on roads in 20mph zones.

I have been reporting these matters as they are raised. The confusion over the speed limit on the Lethangie road has now been sorted out.

I think it may be a while till things settle down.

Road Drains

THERE WAS A lot of heavy rain during November. This coupled with lots of leaves on the roads has meant that it is easy for the gratings of road drains to become blocked. Please keep an eye on your road drains and try and keep them free of fallen leaves. If you think the drain is blocked please let me know.

Average Speed Cameras

I HAVE SUGGESTED to Cllr Dave Cuthbert, chair of the Kinross-shire Committee, that certain villages in Kinross-shire should be considered for a trial in the use of Average Speed Cameras (ASC) to control speeds.

Our Police try hard to carry out regular speed checks but don't have the resources to enforce our speed limits. ASCs are used extensively on many roads and through roadworks and have proved very effective in keeping speeds down.

Villages such as Carnbo, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell, Keltlybridge and Maryburgh, and those on the A977 would all seem ideal for candidates for an ASC trial.

It would remove the need for speed bumps, traffic islands and other road clutter which are both expensive to install and also maintain, and unfortunately aren't always effective.

It would also improve the appearance of villages which are conservation areas. I would be pleased to hear what you think of this idea.

Seasons Greetings

AS THIS IS my last report of 2025 can I take this opportunity to wish everyone a Happy Christmas and a Healthy and Prosperous 2026.

Councillor Willie Robertson

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Councillor Neil Freshwater



Intensive Support Provision (ISP) at Kinross High Goes Permanent

AS A MEMBER of PKC's Learning and Families Committee, I was happy to support the approval of a permanent facility at Kinross High School for Additional and Special Needs (ASN) pupils. The provision was launched on a temporary basis to allow the service to begin while a statutory consultation was undertaken. Kinross previously had no ISP, meaning that ASN pupils were required to travel to other premises within Perth and Kinross. Following the consultation and the public meeting which took place earlier this year, a report was submitted to the committee and approved last week. The facility will require some adaptation within the campus, and some concerns were raised during the consultation process, but on balance it will be good to have this much-needed provision. The ISP will become permanent from January 2026.

Wind Farm Approved At Craighead

THE SCOTTISH GOVERNMENT has approved the planning application for a wind farm at Craighead behind Carnbo. As PKC did not determine the outcome of the application within the required timeframe, the applicants chose to appeal it to the DPEA (planning appeals). However, the DPEA reporter did note the cumulative impact, given that, as reported here last month and previously, there are other wind farm applications nearby in the Ochils, namely at Brunt Hill.

Fossoway Community Development Trust

IT WAS GOOD to join colleagues at the FCDT for their AGM and to hear more about the great work of the trust, including efforts to save the former Blairingone Primary School for the community. The school was closed some years ago, and the trust has been in dialogue with PKC about a community transfer. A number of options are being explored, including the possibility of a cultural hub, and the trust is considering several of these in parallel. We also heard about the great work of the Fossoway community bus, which has proved very popular. Residents noted the lack of transport provision for pupils at Fossoway School when they need to attend events in Kinross and further afield, so discussions are underway to see how the community might help.

Remembrance In Kinross-shire

AS ALWAYS, it was an honour to attend services on Remembrance Sunday. This month, I attended services at Crook of Devon and Glenfarg, where I laid a wreath, and also at Cleish as my local parish. Despite the rain, many people gathered to pay their respects and to remember those who had fallen in conflict. Thank you to all those who provided such warm hospitality, including Fossoway Parish Church, Cleish Parish Church, and the Glenfarg Scouts group and community council.

Councillor Neil Freshwater

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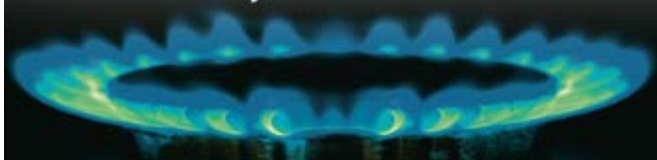
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John Parish



Jim Fairlie, MSP



AT THE TIME of writing, I'm preparing for a visit to Glendevon Energy in the Kinross-shire area. It will be an opportunity to learn more about the work they're doing locally on renewable energy and community-led projects. I look forward to hearing directly from those involved, and I'll update readers on the visit in January's column.

As we move into December, that sense of community feels especially important. The end of the year gives us all a chance to pause, look back, and hopefully take a breath after what always seems like a busy 12 months. The festive period means different things to different people. For some it's about family, friends, and time together; for others it can be a difficult stretch, particularly for those missing loved ones or feeling the financial pressure that Christmas can bring.

If you can, take a moment to check in on a neighbour or someone who might be spending the holidays on their own. A short chat or a cup of tea can make a world of difference.

My constituency office will be closed from Monday 23 December and will reopen on Monday 6 January. Any enquiries received during that time will be picked up as soon as we return.

For anyone needing urgent help while the office is closed, Perth and Kinross Council have a useful webpage with out-of-hours emergency contacts* at:

www.pkc.gov.uk/article/14894/Useful-emergency-numbers

If you don't have internet access, the main ones to note are:

PKC Mental Health: 0345 301 11 20

PKC Housing: 01738 476000

National Gas Emergency: 0800 111 999

SEPA Floodline: 0345 988 1188

Scottish Water: 0800 0778 778

Looking ahead, 2026 is shaping up to be a big year — not least because we'll have the Scottish Parliament election in May. That means plenty of miles on the road for me, and I hope to see many familiar faces across Strathearn and beyond. Whatever happens, my commitment remains the same: to keep working hard for the people and communities I'm proud to represent.

Thank you to everyone who's stopped for a chat, written in, or shared a concern with me over the past year. I wish you all a peaceful Christmas when it comes, and good health and happiness in the year ahead.

Jim Fairlie, MSP

**There is also the Emergency Contacts section in the Newsletter each month - see p94. Ed.*

STAYING SAFE IN WINTER - ICE SAFETY

NEVER GO ONTO THE ICE.
There is no way of knowing whether it will take your weight/how thick the ice is/how cold, deep and fast the water beneath is.

KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE FROM THE EDGE.
Fallen leaves and snow could obscure the water's boundary and cause slippery surfaces.

CHECK FOR SAFETY SIGNAGE.
It is there to warn you of hazards you may not be aware of.

ALWAYS SUPERVISE CHILDREN.

KEEP DOGS ON LEADS AND DON'T THROW BALLS/STICKS FOR THEM NEAR ICE. Never go on to the ice to rescue a dog.

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Liz Smith, MSP



KINROSS-SHIRE IS blessed with its natural heritage. The beautiful Loch Leven National Nature Reserve contains a diverse assemblage of bird species including more freshwater breeding ducks than anywhere else in inland Europe. Locals are proud of Kinross-shire's scenic beauty and people are rightly drawn to visit and permanently settle here from far and wide.

Most people visit Loch Leven respectfully with a shared appreciation for the outdoors, but there are some who visit for the wrong reasons and who deplorably ruin this tranquil area for everybody else.

That is why I welcome, albeit regrettably, the approval that was given for the installation of a height barrier and gate at the Burreigh Sands car park. Local people have long called for measures to be taken to limit the effects of dirty camping around the Loch and the final straw were reports that rangers had been verbally abused and threatened by aggressive campers.

The number of campervans, motorhomes and campers visiting the car park – sometimes staying for several nights and with tents/marquees – had increased considerably last year. Tourism is undoubtedly important to the local area, however, occupying a spot in the car park for days, for free, is of no benefit to anyone and deters local people and day-trippers from being able to enjoy the area.

The primary purpose of a nature reserve is to conserve and safeguard areas of exceptional natural heritage. I very much wished the barrier would not be necessary, but the evidence is clear; that the scale of antisocial behaviour and dirty camping, with its associated fires, litter, human waste, chemical waste, damage to vegetation and burning of branches and bark, had made the status quo untenable.

Importantly, the Loch is still accessible from other entrances and by the network of footpaths. This will simply reopen the 30-space car park to local people and prevent it becoming a campsite.

On a final note, may I wish all readers of the *Kinross Newsletter* a happy Christmas when the time comes.

Liz Smith, MSP

Pete Wishart MP



AS WE APPROACH Christmas and the end of another year, it feels like the world has rarely been more unsettled. Across the globe, conflict and instability continue to dominate the headlines — from Ukraine to the Middle East — and the global order seems more fragile than it has been in decades. It's a sobering backdrop to the festive season, and a reminder of just how precious peace and stability really are.

Yet, closer to home, I continue to be reassured by the countless examples of people doing good, often quietly and without recognition. Across Perth and Kinross, there are community groups, volunteers and charities working tirelessly to support others and improve our local area. Mental health clubs helping people through difficult times; innovative small businesses breathing new life into our high streets; and litter-picking volunteer groups keeping our rural landscape beautiful, to name but a few. It's in these local efforts that we see the best of who we are; determined, caring, and community minded.

Representing this area gives me a front-row seat to that generosity of spirit, and it's one of the greatest privileges of my job. It reminds me that even when the wider world feels uncertain, there is real strength in our communities.

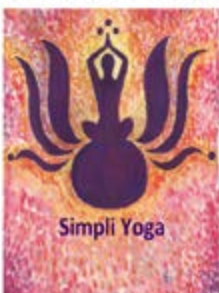
Christmas is very much about that sense of togetherness: checking in on neighbours, spending time with loved ones, and appreciating the support networks that hold us steady throughout the year. It's also a time to think of those who may be struggling or spending the festive period alone, and to remember that a small gesture of kindness can mean a great deal.

As we look ahead to 2026, there will certainly be many challenges, but also plenty of opportunities. What gives me confidence is knowing that our communities here in Perth and Kinross will face whatever arises with the same resilience and good humour that define this part of the world.

I wish you all a peaceful Christmas and a healthy, happy New Year when it comes. Please be aware that my office will be closed from Monday 22 December through to Monday 6 January, but we'll make sure to respond to any constituent correspondence upon our return.

Pete Wishart, MP

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CIRCLE DANCING

WINNING WAYS by Jo Middlemiss

The Gentle Art of Moving Together

IT STARTED AS a simple Wednesday morning activity. Something to do. A way to stretch, move, and perhaps meet a few people. But Circle Dancing, over time, became something else entirely — subtle, challenging, quietly transformative. And most surprising of all, spiritual.

We gather weekly in a modest hall. No special kit required — just indoor or dancing shoes. Occasionally we dress up to mark the seasons: a splash of sparkle at Christmas, a touch of whimsy for Halloween, or floral joy in Spring. But mostly, it's just us. A group of women — always women, sadly — who are not in the first flush of youth, but who bring humour, warmth, and attentiveness to every session.

Our teacher Lynne is the quiet force behind it all. Each week, she prepares the music, learns the steps, and teaches with patience and grace. Her mantra, "There are no mistakes, only variations," sets the tone: gentle, forgiving, and inclusive. We dance in a circle, sometimes holding hands, sometimes moving freely. The dances range from meditative to lively, drawn from cultures around the world. Each one offers a different kind of connection — to the music, to each other, and to something deeper.

For me, Circle Dancing became a lifeline during two profound losses: the death of my friend Barbara and later, my son Oliver. In the circle, grief found space to breathe. Movement became a language when words failed. The rhythm, the ritual, and the quiet companionship of others held me in ways I didn't expect. There's something about moving in unison, about being part of a whole, that soothes the soul.

We end each session with a simple phrase: "Our circle is open but unbroken. May you go in peace until we meet again." It's

more than a farewell. It's a promise. A reminder that what we share in that hour lingers long after the music stops.

None of us can quite explain why we keep coming back. But we do. Week after week, without fail. We'd choose it over yoga, Pilates, ballet, or Zumba. There's something in Circle Dancing that speaks to a deeper need — for connection, for stillness, for joy.

Why Circle Dancing Heals

Circle Dancing is more than exercise. It's a form of embodied mindfulness. The repetitive patterns, the shared movement, and the music create a space where the mind can rest and the heart can open. Unlike many fitness classes, there's no competition, no performance, no pressure. Just presence.

Psychologists have long recognised the healing power of rhythm and group movement. Dancing in a circle fosters a sense of belonging and safety. It gently engages the body while calming the nervous system. And because it's non-verbal, it allows emotions to surface and settle without needing to be explained in times of grief, stress, or transition, Circle Dancing offers a quiet refuge. A place to be held — not physically, but emotionally.

Final Steps

Circle Dancing may not be trendy. It doesn't come with flashy gear or Instagram-ready poses. But for those of us who gather each week, it's a cherished ritual. A space of joy, connection, and quiet healing.

We don't know exactly why it works. We just know that it does.

Jo Middlemiss

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SARAH RANKIN COOKS

NDUJA IS A spreadable pork sausage spiced with sun-dried chillis from Southern Italy. I know that spreadable, ready to eat sausage sounds somewhat bizarre, but once you've tried it, you'll be absolutely hooked. It can be spread on bread, added to sauces and oven baked dishes. Its spicy, smoky flavour works really well with the roasted sweet potatoes I've used here. Bogrow Farm or East Coast Cured Nduja are my go to choices, made in Scotland with high welfare, rare-breed pork, and both are available online. As always, choose something made close to you if you can, or the highest quality mass produced version if you can't.

These smoky, sweet and soft potatoes can be prepped, wrapped in foil and nestled in the coals of your barbecue, or placed in the oven to cook while you enjoy a warming libation on these wintry nights.



SWEET POTATO WITH NDUJA

Serves 4

INGREDIENTS

4 medium sweet potatoes

200g Scottish nduja

100ml sour cream

Chopped chives

Scrub the potatoes and split in half. Season the flesh with salt and pepper and spread 50g of the nduja sausage into each potato. Wrap in a couple of layers of foil to prevent seepage, and place in the coals of your firepit or barbecue, or in the oven at 180°C.

Bake for 30 – 45 minutes depending on the size of the potatoes. Unwrap and gently open, being careful of the steam. Mash the nduja and sweet potato flesh together a little. Allow to cool for a few minutes before adding a generous spoon of the sour cream with chopped chives.

This is just one of the almost 100 recipes which appear in my new cookbook *Feast*. You can buy copies locally at Read and Relax, Waterstones Perth, or online. Or contact me directly to purchase a personally signed copy for Christmas!



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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 AGM and November meeting

Present at the meeting on Monday 10 November were: D West, C Collins, H Collins, M West, B Freeman, R Gilmour, Cllrs N Freshwater and Willie Robertson and one MoP

Apologies: Cllrs D Cuthbert and R Watters, Police Scotland
CC members were elected as follows:

Chair: David West (*Proposed CC, seconded RG*)

Secretary: Chris Collins (*Proposed MW, seconded DW*)

Treasurer: Margaret West (*Proposed BF, Seconded RG*)

The minutes of the meeting of 13/10/25 were accepted without any amendments. Proposed CC Seconded MW.

Meeting

A MoP wished to discuss concerns over a planning application at Balado Farm. The application is to remove 20 old chicken sheds and replace them with 38 new ones. The sheds will be 5.5 metres tall. There are two main concerns regarding which he would like the CC to object to the application.

The first concerns the research project on odour and the second is the landscape visual assessment.

The MoP told the CC there was no benchmark for the odour modelling and the report is not robust as it is incomplete without this and he believes that therefore any planning application should be delayed until this is looked into.

There are concerns about impact on the visitor experience to Kinross airfield among other attractions (the nearest neighbours, Balado airfield, were not approached). Can we apply the precautionary principle on behalf of Kinross residents and visitors regarding possible odour? Modern technology should surely be able to improve the smell that residents currently contend with. There is only a vague description in the odour report of what this technology is and how it will be used. There will be double the amount of waste material produced by this expansion.

The landscape visual assessment is also thought to be incomplete, and concern was raised over the grey colour of the buildings (navy would be better for hiding visual impact). There is currently a treeline that modifies visual impact but these new sheds will be much taller than existing buildings.

It was agreed that the secretary would submit a letter to PKC Planning outlining these concerns.

Accounts

These were circulated. There is still expenditure to come from the CAP project. Remaining balance currently £3069.95 but

the report is still to be printed and distributed. PKC grant of £1000 is still to come.

It was noted that Cllrs can claim travel expenses to go to meetings in Perth, etc, and that they ought to do this.

CAP Update

BF gave an update on the CAP. The report had been circulated to members and changes were made. It is currently being proof-read. There was a request for photos. DW urged caution with the requirement for a large colour publication at huge cost when it is unlikely to be well read.

Report to be launched in January and PKC will see a copy then.

Councillors' Reports

DC had intimated via DW: Wanted to note that we should be pleased with all the road resurfacing work being done despite the roadworks!
NF: Concern re Balado junction safety. Discussed and was widely thought to be one of the better visibility junctions. No obvious solution presented itself to improve the junction.

NF: Campaign for Kinross-shire flag. Suggestion that the existing crest could be used. Will be used to promote tourism and businesses and create a sense of identity. Public competition to be launched to design the flag. Funding will need to be sourced. A presentation will be made to Kinross-shire area committee and the winning design perhaps launched at Kinross Show.

WR: A great turn out at Remembrance Sunday despite terrible weather. Thanks to all who attended and organised it.

WR: 20mph signs causing confusion. 30mph passed campus and then 40mph at Loch Leven's Larder. Is it 30mph all the way in-between?

WR: If not enforced by police it will discredit our speed limits. Supposed to be self-policing as it is a trial. Concern over effect on 55/23 bus which may have to alter timetables. Discussion concluded that that over time people will get used to it and it will hopefully bring overall speeds down.

WR: Kinnesswood 20mph – WR to ask if we could remove all signage and put in average speed cameras to see what results are.

Correspondence

Christine Grant from PKC says we can co-opt new members in February. In the interim associate members can be looked at. This is across all of Kinross-shire CCs.

Petition – new powers for CCS. English Parish Councils have far more power locally than Scottish CCs. Please sign it.

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Community Council News

Police Report: Vandalism, housebreaking, fraud, shoplifting. DW to chat to police re attendance at CC meetings. Noticeably low at all CCs.

AOCB

The CC expressed their condolences and sadness at the passing of former Chair David Colliar. David spent many years working on behalf of his community in many roles (including almost 40 years on the Community Council) and made an exceptional contribution to the community life of Kinross. He will be greatly missed.

It was noted that online meetings with access via Teams would be a more inclusive format.

There is no meeting in December. The next meeting of Kinross Community Council is on Monday 12 January in Loch Leven Community Campus. All are welcome to attend.

Portmoak Community Council News from the October Meeting

Present at the meeting on Tuesday 14 Oct 2025 were Cllrs A Miller, A Davidson, S McGregor, A Clark; K Donaldson, L Hatch, J Hornal; and 2 members of the public.

Apologies: D Cuthbert; Police liaison.

Matters Arising

Kinross-shire Committee update: Chair raised topic of redistribution of PCC monthly tasks among the PCC members, to try and share work, updates, and attendance at various committees.

Kinross-shire Committee: due to meet in October. One agenda item had been notified by Ward Councillors about the possibility trialling of average speed cameras within Perth & Kinross. PCC were in support of this option and believed it would be a positive introduction along the A911 to better control speed of traffic. An article had been published in the Courier. W Robertson had taken this forward after observing cars driving at excessive speeds in 20mph zones. It was hoped this would be positively received at KC and could be voted on under devolved powers of the Committee.

Kinross-shire Active Travel Master Plan: Secretary gave an update from Glenfarg Community Transport (GCT) about the on-demand pilot service which had been discussed at PCC meeting earlier in the year. The Secretary had reached out to GCT and a meeting was scheduled to take place to discuss the pilot of the 203 On demand service. The pilot so far had been fairly limited in its reach due to limited funding and resource. The limited pilot had been gathering information to put in a funding bid for a more comprehensive service. The Secretary was available to attend the next meeting and would feedback. Portmoak Travel Plan: no update additional from Cllrs regarding the Digital Core Path App that was currently in development.

Road Safety Action Update: The Chair had already discussed the proposal for average speed cameras along the A911 through Portmoak, which it was hoped would do much to improve road safety in terms of reducing speed.

Speed Watch: Cllr W Robertson had been in communication with MOCC and Police Scotland but unfortunately there was still no update from either on this project which was disappointing. Scotlandwell Leslie Road resurfacing: the resurfacing was completed and the traffic calming build-out nearer the junction on the Leslie Road had been moved to the opposite side of the road, as this had been considered more effective to reduce speed coming from the Leslie direction. The change seemed so far to have been well received anecdotally locally. G Marshall suggested that the speed tables be removed from Kinnesswood, particularly as they had originally been a temporary measure and also considering other more effective measures like average speed cameras were being proposed. The existing mitigation measures cost a lot of money to put in and maintain and they seem to provide minimal results. The Chair was in some agreement with this suggestion as existing measures to restrict speed seemed to be ineffective. The Secretary expressed reticence to remove existing speed mitigation measures before new measures were agreed and installed.

Scotlandwell to Portmoak Church Path: There was no update on the path project specifically, however, the Chair had had a meeting with Catriona Harnet who is Lead of Bereavement Services at PKC. The church path and extension to the cemetery were linked by an outline proposal, not an active planning application, that had been compiled by the landowner for development of the land from the church down to Scotlandwell. C Harnet will explore if there are any opportunities around the outline proposal. Chair expects to have another meeting with Catriona later in October and would report back.

Portmoak Church: The future for the church and car park: no further updates at present. The GoFundMe fundraiser is still underway if any local people would like to contribute.

Adoption of road, Wellside Park, Scotlandwell: Cllr W Robertson had chased up PKC about this. Chair had checked earlier in the week and at time of meeting the road had still not been adopted. Chair to follow up with the Cllrs and PKC.

Buchan Avenue, proposed parking restrictions: Secretary had spoken with PKC about the proposals and had also been in contact with the Head at Portmoak Primary who had agreed to reach out to her predecessor and also to staff at the school to obtain more information, there had been no response prior to the October holidays. PKC had emailed PCC to ask that they provide representation of their views. The Secretary sought clarity on the response that PCC would provide in reply to PKC as there had been both support and opposition to the proposals. Agreement among PCC members for Secretary to draft a neutral response in support of the Consultation process itself with those individual residents and the Primary School who were directly affected.

Concern re parking within the 10m no parking zone at the Junction of Main Street – Bruce Road: The Secretary had raised this concern to PKC Roads Team as a separate matter and had additionally asked the Local Police Liaison team if the locale could be monitored during their local rounds. The Police had advised that members of the public could report potential parking violations within the 10m zone directly to the police and encouraged people to do so, providing photos and registration plate numbers in their report. Contact the Police by calling 101 or email on taysidekinross-shirecpt@scotland.police.uk and ask for Constable Samson or Duncan and they will endeavour to get back to you as soon as possible. **PCC AGM on 11/11/25: in Person at Portmoak Village Hall:** AGM would commence at 1930hrs, and the November PCC



meeting would follow on immediately after, once the Chair had closed the AGM business.

2025 Community Council Elections: All eight people who submitted nomination forms have been accepted and there is a full complement of Members for Portmoak.

New Matters Arising:

Deterioration of the B9097 and C50 road surface to Fife border: K Donaldson had raised this item, with concern that the whole road is breaking up and surface is corrugated. Water main damage had also exacerbated the problem with flooding. Need to press Cllrs about when the road will be seriously upgraded. We know that this road is needing full repair and any current repairs are cosmetic. The deterioration on the road is significant. PKC would ideally renegotiate their position with Fife Council to obtain additional funding additional to the original insufficient amount agreed. The increase of traffic has increased due to Westfield and will continue to increase due to building; also more traffic is travelling along the road due to speed restrictions along the A911.

Secretary to ask PKC Roads when a full resurface is scheduled.

Reports

Police Reports: circulated for 1 Oct 25. No reportable crimes. 12 phonecalls to the Police from Portmoak. The police are aware of ongoing concerns around speeding. Also they would add the Bruce Road parking issue to their observation matrix during their rounds.

Planning

Brunt Hill Windfarm: next meeting of the Sustainability Group in Jan 26. Portmoak CC to field a representative.

Westfield Site Update

Progress with Developments: Westfield Community Liaison Committee: K Donaldson had attended a recent meeting and had also had a tour of the plant which he described as impressive and very clean. There was a lot of residual waste such as rubble and metal that cannot be burned approx. 3 lorry loads a week of this type of waste goes to be recycled. Capacity is at maximum.

Westfield Paths Feasibility Study: Item had gone quiet. PCC to request more information from TRACKS and Cllr R Watters who may have more visibility on progress and funding applications .

Paths Group update: The Paths Group had supplied a brief overview of recent work, major clearing work has been completed along the Dryside Way from Easter Balgedie to Springfield, also the path to Portmoak Moss. Recent conversations at the September meeting had highlighted a need for a more accessible gate at Levenmouth, J Hornal and AC lark had reached out to the landowner who had agreed to a new gate so this item would proceed. Also the access friendly path at Findatie had been confirmed by PKC to be resurfaced. The Chair expressed thanks to J Hornal and A Clark for raising these items and moving them on to completion so quickly.

Treasurer CC Accounts

MBW Account: £ 1429.80

The grant of £150 from PKC has now been paid.

Dividend payment of £3.30

CC Account: £ 326.27

A Dividend payment of £1.18 had been paid.

Treasurer has prepared the accounts for the AGM.



AOB

Repairs to Well at Scotlandwell: have received a grant that enables them to put out a tender to appoint an architect for the repair work.

Bishopshire is Best Event: suggestion from KDT to hold a local community group event, dates and details to be agreed.

PCC were enthusiastic to participate and thought it would be useful. Lots of cross-over and opportunities to work together. Opportunity also for local residents to engage with the Community Council. More information to follow.

The next meeting of Portmoak CC is on Tuesday 9 December at 7.30pm.

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council News from the October Meeting

Present at the meeting on Thursday 9 October were N Bingham, K Heneghan, A Wanless, J McCracken, Cllr R Watters
Apologies: Cllrs D Cuthbert and W Robertson, PS Craig, PC Samson, PC Duncan, and 13 members of the public

Annual General Meeting

Cllr Wanless gave an overview of the CC's accounts and spend for the year 24/25. The CC has a healthy General Fund. Cllr Wanless also provided an update on funds, donations, spending and information on a local bequest fund which is partly being used to support MPS's gardening project.

Cllr Bingham began his report by thanking his fellow councillors. Cllr Bingham welcomed Donald Dingwall who will be joining us from 6 November. Cllr Bingham went on to provide an update of the year's activities, drawing particular attention to the community involvement at the VE commemorative event held in May at Orwell Church. Cllr Bingham informed the meeting of a recent successful bid to The National Lottery which allowed us to purchase not only more Christmas lights, but also an outdoor projector which will be mounted opposite the Town Hall, allowing images to be projected onto the external frontage of the hall at various times throughout the year. The projector had already been used to great effect at the VE event, mentioned earlier with poppy images being projected onto the church building wall. Cllr Bingham then moved onto updating the meeting with recent progress on road safety, a subject raised most often by members of the public at our meetings and Cllr Bingham was pleased to say that by raising these issues at CC meetings and with prompt actions by our ward councillors 2 new crossings will be sited in our community, one on Stirling Rd, close to our primary school, and the other, an upgrade to the existing crossing on South St. In closing, Cllr Bingham thanked our Councillors for their complete and ongoing support throughout the year, despite being of different political persuasions! Also thanking members of the community who have supported the CC during the year either by attending events, coming along to meetings and voicing their opinions and concerns, finishing with an invitation to anyone wishing to be more involved to not hesitate in offering their services as there are vacancies

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Community Council News

on the CC and it's only by public involvement that we can continue to be a voice for the local community.

Election of office bearers will be decided at our EGM in December.

Date of our next AGM will be October 2026.

Police Matters

The police were not present at the meeting but provided a report that was read out by Councillor McCracken.

The report detailed the number of crimes of note in the area since the last community council as well as some activities that the community police attended or held around the local area. 17 calls to the police from the Milnathort area. One incidence of non-payment of fuel at Stewart and Smart, one incidence of speeding on M90 at Milnathort, and one incidence of driving without insurance and 2 defective tyres.

Actions From Previous Meeting

Cllr Watters will be following up on a matter raised by a member of public regarding the asbestos fly tipping in a field at the rear of Orwell Church.

Correspondences

Correspondences to MOCC were received from Aerospace Kinross inviting Councillors to a community consultation on the planned leasing of a plot of land within the grounds of the Loch Leven Community Campus. Correspondence also from Cala Homes regarding two public consultation events in September and October where they plan to share initial proposals for the residential development on the former BCA Bridgend site in Kinross.

Details are at: www.milnathortandorwellcommunitycouncil.com.

There were four letters from members of the public regarding the recent power outage which resulted in homes in and around Curler's Crescent being without power for a number of hours. Cllr Dave Cuthbert has undertaken enquiry to identify who is responsible and to get them focused on the problem, which was the falling of tree branches into the substation resulting in the outages.

The result of this investigation is that the sub-station is managed by SSEN distribution department, but the trees and grounds around them are managed by Perth and Kinross Council's Greenspace.

SSEN have responded, stating: 'The trees in this area have fallen during the last two storms, causing the fuse at our substation to trip.'

I have been informed that these trees belong to Perth & Kinross Council. If the council can agree to have the trees removed, we would be happy to discuss ways we can support the clearance and mitigate any further risk of damage as we approach winter.'

Subsequently, Cllr Cuthbert was in contact with the Council's Greenspace and they have said:

'Apparently SSEN have to remove trees within two tree lengths of live apparatus, so they will take the trees down free of charge but have requested that we remove all arisings, which we can do. They will liaise directly with our Tree and Woodland Policy Officer about what they will be doing by when.'

We thank Cllr Cuthbert for his tenacity in this matter and we will hope that the work as promised by both PKC and SSEN is undertaken timeously to avoid any re-occurrence of these power outages.

Roads

Work is scheduled to begin on the upgraded crossing on South St and the new crossing on Stirling Rd later this month.

Planning

25/00580/FLL Solar Array on Land 170 Metres North East Of 33 The Woods Milnathort, refused.

25/00753/FLL Burleigh Sands Public Car Park Kinross, 25/00887/FLL Land 40 Metres North East Of 2 Orwell Farm Kinross.

25/00756/LBC Shanwell House Milnathort.

Core Paths Update

Cllr Heneghan gave an update on the recent activities of the Core Path Group. This included clearing existing paths and reinstatement of the core path alongside Milnathort Golf Course and Burleigh Road. Cllr Heneghan showed images of giant hogweed and informed the meeting of a recent application to the PKC Green Living Fund to purchase PPE and chemicals to combat this invasive species.

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Watters reported on the Green Living Fund and for any interested parties to consider applying to this Fund. He also informed the meeting about the Kinross-shire Committee who are currently vetting applications. Cllr Watters finally encouraged people to attend the public consultation on the BCA site by Cala Homes in light of concerns about flood defences.

Comments and Questions From The Floor

Following the discussion around the loss of power following recent storms and in the absence of Cllr Cuthbert, Cllr Bingham gave an overview of investigation and hopefully a resolution. A member of the public raised the question of the Priority Services Register and the need for a Resilience Plan going forward.

Any Other Matters

Cllr Heneghan drew the meeting's attention to the 25th Anniversary of Common Grounds, who to date have raised £204,000 for charity.

The next meeting of Milnathort and Orwell CC will be on Thursday 11 December 2025, 7.30pm at Milnathort Town Hall

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Fossoway & District Community Council

News from the November AGM

Present at the AGM on 4 November were: Cllrs S Bruce-Jones, A Carter, A Cheape, T Lamb, N Marchant, G Pye and K Williamson; Assoc Cllr C Farquhar; Cllr D Cuthbert; 11 Members of the Public.

Apologies: Cllrs N Freshwater, W Robertson and R Watters.

Chair's Report:

The members of the Community Council are as follows:

- **Sarah Bruce Jones**
- **Adrian Carter**
- **Angus Cheape**
- **Tony Lamb**
- **Nicola Marchant**
- **Graham Pye**
- **Kaye Williamson**
- **Carol Farquhar** is an Associate Member of the CC.

The Community Council has had another very busy year with eleven scheduled meetings, additional meetings, consultations and correspondence. Cllrs have attended a total of 52 two additional meetings in support of Fossoway; reviewed 25 planning applications, provided 2 responses to consultations and numerous, too many to count, responses to various bodies regarding windfarm applications. In addition, we took part, for the first time, in Science week after receiving a grant from the British Science Award. We partnered with the HEAT project to host an event where residents could learn more about renewable energy and making their homes more energy efficient.

Speeding

Speeding in our villages remains a source of concern. Temporary TROs for 20mph zones have been put in place in Blairingone, Powmill, Rumbling Bridge and Crook of Devon. It remains a disappointment that Carnbo was not part of this, but the CC has submitted to our Cllrs and PKC Road Safety Officers our proposals for speed limits within our communities. These were also included in our registered Local Place Plan. As we end our year Drum village has received notification of consultation to extend the 30mph on the A977 to beyond the new traffic lights.

Kinross-shire Local Area Committee

Sarah Bruce-Jones is our representative on the Kinross-shire Area Committee. The Committee provides an opportunity to discuss challenges and opportunities with other Kinross-shire CCs, Ward Cllrs and PKC Officers.

Community Development Trust

The Community Development Trust has now been operating for 18 months and has a membership of over 80 members of the community. The first Community Action Plan (CAP) was completed in July 2025, and many projects are underway. A key outcome has been the Community Bus which was donated to the Trust by PKC and is managed and driven by Tony Lamb.

Transport

The Glenfarg 23 bus service continues to be a great success and in October we reported that passenger numbers for the combined 23 and 55 service had exceeded 2000 passengers in a six-day period. In addition, we continue to be indebted to Glenfarg Community Transport Group for their ongoing support.

Windfarms

The CC's agendas for this and probably the coming years will be dominated by two large windfarm proposals near Carnbo.

This year the CC has proactively engaged with PKC, the DPEA regarding Craighead and the Energy Consent Unit regarding Brunt Hill. We have continued to object to both proposals principally on the grounds of impact on the Ochils.

Local Place Plan (LPP)

The CC held several consultation events to develop our LPP which has followed on from the CAP. At times there were strongly held contradictory views. Finally in July of this year our community led LPP was formally registered by PKC and can be seen on their website. This was an enormous undertaking, and I would like to give very special thanks to my colleagues and all residents who engaged with us. In recent months it has been rewarding to see our LPP has been taken into consideration by PKC Planning Officers when they review planning applications. In the coming year the Community will be consulted on the draft Local Development Plan 3 which should also take our LPP into account.

As this is my last AGM, I would like to sincerely thank my colleagues for their support and for the very significant efforts they have made in dealing with the work of the CC on behalf of the community. Many thanks also to our current local Councillors Cuthbert, Freshwater, Robertson and Watters, and for their significant support and assistance to the CC on numerous matters. Lastly a huge thank you to our local residents for supporting us and turning out to our monthly meetings.

In response there was general applause for the tremendous job that the CC has done over the last few years – we will all miss the four of you very much.

Treasurer's Report

This report is for the period from 1st September 2024 to 31st August 2025. The Administrative Grant of £650.05 from PKC topped the CC's funds back up to the maximum £700.00 allowed. I am pleased to note that PKC have announced that the annual grant will be increased to £1000 from the next financial year.

This has been a very busy year with responses to two major wind farm applications and the creation of our Local Place Plan. These activities have required us to hold more physical meetings for which we have to pay fees, many of which have unsurprisingly increased in price this year; consequently, we have spent £296 on accommodation bookings.

All Community Councillors are allowed to claim for any expenses they incur over the year for travelling to meetings, of which there have been many this year, and any other incidentals. Expenses claimed by Councillors totalled £221.29 this account period.

After all the transactions over the year have been tallied the CC has a closing balance at year end of £182.71 and I will be applying for this year's grant once this meeting has approved the accounts.

Approval of the accounts was proposed by Cllr Bruce-Jones and seconded by Cllr Marchant.

Office Bearers

This has been an election year; hence the current CC will be dissolved after this meeting, and a new one formed at the start of our next meeting on 2 December. Office Bearers will be elected as part of that meeting. The date of the next AGM was set for 6 October 2026.

News from the November Meeting

Present at the meeting on 4 November were: Cllrs S Bruce Jones, A Carter, A Cheape, T Lamb, N Marchant, G Pye and K Williamson; Cllr C Farquhar; Cllr D Cuthbert; PC B Sampson and 11 MoP.

Apologies: Cllrs N Freshwater, W Robertson and R Watters.

Community Police Report:

From 7 October 2025 there have been approximately 48 calls to Police from the Fossoway area and 11 crimes recorded

Community Council News

on Police systems (including ten speeding offences detailed below.) On 26 October there was a theft from a house in Carnbo which is being investigated.

On 23, 24 and 28 October Police stopped six drivers for speeding on the A91 in Carnbo, four were issued with tickets and two reported to the Procurator Fiscal. On 1 November Police stopped four drivers for speeding on the A977 in Crook of Devon all of whom were reported to the Fiscal.

A MoP asked why physical measures weren't used to control speed. CCllr Marchant answered that the LPP requests these, and that the Kinross-Shire Committee was re-evaluating the A977 mitigation plan. Officers are approaching Road Safety to install average speed cameras in Carnbo and Crook of Devon. CCllr Pye asked what was happening with Community Speed Watch – Police say they have vetted all the applications they've received. Milnathort CC runs this now, but what's happening? Cllr Cuthbert agreed to ask Milnathort CC.

A MoP said that the biggest problem in Rumbling Bridge is children absconding from Seamab and coming on to the farm. Police say that they're only involved if there is criminality, or a reported escape.

A MoP asked about the road accident at Devonshaw today because of flooding. Cllrs Cuthbert and Robertson have been involved in getting gulleys cleared, although there appears to be a more serious underlying problem as flooding is recurring. Currently runoff from the quarry is causing additional problems, although that should improve as development is done there.

Matters Arising

Windfarms

Brunt Hill: No update, but it's possible that this will be covered in the December Planning Meeting. There is normally no opportunity for the public to speak at this meeting. The CC will write to Sean Panton (Head of Major Applications) to request that our objection is considered as part of the PKC Officers review. If PKC choose to object, then the Energy Consents Unit will have to take public input.

Craighead: The CC emailed the DPEA regarding their concerns with the PKC response extending the developer's proposed construction hours. The DPEA have accepted the CC comments as part of their review.

The CC had asked the Cllrs to seek a justification for PKC's comments on the Craighead planning conditions and also requested that their comments regarding construction hours are rescinded. There has been no response to this request.

The CC has received emails from other CCs asking if we would like to get involved with combined meetings. Planning Aid Scotland have issued a new document about handling power applications.

Community Development Trust (CDT)

The next meeting of the Trust will be on 11 November from 7 to 9pm in Crook of Devon Village Hall.

Road Safety in FDCC area including A977 Mitigation Measures

A MoP had copied the CC into ongoing correspondence with PKC and Cllrs regarding the excessive speeding in Carnbo. The CC had responded to the MoP that this is a high priority for the CC and is on all of our agendas. Cllr Cuthbert said physical measures are needed – elsewhere in P&K ramps have been put in at entries to villages, perhaps that should be tried. The CC has put this in the LPP.

MoP noted that Carnbo had asked for speed recording to be placed there, with no success. Also noted that increased measures on the A977, including proposed extension in Drum is resulting in HGVs going via Carnbo instead. Cllr Cuthbert commented that the TROs are temporary and that more measurement and consultation will take place before they're made permanent or modified in 18months time. Also, that he's asked when VAS and road markings will be correctly aligned with new speeds, but no answer yet.

At the suggestion of CCllr Carter, the CC will write to PKC to ask for a bus turning sign on the A977 by Rumbling Bridge, where the 23/55 service comes out.

Fossoway Area Transport

CCllr Lamb reported that the 23/55 bus service was running well, with no issues at the moment.

Glenfarg Transport's four-month trial service of Digital DRT is running but needs to be used. A MoP notes that it's not been well advertised – this is under review. It operates Mon/Wed/Fri and must be booked online using the Ride Pingo App and can be arranged so that it links into the 23 service.

The Community Bus is being taken up well, with trips to Ikea and Livingston Shopping Centre. Linked with events at Backstage in the Green Hotel, Kinross, collecting attendees across Fossoway. Two drivers are already qualified and two more are in training.

MoP asked if it could go to Murrayfield. CCllr Lamb replied that the problem was where to park and what does the driver do whilst waiting.

Seamab School Construction Work

The CC has not received any further information from PKC, HSE or SEPA. MoPs again raised their concern regarding asbestos being present in dust coming from the site.

Fairer Communities for All

CCllr Bruce-Jones attended the application screening discussion with Ward councillors. Applications for FCFA and for Green Living Fund are now available for public voting. Although no applications were received from specific Fossoway projects all are beneficial to Kinross-shire as a whole.

Community Noticeboards: CCllr Marchant reported that prices had increased since the grant was awarded and hence there won't be enough to cover Carnbo's board as well. Priority has been given to Blairingone, Rumbling Bridge and shop in Crook of Devon which are in much worse condition.

Crook Moss Travellers Site: CCllr Cheape and Cllr Cuthbert went to the site and met residents, one of whom is going to clear some of the rubbish, requesting PKC to provide skips which they will fill. Cllr Cuthbert has found funds for skips. Conversely another resident has been fined by SEPA. Cllr Cuthbert has proposed that PKC buys the site - SEPA are trying to find the owners to enable this. Watch this space.

New Business

Car parking issues around the Church, especially during a funeral service, have once again been raised. There is a planned site visit with PKC, Cllrs, CC members, the Church and representatives from FCDT to discuss solutions and future options.

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Consultations

PKC: The CC has responded to the Local Landscape Area (LLA) consultation using the information in our Local Place Plan. In addition to the Ochils, we've asked for Crook Moss, the old Railway Line at Powmill and the Rumbling Bridge Gorge to be considered. Additionally, the Ochils LLA should be extended to include the River Devon through to our district.

Community Council Business

Sandy Morrison: Sadly died on 11 October. The CC would like to send our sincere condolences to Sandy's family. Sandy was a prominent member of the CC and chair for many years.

Purchase Of New Printer: CCLr Pye proposed that the CC purchase a new printer as the current one is very old and unreliable. The cost is estimated to be between £120 and £140 depending on whether it includes a scanner or not. Unanimously agreed.

Transfer of Bridge over River Devon funds held by Fossoway Community Benefit Fund to FCDT: The FCDT Ltd has requested that the restricted funds of circa £43k held by the Fund are transferred to them to support the development of options to build a new bridge over the River Devon. The funds will cover the costs of pre-planning surveys required by PKC, development of engineering drawings of the options for a simple wooden bridge versus use of the Rennie MacKintosh bridge along with full build costs. The funds will only be used for the bridge project as defined in the Community Action Plan. CCLrs Bruce-Jones, Lamb and Marchant declared an interest as they are Directors of the FCDT. CCLr Pye took the chair for the discussion. CCLr Carter was concerned that the funds could be used to assess the Rennie MacKintosh bridge alternative to the wooden bridge and the funds should only be transferred after the CDT had decided on the wooden bridge. After some discussion the remaining CC members present voted on the proposal with three in favour and one against.

Fossoway and District CC Elections: The CC welcomed new members, who will take up their posts at the December Meeting.

Meetings Attended

CCLr Lamb attended Glenfarg Trustees on 15 October and Glenfarg DDRT Pilot on 16 October.

CCLr Bruce-Jones attended the Fairer Communities for All Kinross-shire applications Screening Meeting on 22 October.

Councillors Reports

Cllr Cuthbert: Has studied the number of houses built during the currency of LDP2 and it's already exceeded what's in the plan before LDP3 development even started - and there has been no corresponding infrastructure created.

Had meetings with senior people and Road Safety is a big issue and not being adequately handled.

Planning Matters

Planning Applications

25/01468/FLL Erection of children's play area (for a temporary period), formation of 36 car parking spaces, 4 EV chargers and

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Community Council News

bicycle rack and associated works at Seamab School, Rumbling Bridge.

The CC will ask for an extension from 21 November to allow fuller study of the application and final discussion at the December CC meeting.

Planning Decisions

25/00610/FLL Siting of hut with decking, composting toilet and formation of parking for recreational use Land 80 Metres West of Barnhill Farm, Powmill. The application was approved. The CC had made a neutral comment regarding the use of the hut which has been included in the conditions.

25/01317/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house, erection of fence and installation of flue at Birchbank, Main Street, Crook of Devon. The application was approved, no CC comment.

The next meeting of Fossoway CC will be on Tuesday 2 December 2025 at at Moubray Hall, Powmill 7.30pm. Preceded by EGM to Constitute the New CC

Fossoway Development Trust News

Governance

The Trust has had a very constructive meeting with DTAS regarding our membership of the organisation. DTAS commended the Trust on our website and transparency. We hope to achieve membership soon.

Funding (Nicola Marchant)

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

Fossoway Community Development Trust – JustGiving

The Trust has been awarded a donor directed award of £10,000 (unrestricted funds) by Foundation Scotland and this ensures the financial sustainability of the Trust for many years whilst we develop income streams.

Theme 1: Traffic, Transport and Active Travel (Tony Lamb)

Project: Community Bus

Our Community Bus provides free transport to support fundraising events in our Village Halls. Trips to events and places i.e. IKEA are funded by users' donations, the amount asked for depends on the mileage. All donations cover the costs of diesel and future insurance, servicing costs.

Community Bus Condition: The bus has had a Safety Inspection and service and is in good condition.

Drivers: We now have two potential drivers going through the approvals process. All being well, we could have 4 drivers by Christmas.

Events: If you want to go on the bus to any of these events please either go to Fossoway Community Bus | Facebook and DM Tony or phone Tony on 07772 787461

David Bowie Backstage Green Hotel, Kinross (£5) **16 Nov**



Quiz Night Carnbo Village Hall (no charge but donations welcomed) **21 Nov**

Livingston Designer Outlet (£10) **26 Nov**

Eddi Reader Kinross High School (£5) **28 Nov**

Elvis Returns Backstage Green Hotel, Kinross (£5) **11 Dec**

Members should purchase event tickets themselves.

All trips can be seen on our Facebook page

Fossoway Community Bus | Facebook

Theme 2: Local Economy and Service

No projects

Theme 3: Community Facilities, Activities and Events (Marion Anness, Nicola Marchant, Mike Barnacle)

Project: Village Halls (Nicola Marchant)

Moubray Hall had a detailed 3-hour inspection by a building surveyor, funded by PKC CLLD, on 27 Oct. The initial feedback was good with no major issues to worry about. However, the Hall Committee are expecting a detailed report to identify the wooden window frames which will need to be addressed. FCDT will work with the Committee to raise funds and has had initial discussions with Perth Heritage Trust.

Project: CAT of Blairingone School (Marion Anness)

The Trust is exploring the viability of two options with PKC.

Option 1: proposed by PKC – build a new Village Hall on land behind the School and PKC sells the remainder of the site

Option 2: create a Culture and Heritage Hub partnering with the Culture Team in PKC

Meetings with various departments in PKC are planned over the next few weeks and a full briefing of the options will be presented to members at the meeting on the 11 Nov.

Theme 4: Environment and Heritage

(Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones)

Project 1: New Bridge Over River Devon (Mike Barnacle)

The Trust has now received survey reports from TRACKS that they undertook at the request of the CC. A project brief for the feasibility of both a simple wooden bridge and the use of the Rennie Mackintosh bridge is being prepared. Funding of around £43k for survey work and design work is held by the Fossoway Fund and can be released once project remit is completed.

Project 2: Creation of a Local Paths Group

(Mike Barnacle & Sarah Bruce Jones)

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

Project 3: Creation of Heritage Trail and Protection of Local Heritage (Sarah Bruce Jones & Nicola Marchant)

A project scoping document has been sent to Rumbling Bridge Hydro Fund, Foundation Scotland for their consideration and comment. FCDT then plans on raising funds for the project in March 2026.

Sarah is meeting with Fossoway School on 5 November to discuss how they can be involved in researching the history of our communities. A working group will be established in the New Year.

Theme 5: Future Development and Sustainability (Nicola Marchant)

Project – Supporting Our Village Halls & Residents In Reducing Energy Usage.

Village Halls have received reports from HEAT project regarding energy efficiency improvements for the Halls. The FCDT will work with the Halls to raise funding for any work.

Cleish & Blairadam Community Council

The next meeting date of Cleish and Blairadam CC is not currently available. Please check the website at <https://cleishandblairadam.org.uk/> for the latest information.



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 or contact Janieann McCracken on 077450 12315

Could You Mentor A Young Person?

Grandmentors matches volunteer mentors (usually aged 50+) with young people (16-26) who are care experienced or have had adverse childhood experiences. We provide training and support during your mentorship. If you would like to give a little time to help a young person take steps towards independence, or hear more about the project, please get in touch at perthandkinross@volunteeringmatters.org.uk

The Kinross-shire Partnership

Kinross-shire Partnership is looking for help to manage the Mobility Scooters, the website www.kinross.cc, organise the Better Place To Live Fair, Networking Breakfasts and the Community Champion Award Event. 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 or call 07999 510500. We would love to hear from you.

The Potager Garden

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

Broke not Broken

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

Greyhound Rescue Fife

Greyhound Rescue Fife at Balfree Country Centre, Gairneybank, Kinross, needs volunteers to clean the kennels and walk and feed the greyhounds. 01592 890583. www.greyhoundrescuefife.com.

KLEO

(Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation): If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events please join us! Contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org.uk or call 07979 064345.

RSPB Loch Leven

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

Kinross (Marshall) Museum

The museum, based at the Campus, depends on a small group of volunteers who undertake research, and answer queries sent from around the world. Email information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk or call into the museum when the study room is open (Saturday 10am-1pm or Thursdays 10am-7pm).

Swansacre Playgroup

Our long-established charity playgroup is welcoming volunteers for flexible and rewarding roles including fundraising, garden upkeep, lunch preparation and committee support. No experience necessary. Please contact swansacre.chair@gmail.com for more information.

Kinross Heart Start

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

Common Grounds

Charity Café 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.

Seamab

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

SSAFA

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

Kinross-shire Day Centre

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

Milnathort Town Hall Committee

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

SPARKS

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

Duke of Edinburgh

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

Interested in Guiding?

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

Friends of CHAS Kinross

Do you enjoy meeting people? Making a difference? Planning fun and creative events? Then please think about Friends of CHAS – Kinross. Contact lyndsaystobie@chas.org.uk or 07557 370746.

Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers

Could you become a volunteer driver for the Kinross-shire Volunteer Drivers? We deliver a vital service to help the elderly and disabled attend healthcare appointments. For further information please contact the administrator 01577 840196 or email administrator@kvd.org.uk

Guide Dogs Kinross

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

1st Kinross Cubs

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

Kinross in Bloom

Volunteer group which provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment in Kinross. Contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com.

Light Up Kinross

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights. Email mbs21@btinternet.com

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

Andrew Baillie

SOLICITOR & NOTARY PUBLIC



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Fairtrade in Kinross-shire

12 Fair Days of Christmas

This year please try and choose #Fairtrade goods when you can. When you do you are giving a lovely, good-quality present knowing that the producer has been paid fairly and supported to produce goods in a sustainable way, which is good for people and for the planet!



Some suggestions: I hope if you try Fairtrade tea, coffee, chocolate, olive oil and wine over the Festive period you will continue to buy them in 2026! #Choose the World you Want.

KLEO

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



Kinross Kacophony Orchestra

The Kacophony Orchestra starts again with conductor Dougie Flower on Wednesday 14 January. Always wanted to play your instrument in a group but never had the chance? An orchestra for adults, all abilities welcome but it is handy if you read music. Wednesday evenings from 7.15pm to 9.15pm at Loch Leven Community Campus. The fee is £5 a session.

Leven Voices

A fun, informal drop-in community singing group which you can join any time. No music reading or singing experience is necessary. Tuesday evenings from 6 January onwards with tutor David McLean, 7.30pm-9.30pm at Kinross Parish Church. Fee is £4 a session.

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. Fee is £3 a session to pay for the hall and coffee/teas. If you have any queries, please contact Ian Hardie on 07941 847657.

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

Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast Meetings

Local businesses, self-employed professionals, and community groups came together at the Green Hotel on Wednesday 4 November for another uplifting Kinross-shire Partnership Networking Breakfast.

The room buzzed with energy as everyone shared their stories, passions, and ideas over a hearty breakfast. Guests



Richard Scott with David Aird, Chairman of Kinross Volunteer Drivers

were also inspired by an engaging talk from David Aird, Chairman of Kinross Volunteer Drivers, highlighting the power of community spirit in action.

These gatherings are all about connection, collaboration, and celebrating the strength of local enterprise.

If you'd like to be part of this positive, supportive network, join us for the next meeting on Wednesday 3 December. To reserve your place, call or text Richard on 07999 510500 or email kpnetworkingbreakfast@gmail.com

Portmoak Film Society

Portmoak Films Xmas Treat: 'A Complete Unknown'!



Our post-Halloween film 'Nosferatu', the 2024 remake of the famous Dracula legend, lived up to its reputation and left our audience suitably spooked.... and divided, as the horror genre is not for everyone!

Our pre-Christmas film is the 2024 movie 'A Complete Unknown', showing on Saturday 13 December. It covers Bob Dylan's early career as a folk musician in 60's America and his determination to let his musical style develop in a more rock and blues direction, against the wishes of industry promoters and his traditional fans. The Guardian calls Timothée Chalamet 'a hypnotic Dylan', deservedly so as he sings the songs himself and nails Dylan's uncompromising moodiness. If you're a Dylan fan, you'll love this film and if not, you may be one after watching it!

The first film in 2026 is Clint Eastwood-directed 'Juror #2' on 10 January.

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.



Kinross & Ochil Walking Group

(Affiliated to Ramblers Scotland)

www.ramblers.org.uk/kinross-ochil

24 of our members recently met up in Muckhart for a choice of a very gentle 2 mile walk or a more strenuous 4 mile walk, followed by a pub lunch at the Inn at Muckhart and our AGM. Among the items discussed was our weekend away in 2027! (The 2026 weekend in Coupar Angus is already well in hand).

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 2 December, Coalsnaughton to Alloa via the Alloa Waggonway

Parking at Alloa, we will catch the 11:00 bus to Coalsnaughton. The route heads towards Gartmorn Dam and follows the route of the old waggonway on its way to Alloa docks. A leisurely 4 miles.

Tuesday 16 December, Muckhart Meander

Up the main street to Yetts of Muckhart, then on peaceful tracks and paths, past the pond and through the countryside. Some quiet road walking to the Golf Club, then back to the start. There will be mulled wine and mince pies to provide some early festive cheer!

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

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.

Saturday 6 December, Christmas Lunch for Members

Details of the meal and venue will be available from Carol.

Saturday 20 December, Field and Forest at Blairadam

This route takes us through parkland and past fields from where there are excellent views before finishing on forest paths and tracks. A leisurely 6 miles.

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

Inner Wheel Club of Kinross and District

www.innerwheel.co.uk



On Monday 10 November we welcomed Linda Taylor, our District Chairperson. She gave a most interesting talk about her time in Inner Wheel and her various appointments with District.

Margaret Timms held a well attended coffee morning on 21 October for MIND (My Name Is Dottie), and the grand sum of £210.00 was raised.

On Saturday 16 November some Inner Wheel dog owners met together with their pets who were adorned with orange bows to help raise awareness for Orange the World. There will be a display to further raise awareness of the cause in Loch Leven Laundry's window. This will run from the 25 November for 10 days and will provide lots of information.

Looking ahead to next year, the annual bridge day will be held on 20 March.



Elaine Mathew, Kinross Inner Wheel President and Linda Taylor, District Chairperson



Climate Cafe® Kinross-shire

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

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



We had a lovely meeting in November where we learnt about the chemicals in our clothes and the adverse effects these can have on our health. Whilst it isn't always possible, or easy, to buy clothes without chemicals in (we live in a wet country and need waterproofs) it was interesting to learn what chemicals to look out for and their natural alternatives.

This month we meet on Tuesday 2 December 2025 at 7pm in Loch Leven Community Campus Library.

We will have a joint Climate Cafe with Repair Cafe. During our Climate Cafe meeting we will do some Christmas crafting. Gosia is going to show us furoshiki (Japanese present wrapping); Karena will be there with the Fairtrade stall; and Mhor Energy will be there with their innovative battery technology.

If you have any questions or would like to present or talk at one of our climate café meetings, please get in touch. We would like to thank the library for hosting our events and providing technical support for the speakers.

Contact: Kara Mackay: climatecafekinrossshire@gmail.com

Details of upcoming events online: <https://www.facebook.com/kleo.org.uk>

Kinnesswood In Bloom

Kinnesswood in Bloom have been trying to keep work parties going throughout the autumn and they were only cancelled by poor weather a couple of times. There have certainly been plenty of leaves to sweep up. It's also the time of year for bulb planting and there have been several sessions. We received some bulbs from Perth and Kinross Council. We look forward to seeing the results in the spring.



All the little figures have been gathered in recently. They have brightened up the village over the summer. Bugs and minibeasts was certainly a fun theme.

All the gardening groups in Perth and Kinross have been offered tickets to see the Garden Exhibition at the V & A in Dundee. We hope some of our members will take advantage of this free offer.

Before the season ends we hope the children will give the polytunnel a good wash and clear it for the season. It has certainly given us plenty of produce this year.



Several members of Kinnesswood in Bloom attended the War Memorial on Sunday 9 November. John laid a wreath. Thank you Morag for providing such a lovely wreath once again.

On 13 December we will be setting up the Christmas tree in the Picture Garden. All are welcome to share some mulled wine and mince pies. Let's hope for some crisp winter weather as a change from some very dreich days.

We wish all the folk of Kinnesswood and surrounding area a very good Christmas and New Year and thank you for your continued support.

Kinross-shire U3A

kinross-shire.u3site.uk

Find us on Facebook



Speaker Meeting on Tuesday, 2 December, in Kinross Parish Church. Doors open after 2pm with event starting at 2.30pm. We have invited Kinross Kacophony Orchestra to entertain us with some Christmas music and get us all into the spirit of Christmas.

Speaker Meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month from September 2025 to April 2026 with the AGM held in May 2026. On 6 January 2026 Ken Miles will be enlightening those present on the subject of 'Antiques'.

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

We have currently have 12 Interest Groups

- Places of Interest
- Film and Theatre
- Famous Scots
- Book Club
- Gardening Group
- Wine Group
- Scrabble
- Rummikub
- Wine Tasting
- Genealogy
- Walking Group
- And our most recent group Gentle Exercise

New members are welcome.

Have a look at our Facebook page or our website kinross-shire.u3asite.uk.

TICK TOCK CLOCK & WATCH REPAIRS

All kinds of clock and watch repairs are continuing to be provided by Tudor House Antiques repairer, Fred Turvey. He was the main repairer and servicer for Tudor House Antiques, Milnathort for over 20 years.



TICK TOCK

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Clubs & Community Groups

Common Grounds

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



Following a very successful 25 Anniversary Luncheon last month we are now looking forward to the Craft Evening in Milnathort on Friday 28 November with many of our ladies working hard in making numerous Christmas Items. These items will also be on sale at our coffee mornings at the beginning of December. We all know Christmas is not far away when we will be holding our usual Christmas Raffle Prize Draw on the last Saturday before Christmas, 20 December. Tickets will be available from Tuesday 2 December to buy at our coffee mornings on Tuesdays and Saturdays.

Our chosen charity for November is Four Steps to Freedom. This is made up of a number of International bodies, including the World Health Organisations who have pledged to eliminate rabies by 2030. Tanzania alone has 1,500 deaths each year from Rabies so vaccination is so important as well as education especially with the children in Africa.

We look forward to seeing old and new friends at our coffee mornings coming up to Christmas and hope to be open on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve for those who are looking for a warm welcoming fire and good company to chat to.

Kinross Handcraft Circle

As we complete our current projects for this session, we turn our attention to the new year and the new classes being offered. But first we are in for a bit of fun! On 2 December we welcome back former member, Terri Gilham, who is leading us on an adventure with paint. Called Drag and Flow, this is an easy and original way to produce colourful artwork which can be used for cards or collages. This is followed on 9 December with our Christmas party and a short workshop on Furoshiko, the Japanese art of gift wrapping with fabric.

After all this fun, our new session starts in earnest on 13 January with three exciting new workshops. Linda Chapman will be leading a class on Gold Work, a style of embroidery using metal threads, usually gold in colour. These are couched or stitched and often embellished with gold beads.

We will also be making small 3D birds out of felt with the help of Ann Caudrey. These delightful little birds will be filled with toy stuffing and decorated with folk embroidery.

Our third workshop is being run by Dianne Mitchell who is going to teach us Amigurumi. Amigurumi is the Japanese art of crocheting small stuffed yarn creatures.

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

In addition to the above we will be running a one day workshop on Rag Rug making in February. Our annual outing

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

Meetings are held on alternate Tuesday mornings in the Gateside Memorial Hall from 9.45am until 12.15. Members are welcome from all towns and villages in the surrounding area. Our first December meeting is on 2 December and our Christmas party is on 9 December (members only). We start our new Spring session on 13 January. New members will be made very welcome. For more information please contact our Secretary Ann Caudrey at ann.jag21@gmail.com.

Special Christmas Offer: As we are approaching halfway through our year, we are offering new members a 50% discount on membership – just £15 instead of the full fee of £30. This covers the cost of renting the Gateside Memorial Hall and teas, coffees and biscuits at each session. Perhaps a special present for a crafting friend or relative?

KADAC

Kinross and District Art Club

The dreich, wet Tuesday and Fridays of November, of which there were many, were always brightened up by attending the Art Club regular painting sessions. Sometimes KADAC art sessions are very peaceful, contemplative and productive with other days being full of creative chat and enthusiasm; both are equally embraced by our members. Two potential new members came along to 'try us out' and it is delightful that they plan to continue to attend in the Club in New Year.

On the last day of October, members welcomed artist, Steve Bretel to the club. Please check out his website <https://stevebretel.com> to learn about Steve's passion for the arts and for the teaching of them.

Steve's theme on 31 October was 'Don't Be A Slave To Your Reference!' He began his demonstration by reiterating the concept of Perspective to those present, showing examples in real life and in drawings. After this, the 25-strong audience enjoyed a short quiz identifying Vanishing Points, before Steve started the first of his two paintings. Using the same photo of a mansion house, he illustrated in his two artworks how the house could be repositioned and viewed differently by placing it in different landscapes.

The paintings were created using watercolour paints in only the three Primary Colours plus Payne's Grey. The paints were administered with only one size of watercolour brush and a



Steve Bretel with the completed paintings on screen at the close of the session



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Volunteers from BEAR Scotland who helped PCWG pull birch saplings off the central peat dome at Portmoak Moss.

larger flat brush. The results were fabulous; Steve created them so quickly and in such a fun and fact-filled manner. Angela Walter, Vice Chair thanked Steve at the conclusion of his demonstration and members went home inspired and enthused.

At time of writing, members are looking forward to the AGM followed by a social catch up on Tuesday 25 November; the last painting day of the autumn session is Friday 28 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.

Portmoak Community Woodland Group



This month all our focus is on Portmoak Moss – with festivities, birch removal and big plans for the future.

The next public event there is the annual Christmas tree day. It will be on Sunday, 14 December, 11-2pm.

You can come along and choose a tree, sample some home baking and mulled juice and generally get into the Christmas spirit. We invite donations but there will also be free, small trees for children. It is a very relaxed occasion which serves the dual purpose of helping us to raise funds and to remove spruce trees from the peat bog.

Parking is limited at the main, Scotlandwell entrance to the Moss, so please be patient if there is a queue. You will have to take your own tree away but it may be easier to walk, if you live nearby.

On the subject of tree removal, the Moss may look quite different in another year's time.

As we reported in last month's *Newsletter*, plans for Portmoak Moss are being drawn up by the owners, Woodland Trust Scotland, in conjunction with the government agency, Peatland Action.

Under those plans, the restoration project, to return it to

a lowland raised peat bog, will be taking a leap forward. The remainder of the commercial spruce plantation will be felled, as well as other trees growing on the main area of raised bog.

Everyone is welcome to a drop-in session at Portmoak Village Hall, 3-7pm, on Wednesday 10 December, when WTS, as well as Peatland Action and PCWG will be there to share information and answer questions.

Meanwhile, the work of Portmoak Community Woodland Group, to remove unwanted trees from the Moss, continues. The trees take too much water from the peat and prevent the growth of Sphagnum moss – the species which holds the key to a healthy bog.

A big thank you to a dozen volunteers from BEAR Scotland, the road maintenance firm. They chose to give one of their corporate volunteering days to help us pull birch saplings off the central peat dome. Their efforts, on 29 October, gave us an enormous boost, with 250 square metres of bog cleared of stout young trees.

We did our best to keep their spirits up with hot fruit crumbles and custard made by Marjorie Smith.

Intense work by a team like this makes it much easier for us to keep on top of the problem. It is also a lovely opportunity to enjoy a day in the fresh air with lots of difference folk.

Watch this space for future volunteering opportunities!

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Our featured photo for December is 'Red-Legged Partridge' taken by club member, Dave Martin.

Potager Garden

A very short note from us.

The Potager Garden is now closed till Spring. You may see the gate open if one of us is still working there over the winter. Please pop in and say hello.

We occasionally meet socially for coffee at the Kirklands Hotel over the winter and would love you to join us. The next meeting at Kirklands Hotel is on Monday 15 December at 10am. We usually sit on the left near the local map on the wall.

If you need to get in touch before the Spring you can message us on our Facebook page or contact Amanda James on 07963 476803 (Convener) or Pauline Cobbold (Secretary) on 07866 467982 or by email; paulinecobbold@gmail.com or amandajames1577@gmail.com



Kinross Camera Club

www.kinrosscameraclub.wordpress.com

Find us on Facebook



Thursday 4 December – Hall Fortune And Greer Print Competition

Members are invited to submit up to four prints (two black and white and two colour) which will be judged externally. Our judge for the evening is Stewart Dodd.

We will meet in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Thursday 11 December

Zoom Presentation by Botanical Photographer Claire Carter.

Claire is a full time photographer based in Fort William and has achieved many awards in landscape and nature photography. Her talk is entitled 'Studio Botanical Photography'. Following her great success in recent years in The International Garden Photography of the Year Competitions Claire has put together her work in a presentation where she will pass on many tips and tricks. To view Claire's work visit www.carterart.co.uk

Thursday 18 December

Social Evening And Member's Pictures

Our last meeting of 2025 is an informal get together when we will enjoy a slideshow of member's pictures taken over the last few months along with a few festive snacks and cheer. We will meet in the church hall at 7.30pm.

If you enjoy taking photos with your camera or smartphone and you would like to learn how to improve your photography please join us at a meeting. We meet regularly on Thursdays at 7.30pm often in the hall at The Kinross Church Centre or

Portmoak Hall 100 Club

OCTOBER DRAW

1st No 129 Charles Seaman, Scotlandwell

2nd No 2 Elizabeth Mcgratton, Kinnesswood

3rd No 70 Harry Mclennan, Kinnesswood

sometimes on Zoom. To learn more about our camera club and events please contact our secretary by emailing secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk or visit our website and Facebook page.

Kinross in Bloom

With a final burst of effort and enthusiasm the last big piece of work is now complete. The spring pansies are all planted out and the sustainable planters trimmed back.



At the Annual General meeting on 4 November, committee members and office bearers were all re-elected for a further year. However that does not mean that new members would not be made most welcome when the 2026 session begins in February.

An Annual General Meeting is an opportunity to be reflective. One of the great successes of the last session has been working with other groups; Kinross Cubs, Kinross Rotary Club and pupils from both Kinross High School and Kinross Primary School. There has also been interaction with other 'green groups' with similar aims (strength in communication).

Most recently, at the start of November, Kinross in Bloom was again happy to host a meeting chaired by Clara Schade Poulson from the Forth Valley Rivers Trust.

Clara has already done work in the local farming community, and is hopeful of being able to work with smaller more local groups in the coming year.

Best wishes to everyone for the Festive Season. Keep a look out for the green shoots of spring bulbs around the town.

200 Club Winners

September: Sid Grant, Edna Nelson, Ros Irving, Irene Finlay.

November: James and Lorraine Whyte, Catriona McLeod, Maureen Blair, Derek Lawrence.

December: George Milburn, David Shearer Payne, Graham Sorbie, John Dryburgh.

For more information contact susan.mitchell50@gmail.com or daviddickson2@hotmail.co.uk.

Kinross-shire Trishaws...

Autumn on the Trishaws

Over the past month we have enjoyed seeing lots of red squirrels out on our trishaw travels. The colours have been amazing, and we have loved rolling through the carpet of leaves on the paths around Loch Leven.

Our trishaws participated in the Glow Ride organised by our parent charity – Kinross-shire Trishaws and Community Cycling SCIO.

This was great fun and a very exciting experience, being part of a big group cycling in the darkness, but lit up by the other brightly decorated bikes and cargo bikes. The purpose was to highlight the need for improved cycling infrastructure in the local area which would greatly benefit the trishaws. The Glow Ride was one of nearly 100 rides across the UK.

A Big Thank You!

November is our last month of rides in 2025 as our wonderful volunteers need a well earned break. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organisation, the amazing and generous people that enable us to take out our passengers – bringing joy, laughter, friendship, connection to our local environment and community and help our passengers feel the wind in their hair. Thank you to everyone that has supported us throughout the year. Thank you for the waves, the smiles and taking the time to chat with us as we pass as well as all the generous donations.

We now begin a programme of maintenance including the replacement motor and electronic console on the second of our three trishaws at a cost of £750. We will be fundraising over the next few weeks to cover these costs. The replacement of the electronics on the bike should provide us with a good bit of longevity for the next two to three years at least.

Recruiting for Volunteer Pilots

We will be advertising for new volunteers in January.

Please keep an eye out for details of our information evening.




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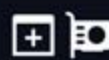
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... and Community Cycling

As the evenings have shortened, we have introduced some dusk and night cycles which our participants have really enjoyed on traffic free paths. These have included a Halloween Ride and our Glow Ride – a Cycling UK initiative which aims to highlight the need for improved cycling infrastructure particularly at night. The Glow Ride was an incredible event. Almost 70 participants of all ages – from babies in child seats to cyclists in their 80s took part in a mass cycle on bikes, trikes, trishaws and cargo bikes to support the event. We really appreciate the fantastic encouragement we received and would like to express thanks to the other road users for their patience and generous support, and to everyone that cheered us on as we passed. And finally, a massive thanks to our amazing team of ride leaders and marshalls that guided the group safely around the route. Our ride was such a fabulous success and we have been featured on the Cycling UK website.

Our terrific team of ride leaders has delivered a superb and varied programme of social and mindfulness rides over the past month including new Saturday socials which have been fully booked every week with great feedback, happy smiling faces in photos and lots of chat at the cafe stops. Our community cycling is open to all – please join us and keep cycling over the winter.

We have recently finished our final Positive Spin programme of 2025. This has combined group cycling activities with educational workshops where we have learned about relaxation techniques, understanding the mind, setting and maintaining boundaries, building confidence and self-belief, and a host of other topics. We have all found it very useful and informative and we look forward to launching Positive Spin 3 early in 2026. Please see our website www.ktacc.org.uk for information on how to register for this programme.

Our cycling programme is expanding in 2026 and we will shortly be advertising for volunteers to assist with our adaptive 'all ability' cycling on tricycles. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and come and support our work to help everyone enjoy



the benefits that gentle, social cycling in beautiful locations can bring. To find out more about KTACC events and activities, visit www.ktacc.org.uk.

Kinross Community Garden Group

The Garden Group had a very informative and amusing talk from Dorothy Warren – The Foraging Faerie! She told us how we could use a huge variety of garden plants and weeds to produce infusions, creams, balms etc – it was quite amazing what you can do with every day common weeds.

Our next meeting will be on Thursday 11 December at the Parish Church, Kinross at 2pm where Frazer Henderson will give a talk entitled 'Stars of the Celestial Mountains – The floral highlights of the Tien Shan'. Doors will be open from 1.30pm.

Menus will be available again (and we are taking numbers) for the January Lunch at The Orwell Bowling Club, which will be held on Tuesday 13 January 2026 at 1pm for 1.30pm.

Membership fees are £20 for the year and £5 for visitors. If you are new to Kinross-shire, or even if you are not, and interested in meeting fellow garden enthusiasts you will be made very welcome.

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

KYTHE

www.kythe.org.uk

KYTHE engages with over 400 young people each year, some are regular weekly attendees and others less frequently. At KYTHE, everyone is treated the same, which is incredibly important in the current economic climate with food poverty in many families. Food, be it soup, homemade pizza or toasties, is provided free of charge, so cost is not a barrier (although individuals can donate if they wish).

This issue becomes more pressing over the school holidays when free and subsidised school meals are not available.





Bring and buy planes for sale!

Therefore, over the last few years, KYTHE has provided a Christmas goodie bag to between 80 and 100 young people. These bags do contain a few goodies, sweets, biscuits and an advent calendar, but mainly everyday essentials such as toothbrush, toothpaste, facecloths and soap or shower gel.

On average these bags cost £10, so KYTHE would be very grateful for your support this year. Many people now choose to give to charity rather than send Christmas cards, so please consider KYTHE as your charity, or just give generously to support the young people of Kinross-shire. Use the link <https://kythe.org.uk/donate/>.

Young people can also find Christmas a lonely time as they won't have the usual contact with friends, and family circumstances can be strained. Therefore, to reduce this KYTHE will be open on Monday 29 December and Monday 5 January, both at 2-4pm at the KYTHE Hub for drop ins.

Kinross Radio Model Flying Club (KRMFC)

krmfc.bmfa.club

Find us on Facebook



As we mentioned in last month's *Newsletter*, the club held a bring and buy sale at the end of October. This took two parts – firstly, a previous club chairman (Bob Livingstone) was selling off a lot of his equipment and that included glow engines, balsa wood and covering materials. He was also selling off some of his planes and brought those along in his car; potential buyers knew in advance that these were available. The second part of the bring and buy was the more traditional turn up with what you have and sell it approach. Both worked very well and the sale was well attended. The hot sellers were the balsa wood and all of the building materials in general. The glow engines were a little bit more of a slow burner but by the end of the day a good number were sold. These also continued to be sold on 'out of hours market trading' as well!

The maintenance part of the day didn't really happen as the weather conditions were wet. Nevertheless, a maintenance day held earlier in the year managed to tackle the majority

of the tasks and we are confident the remaining jobs can be done on an ad-hoc basis.

The monthly indoor event took place in November and featured some new planes bought at the bring and buy, including a flying saucer. The owner has nicknamed it 'dinner plate' although other club members have suggested 'dogs' dinner' might be a better choice.

The club newsletter was also published and was a bumper edition at 27 pages. All of these are available to read on the club website so if you are interested in seeing what we are up to in more detail feel free to take a look.

If you just want to see our latest antics at the field and indoors, the best way to see that is on our Facebook page (search for Kinross Radio Model Flying Club).

Loch Leven Library

www.culturepk.org.uk

Tel: 01577 867205.

Email lochlevenlibrary@culturepk.org.uk.



Opening Times

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

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

Events

Children's Christmas Crafts: Every Saturday in December, the library will be hosting children's Christmas crafts.

Lunchtime Concert: Come and listen to musicians from Kinross High School as they present a free lunchtime concert for our community on Thursday 18 December from 1.25pm -1.55pm.

Loch Leven Community Library Code Club: Come along and join in with Scratch coding. Our sessions are designed to help children learn the basics of computer programming

using Scratch, including creating simple computer games and animations. The club will run weekly from 4pm to 5pm, starting Thursday 15 January 2026.

To book a place, please call the library on 01577 867 154. Parents are welcome to stay, but it is not a requirement. Suitable for ages 9-13 years old. Places are limited, so please book early to avoid disappointment.

Regular Sessions

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

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

Digital Skills. Are you struggling to make sense of the digital world? Would you like to learn more about your tablet, phone, laptop or any digital device?

Why not pop into our IT sessions for one-to-one support? You could learn how to send emails, download apps, and surf the internet – topics covered would be specific to your needs. By taking the first step and booking a 45-minute, face-to-face session it might just make a big difference to your life.

The sessions are monthly. Anyone interested in attending a session can book their time slot by phoning the library on 01577 867205.

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

Interested in writing? The next Creative Writing Group sessions will be on Wednesday 3 December from 6.30pm to 9pm. Please contact the library if you would like more information.

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

Christmas and New Year: Loch Leven Community Library will be closed from 3pm on Wednesday 24 December, and will reopen on Tuesday 6 January 2026 at 10am.



Kinross (Marshall) Museum



It has been a busy time at the museum. The new exhibition 'Kirk and Community' is now open within the museum in Loch Leven Community Campus.

It can be said that since the reign of King David in the mid-twelfth century, the Church in Scotland has defined the physical and spiritual boundaries for the nation's communities. The establishment of parish boundaries, sometimes adjusted, remains to this day.

Church organisations and buildings, of various denominations, have throughout history had a close-knit involvement in all aspects of community life; influencing culture, identity, education, welfare and record-keeping.

The modern history of the technological age is seeing dramatic changes in the make-up of our local communities. Physical changes on the ground inevitably impact on the feelings of local community spirit.

This exhibition looks at some of the changes that have taken place within rural parishes of Kinross-shire. In particular, those villages which have lost, or are losing, their church buildings, as well as many other important touchstones of community life. Some facilities have left the county entirely.

There are exhibition displays centred on the parish communities of Fossoway (specifically, in Blairingone), Portmoak (Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell), Arngask (Glenfarg) and Cleish.

The displays can be seen during Library opening hours, and the museum study room is open on Thursdays from 10am to 7pm and Saturdays from 10am to 1pm.

There has also been the Annual General Meeting of the Kinross (Marshall) Museum Trust. The Trust was established in 1997, and Professor Munro has been Chair since the very beginning. At this year's AGM it was unanimously agreed that he should become the Honorary President of the Trust. Dr Gareth Thomas has become the new Chair for the Trust and he can be contacted on chair@kinrossmuseum.org.uk.

The Friends of Kinross Museum is a separate charity (SC 027615), whose objective is 'to advance the education of the general public by supporting the preservation and management of the Kinross Museum'. It's more fun than it may sound, and it's having its AGM at the museum study rooms on Thursday 11 December, at 5pm. Please feel free to come along and find out more. Or email friends@kinrossmuseum.org.uk.

Kinross Repair Cafe



We are into December now and Christmas is fast approaching.

If you are stressed thinking about gifts, cooking and all the money needed – do not despair. We will help you to mend and sparkle with some of last year's things, and give you ideas on how you could save money and help the environment.

The next Repair Café is on Tuesday, 2 December, 7-9pm at the Loch Leven Campus. It is a special evening event, as we are joining with the Climate Café in the 'Jolly Good Fix'.

Our repairers for textiles, electrics, and all household things will help to repair and mend your faulty Christmas decorations, outfits, winter jumpers and anything that is dear to you. We will also have a Christmas raffle and there will be lots of things on offer from Climate Café Kinross-shire.

You do not need the excuse of Christmas though – we will be



doing our usual repairs, so anything that you bring on the day is welcome, and our repair volunteers will take any challenge.

As 2025 closes to end, I would like to thank all our volunteers at Kinross-shire Repair Café for their amazing support – each single event was a great community event giving an opportunity to repair broken things, save money and reduce waste and environmental damage. This would not have been possible without you!

We are very grateful to all who came with broken things and supported our events in 2025 with generous donations, which will help us to continue in 2026. The next year will bring exciting developments of the new offers from us to the community.

Firstly we are planning to host monthly meetings every second Saturday of each month starting from 14 February, between 10 am and 12 pm. So shorter, but more often and in the same place – Loch Leven Community Campus.

We are also hoping to expand what we do, with our newest volunteer bringing sharpening skills, which at the moment is in the planning process.

I hope you took part in the Green Living Fund vote for great local community projects. While we are awaiting the results due on 27 November, we are hoping to organise in collaboration with KLEO a full-day repair festival in May. This would bring repair cafe and the local businesses together to celebrate circular economy spirit. It will be part of a wider repair festival in 2026 across all Perth and Kinross. Fingers crossed for the funding.

All the new programme of local repairs will be achieved with volunteers. We're still on the lookout for new volunteers—especially those skilled in electrics, jewellery or woodwork. And if you are skilled in organising and in publicity of events, maybe you could help us too.

If you've got a knack for fixing or organising and a heart for helping, we'd love to welcome you to the team.

Meanwhile, it will be a while before the February event, so do come and join us on 2 December for our last event in 2025.

We're grateful to Loch Leven Community Campus for hosting this event and helping us to develop a repair culture in Kinross-shire.

Contact Gosia Stanton, kinrossrepaircafe@gmail.com

Kinross & District Men's Shed

www.kinrossmensshed.org



Please see the feature on p29 to read all about our Time Capsule project.

The months of October and November were very busy for us at KDMS as we produced many items for our stall at the 'Festive Market' held in November. As far as festivities go we will be holding our annual Christmas party at Milnathort Golf Club on 11 December. Fine fare, of course and we are delighted that we will be entertained by our very own band, 'The Shrinking Violets'.

Kinross and District Men's shed will again be designated an official 'warm space' this winter. Our premises at 15 Swansacre will be open each Monday between 1pm and 3pm until March 2026. Refreshments will be available.

On a final note, all of us at KDMS would like to send our best wishes and thanks to Shona Fowler our NHS Community Liaison Officer, who retired on 11 November. Shona has guided KDMS for many years, always offering professional advice and direction for which we are so very grateful. A very happy retirement Shona.

The Members of Kinross and District Men's Shed we would like to send our best wishes to everyone for a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year!

Kinross High School

Ukraine Appeal

A huge thank you to our school pupils, staff, parents and wider community for all the donations to the Ukraine Christmas Box Appeal. So much generosity for a great cause!



Halloween Fundraising

The S6 Charities Committee had a Halloween bake sale in the street to raise money for our school charities. Thank you to all pupils and staff that participated in the bake sale and the Halloween dress-up day. Both events have helped to raise money for our school charities UNICEF and Cancer Research UK. A special well done to the Halloween costume competition winners Cameron T, Juliet, Eilidh, Logan and Cameron H.

Sustainability Conference

Higher Geography pupils took part in a networking event about sustainability at Bertha Park High School. They looked at where clothes come from, what materials they are made from and how to dispose of them sustainably.

Dr Bridget Bradley from the University of St Andrews spoke about 'climate anxiety'. Anya Kaufman from Strathclyde University explained what *meta-skills* are and why they matter. Pupils looked at the future of fashion and renewable energy.

Crazy Golf

Our Higher Design & Manufacture pupils are designing a feature for a crazy golf course. They're currently researching to create their specification. We had an excellent afternoon of rapid creation and prototyping, where they built, simulated, and tested their initial ideas right on the course.

Right: KHS Pupils and their Ukraine Christmas Box Appeal.

Barcelona

During the October Holidays 40 pupils and 5 staff travelled to Barcelona. All involved had a wonderful time by practising their Spanish, learning some Catalan and experiencing this vibrant city first hand. Highlights for the pupils included a shopping challenge on the famous 'Las Ramblas', a photo challenge at the Gaudi Houses, volleyball at the beach and a tasty paella at the Nervion restaurant.

Spanish Day

A group of students from Colegio Kostka in Santander spent the morning with our exam Spanish students at Kinross High. The Scottish pupils impressed our Spanish guests with their talking skills and they also helped our new Spanish friends learn lots of new phrases in English. An amazing morning! Well done everyone.

Mental Health First Aid Training

S5/6 pupils completed their Mental Health First Aid Training in preparation for becoming Mental Health Ambassadors. They spent time developing their action plan for the year ahead. Thank you to The Lighthouse for supporting. A further group of senior pupils will complete this training in January.

Rotary Young Chef

Congratulations to all who took part.

Our judges were Daniel Fu Tong from The Grouse and Claret, Mrs Poller and Mrs Paterson from Rotary and they had a difficult task to decide on the winners. The final result was:

1st Eilidh Donaldson

2nd Lois Macdonald

3rd Brodie Lee.

Thanks to the Rotary Club for supporting the competition. Eilidh will now represent the school in the next heat.

Alumni News

Former KHS pupil, Freya Conway, has a part in the film 'I Swear'

which was released in cinemas in October. Freya attended KHS from 2016-2022. She has Tourette's Syndrome and is currently at university studying to be a Home Economics teacher.

Sporting Prowess

Pupils attended an Active Schools' Volleyball Ambassadors' course. They learned how to develop volleyball as a fun activity as well as the physical, mental, technical and tactical aspects of the sport, all while developing their own personal skills. Described as 'awesome' and 'inspiring' these young leaders will now put their leadership skills into action.

Scottish Volleyball's first ever Tartan Talent Pathway Residential Camp took place in October. Eilidh (KHS) enrolled on the four-day intensive training programme which hopes to identify future international players and support them on their journey.

Well done to the S1 boys who took part in their first football match against Crieff High School. After falling behind early on, they managed to come back winning 4-1. It was a very competitive match with excellent play from both sides. Thank you to Crieff High School for hosting us!

The S3 football team have scored 12 goals in their last 2 games. A 6-2 win against Dunfermline High in the Scottish Cup and a 6-0 win against Auchterarder in the PKC cup. The team are next in action on 18 November where they will play against Robert Gordon's College in the next round of the Scottish Cup.

KHS pupils took part in the Perth and Kinross Swimming Gala and came 2nd team overall in the competition. They took home individual gold medals for Aila (S2) and Johnny (S6). All pupils who attended won a medal in either the individual events or the relay. Huge thanks to parent helpers Gareth and Lyndsey.

Maths

A number of our talented S5 and S6 Mathematicians took part in the UKMT Senior Maths Challenge, a national





Rotary Young Chef Winners with judges Daniel Fu Tong from The Grouse and Claret and Mrs Poller and Mrs Paterson from The Rotary Club.

competition designed to stretch and inspire students with a love for problem-solving.

The UK Mathematics Trust (UKMT) runs a series of challenges aimed at promoting mathematical thinking among young people. These competitions encourage students to tackle interesting and challenging problems that go beyond the standard curriculum, helping them develop logical reasoning and creative problem-solving skills.

We are delighted to share our students' fantastic achievements, with six bronze, eight silver and two gold awards. An extra congratulations to Hayden and Finlay, who have been invited to take part in the next round of the competition, which is by invitation only. We look forward to hearing how they get on!

Broke Not Broken Christmas Hamper Appeal

Kinross High School has contributed to this appeal for the last decade, and we are supporting it once again. Each TSG class will have a box for donations, and this will be collected until Friday 5 December. Thank you once again for your support.

Rotary Young Musician

Come along and support our young musicians at 7pm on Tuesday 9 December 2025 in the Drama Studio. Admission is free!

Christmas Concert

Our Christmas Concert takes place at 7pm on Wednesday 17 December 2025. Tickets are £5 and are available from the School Shop.

300 Club

The winner numbers for September in the 300 club are:

1st – 80

2nd - 271

3rd - 137

Milnathort Bridge Club



As 2025 draws to a close MBC makes plans for its year end party evening. Monday 22 December will be the last night for the year. As is the custom it becomes a night of bridge with a difference. This year it will take the form of a 'Hat Night' when a draw for partnerships will be made from a hat. It is a fun night with play not taken too seriously as partners may not be familiar with each others systems of play.

However prizes are awarded at the end of the evening to winning couples. To complete the festivities everyone is treated to a lavish supper. Do get in the spirit of the evening and get out that Christmas gear. Play starts again 2026 on Monday 5 January.

At MBC Christmas party full of cheer,

The bridge players are warned every year:

If you don't don your sweater—

And the louder, the better—

You'll be trumped or call a misdeal, I fear!

RESULTS

North/South

East/West

27 October

Sandy Greenhill/Jan Hill

Linda Bayne/Susie Ballantyne

3 November

Sandy Greenhill/
Bob Robertson

Ian Paton/Pat Cook

10 November

Ian Paton / Pat Cook

Diane Parmenter/Wendy Owens

17 November

Donna Stevenson/Pat Cook Jim Marshall/Beryl Harley



Kinross Squirrels

Our squirrels had a terrifyingly good time at their Halloween Party for their first meeting of the winter term. There were evil cackles galore as they bobbed for apples, turned each other into mummies, sang Halloween songs and tackled the tricky challenge of eating doughnuts with no hands! We might have ended up a little soggy, sticky and wrapped in loo roll... but we had the best time!

At the end of the meeting we presented badges to those who missed the badge presentation at the end of last term. Congratulations to Ramsay and Xander who were awarded the Chief Scout's Acorn Award, which is the highest award in the Squirrel section!

The squirrels were celebrating Bonfire Night for the second meeting of the term as they got creative colouring and drawing their own fantastic fireworks pictures. They also went on a tasty adventure around the world, sampling foods from different countries — crunchy poppadoms from India, flaky croissants from France and cheese from Holland (which wasn't too popular!) They did an amazing job matching each treat to its flag. To finish off the evening, we made edible bonfire biscuits.

Then on the Sunday the squirrels gathered at Kinross Parish Church as they joined the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade — they were amazing despite the rain which couldn't stop their big smiles and enthusiasm! We are so proud of how they all represented the group — what a fantastic effort from our youngest members of the Scout Group (and the grown-ups who got just as soggy!)



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 for more information.

Kinross Beavers

On Friday 31 October, our first night back of the winter term, a small group of beavers had a spooktacular evening ducking for apples, making paper pumpkins, guessing the ghoulish thing in the box (Troll bogies, witches hair, pumpkin guts etc) and finishing the evening with some games. The costumes were great — well done to all.

The following week the beavers took part in a number of activities. To celebrate bonfire night they made edible bonfires from digestive biscuits, chocolate spread, mini marshmallows, strawberry laces and matchmakers. Delicious. They also focused on their faith badge which saw them completing a couple of tasks including having a round table discussion of what they are good at and how they intend to get better at their chosen activity.

A big congratulations also to Lewis who was invested into the Colony at the end of the meeting.

A massive thank you to everyone who attended the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade on Sunday 9 November. Despite the heavy rain the Beavers all did a fantastic job representing the group with pride (and some very soggy smiles!). Well done, everyone!

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 for more information.

Kinross Cubs

It was fantastic to have the Cubs back at the end of October for the start of a new term — lots of smiles, laughter and energy all round! For our first night back the Cubs rotated around three activities in groups as they went over the Code of Conduct, looked at what to pack for a night hike and of course, played their favourite game — Colditz! A brilliant first night back and a great start to the term ahead!

Our second meeting of the term saw the cubs go on a fantastic adventure! Despite the rain, the cubs powered their way up Hill of Beath with smiles (and a few soggy socks). At the top, we were treated to an amazing view — fireworks lighting up the sky over Dunfermline, the Queensferry Crossing shining in the distance and even Mossmorran glowing away. A big well done to all the cubs for their enthusiasm and energy — rain never stops a good adventure!

Then on the following Sunday we got a healthy turnout despite the heavy rain for the Remembrance Sunday Service and Parade. The cubs represented the group brilliantly and showed great respect throughout. Well done to everyone (and to the leaders and parents who braved the weather too)!

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

Kinross Day Centre

There's been a change in the weather. I had to scrape the car this morning, so I hope everyone has got their heating on and is keeping warm.

Last month we had our Halloween party where we had lots of fun and hilarity. We were dooking for apples, dressing up and playing Irish Bingo. We had a good laugh at all the antics.





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Our preparations are well underway for Christmas. The Christmas tree is up in the front foyer and it's all looking very festive.

We have our Carol service on the Tuesday 16 December at around 1.45pm, Christmas lunch and concert on Wednesday 10 December and Christmas Bingo on Friday 19 December. We are all ready for a lot of Christmas fun.

We would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and hope you all have a lovely time. If you would to join us in the centre please give Nan a call on 01577 863869.

Milnathort in Bloom

It's that time of year again – cold, wet, dark. Never fear though, 21 December is the shortest day and things will improve from there!

Well, what a year we've had with Milnathort in Bloom. January saw the large planters at the Cross damaged by a traffic accident, we had a very long and hot spring and summer (which challenged our waterers), and we have a new floor and outer covering in our polytunnel.

We also lost our dear friend, Graeme Stewart. Graeme was an intrinsic part of Milnathort in Bloom, always going the extra mile, and he really is very much missed, both as a dear friend and fellow volunteer.

We'd like to take this opportunity, as it's the last *Newsletter* of the year, to thank those who have really made a difference to our lovely village this year.

First, we'd like to thank some lovely volunteers who really do go above and beyond for Milnathort in Bloom:

John Barclay: For all his hard work cutting the grass and hedges at the entrance to Auld Mart, and for keeping the path clear in the Community Orchard. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed.

Iain Cameron – Iain is responsible for the magnificent display of begonias and small bushes in Burleigh Road. He overwinters the begonias to ensure they're bigger and better every year. Also... loving the Hebes this year, Iain.

Anne Lamont – Anne has taken over the revamp and maintenance of the garden on Whyte Place. Her hard work produced a stunning display this year with the help of some willing friends.

Fergus Douds – Fergus set up the 'Hefting Group' to help with the periodic heavy lifting that needs to be done... hanging the baskets and shifting tubs and troughs. They've done a fantastic job and their help is very much appreciated.

James Porter and Stephen Hibbard – These guys were instrumental in the laying of the new floor in the polytunnel; the shifting of tons of gravel was truly back-breaking, well done guys.

June and Rob – These are very special people. They own the land where our polytunnel sits and are truly gracious hosts. Always ready for a chat, lending us tools and materials, managing some of our deliveries and managing the large compost heaps. We really are grateful to the both of you.

Carole Anderson – Carole manages the small flower bed at the Cross. She's done a brilliant job revamping it this year and it's looked lovely all summer.

Laura McConnell – Laura is our Treasurer and is a very patient human being. She has managed our finances admirably – our antique bank account doesn't make this an easy job.

We'd also like to thank those companies and organisations who have helped us with funding this year:

Arthur and Margaret Thompson Trust – Their donation allowed us to re-cover our polytunnel and lay some new flooring, making our tunnel a safe and draught-less place to be.

Perth and Kinross Council – The council provided the new commemorative benches for the War Memorial, and they look amazing, thank you.

Stewart and Smart Garage – For your support when our bloom buggy breaks down, the servicing of the buggy and many acts of kindness through the year – we thank you.

Milnathort Bridge Club – Thank you so much for your generous donation, this will help us greatly over the coming year.

John Ross (Kinross Wooden Products) – Your work to totally rebuild our cart on Stirling Road was brilliant, it will last us for many more years and looks fabulous.

We apologise if we've missed anyone. Please know that all the support from local residents and those who purchase hanging baskets every year is very much appreciated.

The Rotary Club of Kinross and District



www.ribi.org

We've been enjoying some fun and fellowship at Rotary recently.

On 20 October we celebrated the Battle of Trafalgar in naval style. Rotarian Patrick Santry was MC and directed lots of fun and audience participation. Clad in PPE (party hats) and well-armed (with parry poppers) we acted out the battle and sang along heartily to the rousing 'Heart of Oak' and 'The Drunken Sailor'. Patrick, aided by Gray Smith and Mike Russell (all ex-Navy) and Andy Middlemiss (ex-Army) told the story of the overwhelming victory and Nelson's demise. Much fun was had by all!

The following day we had a guided tour of Bayne's Bakery at Lochore. Graeme Tough (Bakery Manager) and John Bayne. Managing Director, showed us round the production lines. It was fascinating to see the familiar products in various stages of production and awesome to witness the scale. We were treated to generous gifts of baked treats at the end of our tour. Another thoroughly enjoyable event.

Although we focus primarily on humanitarian service, whether in the community or internationally, we enjoy some fun events with partners and guests. Why not join us and try it for yourself?

Specs Appeal

Thank you to all who have been donating used spectacles to our various collection points. Collecting bins can be found at Loch Leven Health Centre, Sainsburys, Ferrier and MacKinnon Optometrists, Kinross and Phoenix Eyecare, Milnathort...and

STEPPING STONES

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

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

ALL WELCOME



now also in the library. We've already collected from one full bin!

Young Writer

We're looking for keen young writers in Kinross-shire to participate in this year's Rotary Young Writer Competition.

This year the theme is **'Happiness in Nature'**. This can be interpreted as broadly as the Young Writer wishes. Young people are encouraged to use their creativity to show what this theme means to them.

Please note:

- Prose entries should be up to a maximum 550 words
- Poetry entries should be up to a maximum of 40 lines (Entries that exceed these maximum numbers will be disqualified).
- No pictures and/or drawings are to be part of the entry

We will be running a local heat for age* groups:

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

(*NB based on age as of 31 August 2025)

Entries should be submitted to secretary.kdrc@gmail.com by Tuesday 10 February 2026. Please ensure that the writer's first and last name is included, along with their date of birth.

Let's create some more winners! Local young people have been very successful in recent years!

Santa Claus is coming to the Shire!

Our major community event is of course, Santa's Sleigh. We held a briefing meeting with our supporting teams and we're ready to bring Santa to as much of Kinross-shire as we can manage.

See p11 for the full details of his route.

All of us at the Rotary Club of Kinross and District wish you a very happy and peaceful festive season!

Kinross Historical Society

The November talk was given by Dr Allan Kennedy on 'Scottish Imperialism and the Darien Scheme'. The scheme was launched in the 1690s with hopes for greatness, but collapsed within a couple of years, leaving the country doubting its own viability. Dr Kennedy debunked many of the popularly believed myths; the scheme didn't bankrupt the country and it didn't fail because of English treachery.

An empire was seen as an enhancement of national prestige and power. Without an empire a country was seen as second rate. It was also considered an economic advantage, especially when considering the amount of gold the Spanish had acquired in their conquests from the fifteenth century onwards. Colonies were seen as useful for international trade and a large empire shored up a country's economic standing. Religion was brought into consideration as the world was God's gift, and should be made the most of, which native populations were not doing.

Many people left Scotland for other countries in the seventeenth century and it was thought it would be better if they were to take their skills to a Scottish colony. Scotland was underdeveloped at this time, depending on agriculture rather than industry. There were limited opportunities except in Edinburgh. It was felt that imperialism would expand and increase the economy of this poor country. The glory of the empire would restore honour in the eyes of the larger neighbour England.

The Scots had already been involved in the Ulster plantations after 1603 with James VI and I. Scottish subjects were sent to Ireland to replace Irish Catholics with Scottish Protestants. By 1650, 20,000 had gone. This demonstrated that Scots could build communities overseas. They were also involved in populating Nova Scotia. The Scots piggybacked on England's empire by having a middleman in an English port, importing goods to England then sending them on to Scotland and vice versa.

Following the Nine Years War and poor harvests, a Scottish empire was seen as a silver bullet. There was a merchant class in Edinburgh and the Bank of Scotland had been founded. The Company of Scotland was set up trading with Africa and America. Raising money in London was quashed by the East India Company, so money had to be raised in Scotland. Investment mania took hold, with £400,000 being raised from nobility, the gentry and many ordinary Scots including doctors, ministers, students, writers and soldiers. There was great pride in the country and it was seen as a way of making money.

William Paterson, a Scot who was involved in setting up the Bank of England and was involved in the idea of setting up a colony in the Isthmus of Panama. This narrow strip of land between the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans could become a major trading centre and benefit the Scots.

Three ships set off from Leith and looked for a suitable place to settle. They built their capital, New Edinburgh, and set up Port St Andrews. Initially it all looked good and a rosy report was sent back to Scotland. This brought a thousand new settlers, but by the time they got there, most of the original settlers had died of disease and hunger due to lack of resources. The second group found the colony deserted and met the same problems as the first.

In 1700, Spanish troops laid siege to Port St Andrews and the Scots surrendered. Over 70% of the settlers died, including William Paterson. The failure was due to a lack of planning, and the failure to reconnoitre the site in advance. Spain now saw it as part of their empire, and as King William wanted peace with Spain, it didn't suit to have the Scots challenging them.

The Scots saw William's attitude as the reason for failure of the colony, impinging on Scotland's sovereignty, and tried to get William to reply, but without an act of Parliament he did not have to.

Eventually, in 1707, with the Union of the Parliaments, £400,000 was given to Scotland, which was the money lost, disguised as a share of England's national debt. But the money that had been invested in the Darien scheme had come from private individuals, not the public purse.

Dr Kennedy was thanked by Dr David Munro for a splendid talk, which had greatly helped members to understand the real truth of what happened.

The next talk will be by Dr David Munro on Monday 8 December on 'Tofts, Crofts and Commonities in Kinross'. All are welcome.

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

Scottish Women's Institute

Carnbo SWI

Mhairi Lavender welcomed all members and guests to the November meeting.

After business Mhairi introduced our speaker Sharon Buchanan who gave a very interesting demonstration on how to make a Christmas wreath and some lovely Christmas displays.

COMPETITIONS

Flower Of The Month: 1st Josephine Paterson, 2nd Molly White

Christmas Biscuit: 1st Sheila Reid

After tea and the raffle Mhairi wished us all a safe journey home.

Cleish SWI



President Anne Douglas welcomed everyone to our November meeting.

Robbie Craig (below) was presented with his award from Kinross Show and Anne Bayne received her long service to Cleish SWI award.

This was followed by a great hands on Christmas-themed crafting evening where everyday items like strings and buttons were used to decorate cards and gift tags.

Thank you to our expert crafters who demonstrated and were on hand to help.

COMPETITIONS

Christmas Card (any craft): 1st Jordan, 2nd Marion Laird, 3rd Julie White.

Decoration In A Wine Glass: 1st Lyn Lynn Hewitt, 2nd Jeanette Craig, 3rd Agnes Thomson.

Flower Of The Month: 1st Elinor Craig, 2nd Judith McLaren, Jeanette Craig.

Our next event is our Coffee Cake and Carols on 7 December in Cleish Village Hall at 2pm. Everyone is welcome to attend. Tea, coffee and home baking will be served.



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AT CARNBO HALL



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HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!



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Sports News



JKS Shojiki Karate

We have continued training hard towards the upcoming grading. We also had a student from the Kinross club compete at the JKS Scotland Grassroots tournament in Dunfermline. Joseph Ruscitto fought bravely to secure a bronze medal at this tournament. He won his first match 3-1 before bowing out in the Semi-final.

The club will be off for one week as all Instructors involved with the club will be heading to Japan on the 17th of November to participate in the JKS International Seminar in Tokyo.

We have also had the luxury of welcoming a number of new students to the club this month which is always great to see.

Kinross Golf Club

The Golf Club season has finished and we celebrate the achievements of many of our golfers across the summer. The first of these celebrations took place this week with the Junior Prize Giving, paying tribute to the many young golfers

who distinguished themselves on the golf courses this year. All age groups were represented and both our boys and girls were properly honoured with trophies and full acclaim. Congratulations go to all who took part and we wish all our winners the very best for their golfing futures. Our Social Calendar remains as busy as ever. The Golf Club is hosting



its usual Christmas Children's party on 21 December from 2.30pm to 5.30pm. Guests are very welcome to come along. We will have our own special red dressed guest on the day. The Club's Christmas Dance will be held on 29 November with the fabulous Phil Booth entertaining us all. We have a spectacular christmas menu





running throughout December to help get you all in the festive mood. And of course New Year would not be the same without a proper Hogmanay. The Hogmanay party at Kinross Golf Club remains a highlight of the season in Kinross. Do come and celebrate with us. Tickets for all these events can be secured by contacting the bar manager at the club on 01577 862237.

Kinross Otters

Kinross Otters Celebrate a Successful 2025 Club Championships

Kinross Otters enjoyed a memorable day of competition at their 2025 Club Championships, held this year at Perth Leisure Pool. The change of venue brought a fresh atmosphere and an energetic day of racing for swimmers, coaches and families alike.

Throughout the event, the Otters showcased not only their athletic talent but also their strong team spirit. Competitors cheered one another on from the poolside, all while

demonstrating the grit and determination that define the club. One of the day's most entertaining highlights was the parents' and open races. In a fun role reversal, young swimmers became coaches, offering technique tips and occasionally honest critiques, to help parents master their dives from the starting blocks. Despite everyone's best efforts, a few spectacular belly flops still made an appearance.

The club extended heartfelt thanks to the many parents who volunteered as timekeepers, judges and referees, ensuring the meet ran smoothly and fairly. The Otters also expressed their gratitude to Perth City Swim Club for sharing their pool time, without which the Championships would not have been possible.

A special acknowledgement was reserved for Fiona Crawford, whose expertise was invaluable in running the gala. A former Scottish Swimming President and a long-time supporter of Kinross Otters, Fiona has played an important role in district competitions over the years. Coach Euan fondly recalled her days leading his land-training sessions, often encouraging his best attempts at planking. Her experience helped ensure that this year's Championships ran smoothly.

The 2025 Club Championships proved to be a celebration not only of sporting achievement but also of community, teamwork and dedication, qualities that lie at the heart of Kinross Otters.

All results will be officially unveiled at the club's Awards Night on 12 December.

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Kinross Hockey Club

The new hockey season is upon us and here's three "senior" players (above) who are looking forward to this years' leagues matches, supporting their brand new shirts.

Kinross Tennis Club

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

Email: kinrosstennis@gmail.com/

kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

Find us on Facebook @[kinrosstennisclub](#) and

[@siobhanmaCleodtennis](#)

As winter settles in, things understandably quieten down a little at Kinross Tennis Club, with occasional frost and plenty of rain reducing opportunities for play; however, our LED floodlights that were installed earlier in the year ensure that play is possible in the evenings with minimal cost to players and the environment.

Plenty of members of all ages have been enjoying tennis through October and November. Lots of junior players took part in our final outdoor friendly matchplay of the season. There were 20 players in total on court, and the Kinross players were joined by players from Aberdour, Falkland and

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Glenrothes tennis Clubs.

The outdoor coaching will finish up for the year in December and then Siobhan and the coaching team will move indoors to Loch Leven Community Campus in January and February. There will also be the exciting new addition of adult Pickleball classes! For more information on coaching, please contact Siobhan at kinrosstenniscoaching@gmail.com

Hopefully the winter chill will relent sufficiently to allow our members to enjoy some festive tennis on the courts. All at KTC would like to wish our members and everyone across the community in and around Kinross a wonderful festive season and a very Happy New Year!



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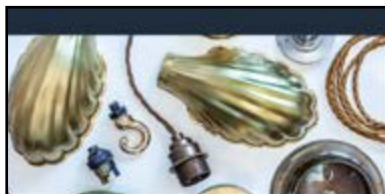
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 Morar Road,
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“ **A bit about me...**

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

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RSPB Loch Leven

Facebook.com/RSPBTaysideFife www.rspb.org.uk/lochleven

Telephone: 01577 862355



Photo by Ava Sheehan

I CAN'T BELIEVE we are already in December! It has been a very busy year here at the Reserve with lots going on. We have hosted lots of great workshops and guided walks over the last 12 months and we have lots of exciting workshops in the early planning stages for next year. We had another great performance from the Festival Players in July, the weather that evening was beautiful. We had fully booked osprey and pink-footed geese watches; these are always very popular and book up very quickly.

We have welcomed new staff members to our office, cafe and shop. Our shop has some lovely Christmas gifts and cards available to purchase; just a reminder the shop is open 7 days a week from 10-4pm now that our winter hours have started.

On Saturday 6 and Sunday 7 December join us for a Winter Wildlife after dark family self-led trail! From 4pm explore the reserve while it's dark, search for the hidden animals, and learn what each animal gets up to over winter. You'll even get a complimentary hot chocolate to warm up once you've completed the trail! Spaces are limited so please purchase your tickets in advance from our website. From Monday 8 December till Sunday 4 January our Christmas trail will also be running, pick up your trail sheets in our Visitor Centre, £3 per sheet.

Looking ahead to January we have a Birdwatching for Beginners event on Saturday 17 January. Join us on a guided walk of RSPB Loch Leven, where you will learn all about birdwatching, and how to identify different bird species. We'll explore both woodland and wetland habitats. Knowledgeable guides will be on hand to help answer your questions; this is a great opportunity to get started with birdwatching. Tickets for this event also need to be booked.

If you're looking for an activity for kids during the winter months, you can still hire our Nature Quest backpacks every day between 10-4pm, you don't need to prebook, just pop along to our visitor centre. To find out more about our events programme head to events.rspb.org.uk/lochleven.

Our cafe is open from 10am-3pm each day, and 10am-4pm for the shop and visitor centre. We will be closed on Thursday 25 and Friday 26 December and Thursday 1 and Friday 2 January. Our car park, trails, hides and toilets are always open.

To keep up to date with any changes to our opening hours,

please visit www.rspb.org.uk/days-out/reserves/loch-leven, or get in touch on lochleven@rspb.org.uk, 01577 862355. Wishing you all a peaceful Christmas and a very Happy New Year!

Elinor Craig

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Photo by Lorne Gill



OVER WINTER WHEN temperatures start to drop, you often see less activity from red squirrels. They don't hibernate but they will spend more time in their dreys to keep warm.

Throughout autumn they are extremely active whilst foraging and storing food for the winter, and they can often be seen them digging through ground looking for any nuts or seeds they may have buried earlier in the year.

To give them a helping hand we have got feeders out near the Pier car park, Mary's Gate and at Levenmouth. We won't be constantly filling them as we wouldn't want them to become too dependant on them, but when we do it provides a great opportunity for people to get great views of them.

We have been continuing our goose and wetland bird surveys of the loch, with recent exciting sightings of spotted redshank and red-crested pochard.

We have most likely reached peak numbers for overwintering birds, with thousands of coot and tufted duck, and hundreds of pochard and goldeneye bringing up the numbers. As the trees continue to lose leaves it allows better opportunities to see some of our smaller birds.

Tits often travel in mixed flocks between the trees, so you're likely to have great, blue and coal tits together, and if your lucky a flock

of long-tailed tits joining as well. Other birds can also often be found among them, such as goldcrests or treecreepers.

In November we said goodbye to our remaining seasonal reserve officer Bella, who has been a brilliant asset to the team, bringing with her a passion for birds and wildlife, as well as excellent visitor engagement, as many local people who frequent the heritage may have gotten to know her. We want to say a massive thank you and wish her all the best in the future.

Our volunteers have been busy continuing to keep the reserve tidy for visitors and will be helping to create this year's Christmas character trail! It will be back up near Burleigh again this year, with interesting folk lore and some new installations, so keep an eye on our socials for updates!

We want to thank everyone for coming along to our wreath making event, and would like to remind anyone who may be making their own, if you are taking materials from the reserve or parks, especially berries, make sure to not take too many from a single plant, as wildlife relies on them in the winter.

To keep updated with whats going on the reserve have a look at our social media (Facebook and Instagram) and feel free to get in touch at lochleven_nnr@nature.scot.

Sally Reay

Loch Leven Nature Reserve Officer

Weather

Recent Weather Reports From Kinross September 2025

Total Rainfall	82.3mm/3.29in	
Heaviest Fall	18.6mm/0.74in	(14 Sept)
Total Sunshine	145.9 hrs	
Sunniest Day	9.3 hrs	(1 Sept)
Max Temp Average	16.6°C	
Highest Temp	20.5°C	(9 Sept)
Min Temp Average	2.72°C	
Lowest Temp	-6.4°C	(21 Sept)



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WE ARE NOW fully into winter routine here at Backward Farm. All the cattle are now enjoying the cosy comfort of their sheds enjoying the full board all inclusive service option for all meals. How many stars they would award me for accommodation and service I'm not sure and it's maybe just as well they can't talk.

I would like to think I provide a five star Gleneagles experience with fine dining (but no golf course). The reality is that they would probably describe it as more of a Fawlty Towers event surrounded by chaos and disorganisation, although I do try to provide them with gourmet night dining with the best quality silage to feast on and the finest straw bedding to lie on.

Whatever their thoughts, they are stuck with it for the next 6 months or so! I reckon we have a good supply of feed and bedding to satisfy their demands until spring, and we have had the silage analysed to find out its nutritional value so we can best target how we feed it. The younger growing cattle will be given the bales with the highest levels of energy and protein where as the adult cows will be given more of the slightly less nutritious bales. Some of the best quality bales will be saved for feeding to the sheep later in the winter if we need to.

The rams are out with the ewes just now signalling the start of the next sheep breeding year. We thought we would take some blood samples from the ewes to find out if there were any nutritional issues, vitamin or mineral deficiencies or underlying disease pressures among the flock. We did this because we have been slightly disappointed with the number of lambs produced in recent years so blood testing a portion of the ewes is a good way of finding out if there are any obvious problems among them.

The results which came from this suggested that there was nothing significantly wrong with them, but a couple of trace elements were slightly lower than ideal which gives us something to try and fine tune with their nutrition to help improve the lambing percentage. We will try to manage the sheep better in particular around the breeding season in future.

We will wait to see how they perform this year.



The onset of the festive season heralds a busy time for Ian and Kerry with Christmas markets and orders to fulfil. It's very humbling and gratifying when customers put their trust in your produce to give them something a bit special for the celebrations. It is, however also quite nerve racking in case the quality doesn't meet expectations. Selling direct to the end consumer is a good way for a smaller farm like ours to make the most from what we produce at the same time as providing value to our customers by shortening the supply chain. Without a doubt, the best part of what we do is when we receive compliments from people about the quality of our meat. This is something which rarely happens in farming as we generally sell through processors, packers or supermarkets which, although is highly traceable through the supply chain, it is also very impersonal.

Wishing everyone in *Newsletter* country a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year surrounded by good food and good company.

John



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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.**



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KINROSS

& MILNATHORT

Orwell Farm, KY13 9HB

08.30 – 16.30 Weekdays
09.00 – 13.00 Saturdays



DIRECTIONS

CALL: 01577 840 272



Kinross-shire Centre

Scottish Charity SC004968

64 High Street
Kinross
KY13 8AJ

Weekly Programme For December

Monday	Hearing Aid Clinic (1 Dec ONLY)	10am-12pm
	Careers Drop in (8, 22 Dec ONLY)	10.30-3pm
	Exercise Class	11.30am
Tuesday	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble, Dominoes	1.30pm
	Vision PK (2, 16 Dec ONLY)	10-11.45am
	'Stride for Life' Walking Group	2.00pm
	Exercise Class	10am
	Trishaws (weather permitting) (2, 9, 23 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Singing Group (9 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Curling, Quizzes etc (2, 9, 23 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
Wednesday	Carol Concert (16 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Church Service (3, 10, 17 Dec ONLY)	11.15am
Thursday	Christmas Lunch & Concert (BOOKING ESSENTIAL) (10 Dec ONLY)	12.00pm
	Reminiscence Group (3 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Fun Quiz (3, 17 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Games: Indoor Curling, Quizzes (3, 17 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Craft Group (5, 19 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Chiropody Service (18 Dec – appts only)	10am-1pm
	Interactive Games (4, 11, 18 Dec ONLY)	11.30am
Friday	Exercise Class with Kenny (4, 11, 18 Dec ONLY)	11.30am
	Games: Curling, Quizzes, Scrabble (4, 11, 18 Dec ONLY)	1.15pm
	Art Group (4, 11, 18 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Exercise Group (5, 12, 19 Dec ONLY)	11.30am
	Trishaws (weather permitting)(5, 12, 19 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
Friday	Board Games (5, 12, 19 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Bingo (5, 12 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Christmas Bingo & Raffle (19 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
	Life Story Books (5, 12, 19 Dec ONLY)	1.30pm
		1.30pm



Film shows • Cards
 Dominoes • Art Class
 Exercises • Chiropody
 Trips • Daily Papers

All Activities Subject To Change. Activities May Be Added.

We would like to thank all our service users, committee, volunteers and the whole community of Kinross and surrounding areas, for your continued support of Kinross Centre.

KINROSS CENTRE
 64 HIGH STREET KINROSS KY13 8AJ
 TEL/FAX: 01577 863869; Email: kinrossdaycentre@outlook.com
 COFFEE BAR OPEN TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC from 8.30am - 3.30pm
 Dominoes; Exercises; Lunches Daily

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

Here if you need us
 Talk to us, we'll listen

Call free day or night on
116 123



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.

Applications for this vacancy are now being assessed.

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

Facebook: Kinross Parish Church of Scotland

YouTube: Kinross Parish Worship; Instagram: kpcscotland

E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Office Tel: (01577) 862570

The Kinross Church Office is open 10am-12noon, Mon & Fri.

Otherwise operating remotely. Leave a phone message or email.

Contact the Kinross Church Office for the weekly email of Kinross Church events and Zoom details.

REGULAR SERVICES AND EVENTS IN KINROSS

Events are in Kinross Church unless otherwise indicated. Check weekly email and website for changes over Christmas.

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. There is a corner in the church for parents with babies/toddlers.

Refreshments and Fairtrade Stall after most services

Sunday morning services are also available online: live on YouTube and Facebook; thereafter on YouTube, Facebook and the church website. Listen by phone on 01577 528270, or request a CD

6.00pm: **Sunday Evening Prayer**, on Zoom

6.00pm: **Crossfire**, church centre. Age P7 & up

Mondays

10am-12pm: Kinross Church Office open to visitors

2.00pm: **Bridge and Board Games Afternoon**

7.30pm: **Adult Dungeons and Dragons** (fortnightly)

7.30pm: **House Group** Bible study & fellowship

Tuesdays

10-11.30am: **Stepping Stones** for babies, toddlers and carers

2.30pm: **House Group**

7.00pm: **Guild** fortnightly (now finished for the winter)

Wednesdays

11.15am **Midweek Service**, in the Church Centre Garden Room.

1.30pm: **Craft Group**

7.45pm: **Men's House Group**

8.00pm: **Women's House Group**

Thursdays

10.30am: **House Group**

11am-12pm: **Table Talk** – chat on Zoom

8.00pm: **Young Mum's House Group** on Zoom.

Fridays

10am-12pm: Kinross Church Office open to visitors.

5.30pm: **Youth Dungeons and Dragons** (fortnightly)

Boys' Brigade and Girls' Association,
(Church Centre)

6pm-7.15pm **Anchor Section** (P1-P3)

7pm-9.00pm **Junior Section** (P4-P6)

7pm-9.30pm **Company Section** (P7-S3)

7pm-9.30pm **Senior Section** (S4-S6)

OTHER SERVICES AND EVENTS

In Kinross Church unless otherwise indicated.

DECEMBER

Mon 1 8am: **Guided Silent Meditation**

Sat 6 9.30am-12.30pm: **Coffee Morning and Stalls** in Church Centre. Run by Kinross Church Flower Group. Local Makers, Fairtrade and Craft Group stalls

Sun 7 10.30am: **Quarterly Communion Service** Special collection at this and Christmas Services for our partner church of Mombwe, in Malawi

7pm: **Sunday@7** informal worship

Fri 12 5.30pm: **Youth Dungeons and Dragons**

Sun 14 2.30pm: **Let's Sing** in Church Centre. Big Christmas Sing. Tea and a sing for all, but especially for those living with dementia and their carers.

Tues 16 10am: **Stepping Stones Christmas Party**
Starts back 20 January

Thu 18 9pm: Evening service of **Compline**

Fri 19 7pm: **Kinross Community Carols**

Led by Loch Leven Church, hosted in Kinross Church.

Sat 20 11am: **All Friends Together**

for adults with learning disabilities

Mon 22 6pm: **Bereavement Service**

A service of quiet remembrance and thanksgiving for those missing a loved one at Christmas.

Wed 24 **CHRISTMAS EVE**

4.30pm: **Crib Service** for families

11.15 pm: **Watchnight Service**

Thu 25 **CHRISTMAS DAY**

10.30am: **Family Service**

Sun 28 10.30am: **Joint Kinross-shire Churches Service** in Kinross Church

Cleish and Fossoway

Part of Kinross-shire Parish Church

Cleish Church: Cleish, Kinross-shire, KY13 0LR

Fossoway Church: Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0PQ

Our churches are very warm and welcoming places. Fossoway Church is situated in Crook of Devon and services are held here weekly. Cleish Church is situated in Cleish, services are held monthly. Come and join us – we would love to meet you. All are welcome at any of our meetings and services.

If you would like any more information, please contact:

Christine Sime: 07759 463448, revcsime@gmail.com

Anne McKay: 07766 418016, annemckay90@gmail.com

Christine Maclure: 07704 884584, maclure19@gmail.com

Updates and changes to the dates below can be found on our church website: <https://cleishandfossowaychurches.org.uk>,

or on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/fossowaychurch>

The following services will take place at Fossoway Church, unless otherwise stated:

DECEMBER

Sat 6 Dec: 3.00pm, Singalong at Christmas

Community carol service with the choirs of Fossoway Church and Fossoway Primary School – refreshments afterwards

Sun 7 Dec: Second Sunday in Advent *Prince of Peace*

Sunday Morning Worship

9.45am (Fossoway) & 11.15am (Cleish)

Fairtrade stall and refreshments after both services

Sun 14 Dec: Third Sunday in Advent *Finding Joy*

9.45am Sunday Morning Worship,

Refreshments will be available after both services

Sun 21 Dec: Fourth Sunday in Advent

9.45am *Love Amongst Us* at Fossoway, and

3.00pm *The Whole Story of Christmas*

a quiet, reflective service at Cleish

Refreshments after both services

Wed 24 Dec: CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm Family Christmas Eve Service

11pm Watchnight Service

Carols from 11pm, Service starts 11.15pm

Thu 25 Dec: CHRISTMAS DAY

9.45am Christmas Day Family Service

Sun 28 Dec: 10.30am Joint Service with the Kinross-shire Parish Church Worship Centres at Kinross Church

There will be no service at either Fossoway or Cleish on this day

REFRESH THURSDAY

Refresh will be taking a break over the festive period.

The last Refresh of 2025 will be 11 Dec

then returning on 8 Jan 2026

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 7 Dec 7.30pm: THE SALT PATH (12)

The Salt Path is an inspiring story of husband and wife, Raynor and Moth Winn's 630-mile trek along the beautiful southwest coast of England. After being forcibly removed from their home, they make the decision to walk, seeking solace and a sense of acceptance in nature. The film is a story of hope and resilience with brilliant performances by Gillian Anderson and Jason Isaacs.

Donations of £5 appreciated, including tea/coffee and biscuits. Please join us for the film, some refreshments and a blether. All welcome.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Fri 9 Jan 2026, 7.30pm: HEAVEN KNOWS, MR ALLISON (PG)

FOSSOWAY BABIES AND TODDLERS

Babies and Toddlers will take a break over the festive period.

The last 2025 session will be 19 Dec, returning on 9 Jan 2026

Every Friday 9.30 – 11.30am, in Fossoway Church Hall.

Join us for snacks, play and blether.

FOSSOWAY CREATIVE CRAFTERS GROUP

Meets on Monday evenings from 6.30pm at Fossoway.

Please bring your own craft and join us.

CROOK YOUTH CLUB

Term-Time Weekly Drop In. Every Thurs 6 – 8pm at Fossoway

Come along! It's a space to be, play games, pool table, football table, snacks and good chats! For all young people aged 11-19yrs old. Completely free! Check the KYTHE Facebook page and Instagram account for more details and up-to-date information.

FOSSOWAY HOUSE GROUP

Our House Group usually meets **every Thursday evening at 7.30pm.**

For more details, please contact Debbie Hill 01577 842268

HALL BOOKINGS

If you wish to book our hall or meeting rooms, please contact:

Kinross-shire Parish Church on (01577) 862570

or email: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Orwell and Portmoak Churches

Part of Kinross-shire Parish Church

Sunday Worship, and Junior Church:

Sunday morning services in Orwell Church at 10.30am. All children welcome.

Family services with the Praise Band will be held on the first Sunday of each month, except January.

No morning services will be held in Portmoak Church, but there will be a service on the last Sunday of each month until the building is sold, as detailed in the diary dates.

Messy Church: NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

DECEMBER

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1 Dec | Knitwitz Group meets in Orwell Hall 2pm -3:30pm |
| 2 Dec | Guild Friendship Group in Orwell Hall 2pm -3:30pm |
| 4 Dec | Ashley House Service at 2pm. |
| 7 Dec | Family Service with the Praise Band |
| 12 Dec | Oasis Ladies Group , Portmoak New Room 10:15 - 12pm
<i>Christmas Celebration with Rosemary</i> |
| 12 Dec | Tea and a Blether in Orwell, 2pm - 3:30pm |
| 14 Dec | Ashley House Carol Service at 2pm. |
| 15 Dec | Knitwitz Group meets in Orwell Hall 2pm -3:30pm |
| 21 Dec | Carols at the Cross , Milnathort at 6pm |
| 24 Dec | Christmas Eve Service, Portmoak Church at 6:30pm |
| 24 Dec | Watchnight Service, Orwell Church at 11:30pm |
| 25 Dec | Christmas Day Service, Orwell Church at 10:30am |
| 28 Dec | Joint Service in Kinross Church at 10.30am
No service in Orwell Church |

The Church Office and Shop is open 10am-12pm, Mon-Fri.

Office email: orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com

Website: orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

St Paul's Scottish Episcopal Church

(Part of the Worldwide Anglican Communion)

Muir, Kinross, KY13 8AY



Website: *Sorry – not available at present*

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

Rector: We are currently without a Rector. During the vacancy, **Contacts** for church business and pastoral care including baptisms, weddings and funerals are:

Interim Pastor Rev Elaine Ryder *e-mail* revelaine212@gmail.com
07977 101742 (texts preferred) Not Tuesdays

Chair of Vestry Malcolm Strang Steel
e-mail steel@greenheadfarm.co.uk 07970 744102

Associate Priest: Rev Fliss Shaw
e-mail rev.fmshaw@btinternet.com 07546 219938

Our Sunday morning services begin at 10am, unless otherwise advertised. These are usually Sung Eucharists (worship with Communion). Our church bell rings from 9.45am.

We hope in the future to provide regular updates on our website concerning our schedule of worship.

Our services are broadcast from the church as livestreams via Zoom (please email us for links). The Liturgy outline can be followed on the website via the seasonal Sung Eucharist e-booklets and the weekly pewsheets. Apologies, this information is in obedience 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.

DECEMBER EVENTS AND SERVICES

NB: There are **no midweek Communion services** at the present time.

Sun 7 Advent 2
10am: Sung Eucharist.

Sun 14 Advent 3
10am: Sung Eucharist

Death Notices

COLLIAR, David

PASSED AWAY PEACEFULLY at home in Kinross, on 7 November 2025, aged 82 years. Beloved husband of Willis, much-loved father of David, dear father-in-law of Emily and proud grandad of Angus.

Born in Milnathort. Former owner of Westerloan Garage and Colliar's Taxis. A former member of the Kinross Community Council for over 39 years, and many other local groups and committees including *Light Up Kinross*. Past Master of St. Serf's 327 Masonic Lodge.

Fondly remembered by all who knew him.

Sun 21 Advent 4

10am: Sung Eucharist with Advent Candles

6pm: CAROL SERVICE

with music by The Tullis Russell Mills Band

Wed 24 CHRISTMAS EVE

6pm: FAMILY CRIB SERVICE

welcoming the Nativity figures into our Crib

Thu 25 CHRISTMAS DAY Rejoice, Jesus is born

10am: Sung Eucharist with Carols

Sun 28 Christmas 1 10am: Sung Eucharist with Carols

JANUARY 2026

Sun 4 EPIPHANY SUNDAY

10am: Sung Eucharist with Carols

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Art @ St Paul's: Dec 6 & 7, 10am – 4pm

2026: Jan 3 & 4, Exhibition of Icons from Ukraine, painted on wood from ammunition boxes

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)

info@lochlevenchurch.com



Loch Leven Church meets at Loch Leven Community Campus, at 10:30am each Sunday. In December we'll be hosting the following services:

7 Dec: Kids' Christmas Party

10:30 am at Loch Leven Community Campus

14 Dec: Nativity Family Service

10:30 am at Loch Leven Community Campus, followed by Kids' Party – 12:30pm at Kinross Pool

19 Dec: Advent Concert with The Shepherd's Quartet

7pm at Kinross Church

21 Dec: Christmas Service

10:30am at Loch Leven Community Campus

Everyone, of all ages, is very welcome to join any of these. To know more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@lochlevenchurch.com

St. James' RC Church

Catholic Diocese of Dunkeld

5 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AW

Te: 01577 863329 Mob: 07540 534480

E-mail: stjames@dunkelddiocese.org.uk

Website: www.catholickinross.com Weekly newsletter available online

Parish Priest: Fr. Martin Pletts

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Des Conners

TIMES OF HOLY MASS

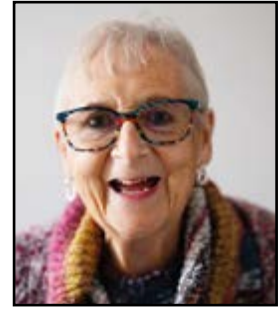
Sat: Vigil Mass at 5pm

Sun: Holy Mass at 10am

Confessions after Vigil Mass

Obituary

WHATMORE, LIZ



ANDY WHATMORE regrets to announce the death of his wife, the lovely Liz Whatmore: mother of Chas and Katie (Bacon), Granny to Chloe, Rosa, Meggie, Theo, Miles and Jules, and Granny Liz to many primary school pupils across Fife and Clackmannanshire.

She was born in Dundee and the family lived in Invergowrie until she was seven; they then moved to Dollar, where she attended the Academy. She excelled at tennis, becoming Scotland Central District Ladies Champion and she made a wide circle of long-lasting friends.

She passed away peacefully at Cornhill MacMillan Centre, Perth Royal Infirmary, on Thursday 6 November 2025 following 18 months of various cancer treatments. Our heartfelt thanks go to all those dedicated National Health Service personnel, from humble cleaners to the head of Oncology NHS Tayside, who helped her on this difficult journey. Particular thanks to the team at Cornhill for making her last days happy and comfortable.

She was a talented seamstress and made many of her own bright and colourful clothes; she was also the maker of the best tray-bake many people had ever tasted!

But she excelled as a Primary School Teacher; she introduced fun into learning for so many pupils and found the talent inside each and every one. She taught some of them French (even when it wasn't on their curriculum!) and made many films with her pupils. She found this an admirable way to reach every pupil in the class and promote teamwork. The highlight of this filmmaking was perhaps "Granny Mac's Meringues", a film made by Primary Three pupils that won the Best Under Eleven category at the South Bank Centre in London in 2011, hosted by Edith Bowman.

Many of these films were made at Burntisland Primary School, where she taught for over 20 years; she also taught in Perth, the wider Fife area and more recently in Muckhart Primary School with her beloved granddaughters.

In the wider world, she taught at the Chouefat School in Al Ain and the primary school in Tamale, Northern Ghana where she managed to teach the song 'Ging gang, gooly gooly ...' to a class of over 70 enthusiastic children!

She will be sadly missed by everyone she met along her journey, from all the shops' staff in Perth and Falkland (every shopping trip she made into a social event) to the healthcare professionals at Ninewells and Cornhill; they all loved coming into her room, it was always so bright, colourful and cheery! But most of all, she will be missed by her close family whom she loved so fondly. We think the angels took her too soon – they wanted to brighten up their office!

Kinross Gospel Hall

8 Montgomery Street, Kinross

www.kinrossgospelhall.info

Tel 07818 050785



Gospel Meeting:

Sundays 4pm

Toddlers' Group:

Thurs 9.30-11am

Explorers (Primary School):

Thurs 6-7pm

We look forward to seeing old friends and welcoming new ones. All are welcome.

Christmas and New Year Opening Hours



Recommended Last Posting Dates

TO ENSURE YOUR Christmas letters and parcels reach their destination in good time, it's always a good idea to post as early as possible.

United Kingdom

Wednesday, 17 December 2nd Class and 2nd Class Signed For

Friday, 19 December Royal Mail Tracked 48®

Saturday, 20 December 1st Class and 1st Class Signed For

Sunday, 21 December Royal Mail Tracked 24®

Tuesday, 23 December Special Delivery Guaranteed®

The Post Office are no longer publishing an individual list of last posting dates for individual countries or regions.

Kinross Post Office (Greens)

25 December	Closed
26 December	Closed
1 January	Closed
2 January	Closed

Milnathort Post Office (Giacopazzis)

24 December	5:30am - 10pm
25 December	closed
26 December	7:30am - 7pm
27 December	7am - 10pm
28 December	7am - 10pm
29 December	5:30am - 10pm
30 December	5:30am - 10pm
31 December	5:30am - 9pm
1 January	9am - 6pm
2 January	7:30am - 8pm
3 January	7am - 10pm
4 January	7am - 10pm

CHEMISTS

Kinross Pharmacy, Kinross (Rowlands) and Milnathort (Davidson's)

25 December	Closed
26 December	Closed
1 January	Closed
2 January	Closed

Asda Pharmacy (Dunfermline)

25 December	Closed
26 Dec, 1 Jan and 2 Jan	Open limited hours (Please check before travelling)

Loch Leven Community Library

24 December	10-3pm (early closure)
<i>Library closed between 25 Dec and 5 January 2026 inclusive</i>	
6 January	10-7pm
7 January	10-7pm
8 January	closed for staff conference
9 January	normal opening resumes

Loch Leven Health Centre

Prescription Processing

Routine requests ordered by midday on Tuesday 16 December 2025 will be available for collection at your chosen pharmacy by Wednesday 24 December 2025.

The service will close at midday on Tuesday 16 December 2025.

It will be open for new requests between Friday 19 December 2025 and midday on Monday 22 December 2025. Requests made during this period will be available for collection at your chosen pharmacy by Tuesday 31 December 2025.

Standard processing times will resume from Friday 2 January 2026 (3 full working days).

Loch Leven Community Campus

23 December	8am - 10pm
24 December	Library only 10am - 3pm
25 December	Closed
26 December	Closed
27-30 December	10am - 3pm
31 December - 2 January	Closed
3/4 January	10am - 3pm
5 January	Normal hours resume

RSPB Loch Leven

25 December	Closed
26 December	Closed
1 January	Closed
2 January	Closed

The toilets, trails and hides are still open on these days.

The Shop is open 10-4pm and the café is open 10-3pm every day apart from the four days mentioned above.

Kinross Day Centre

24 December	Closed
25 December	Closed
26 December	Closed
29 December	Open
30 December	Open
31 December	Closed
1 January	Closed
2 January	Closed

LIGHT UP KINROSS

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

SATURDAY 29 NOVEMBER

AT GREENS' CAR PARK,

HIGH STREET





Providing a safe environment over warm drinks and 'eats' for those who identify as neurodiverse to socialize and find mutual empowerment.

Providing an environment that is as inclusive, comfortable and welcoming as possible to those with differing needs, including those who are non-verbal (including dimmed lighting and a craft table.)

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

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

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

CHRISTMAS TREES ON PORTMOAK MOSS



**SUNDAY 14TH
DECEMBER
11.00AM - 2.00PM**



**REFRESHMENTS,
CAKES, BISCUITS
TEA / COFFEE
& NON ALCOHOLIC
MULLED WINE**

AS ALWAYS IT IS

FREE

**BUT DONATIONS ARE WELCOME
PLEASE BRING CASH ALTHOUGH
WE ARE DIGITAL AS WELL THIS YEAR.
CHILDREN GET THEIR OWN TREE**

**FACEBOOK PORTMOAKCOMMUNITYWOODLANDGROUP
HTTP://WWW.PORTMOAKCW.ORG.UK/
@PORTMOAKCW**

PKAVS CARERS CENTRE IN THE COMMUNITY

Where to find us in Kinross

Kinross Day centre
(run by The Kinross Centre)

1030am - 12pm, the third Thursday of the month

Kinross Church Centre, 64 High Street, Kinross

A member of our Adult Carers Team will be available to chat with you.

Please feel free to drop in.



what is to be best in point of view.
Community
same locality
residence in



CONTACT US

01738 567076

Carersshortbreaks@pkavs.org.uk

Scottish Charity Number: SC006561 Companies House Registration Number: SC086065



The Walkers

IN SUPPORT OF JOSCELYNE'S JOURNEY

KINROSS COMMUNITY CAMPUS GIG

MONDAY 22ND
DECEMBER 2025



ADULT TICKETS - £10
U18 TICKETS - £5

COME ALONG AND SUPPORT, ALL TICKET SALES WILL GO TOWARDS A GREAT CAUSE!

Milnathort Primary School's

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 6TH DECEMBER
10AM - 12NOON
AT THE SCHOOL

Find the Perfect Present!
Our stalls will be bursting with crafts, gifts, and festive treasures

Plus:

- Santa's Grotto, Carol singing and Performance from Dance Connect
- Face painting and Crafts
- Raffle and Tombola
- Crepes and Hot chocolate

No Elves? No Fair!
We need helping hands to make Christmas sparkle.
Scan the QR code if you can spare an hour or two



Free Entry



Milnathort
filmhouse

A spooktacular double bill Halloween screening was enjoyed so much by adults and kids that we almost ran out of popcorn! Well done everyone who dressed up as their favourite spook especially our two prize-winners.



Don't forget Saturday 6 December is our Christmas double bill.



All films are shown at Milnathort Town Hall. For the afternoon film, doors open at 2.30, film starts at 3pm. In the evening doors open at 6.30 film starts at 7pm. Tickets £4: Family £10

Reserve your seat at milnathortfilmhouse@gmail.com or pay in advance PayPal @[milnathortfilmhouse](https://www.paypal.com/milnathortfilmhouse)

CAROLS AT THE CROSS

PRESENTED BY MILNATHORT IN BLOOM
ORWELL CHURCH, KINROSS SHIRE PARISH
MILNATHORT TOWN HALL COMMITTEE

MILNATHORT TOWN HALL
SUNDAY 21ST DECEMBER 2025 6PM

BRING YOUR VOICE
TO SING ALONG WITH US
AND SHARE IN REFRESHMENTS

DONATIONS TO LOCAL CHARITY
PLEASE BRING A TORCH

KINROSS-SHIRE RED SQUIRREL GROUP

GET INVOLVED

HELP SAVE RED SQUIRRELS

AND PROTECT NATIVE SPECIES FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS



The Kinross-shire Red Squirrel Group is a volunteer-led group looking for new members to help monitor squirrel populations in the area and educate others about the plight of the red squirrel



If you would like to find out more about the group, let us know about what you are already doing to help or find out how you can get involved - please email us at: kinrossshirered squirrelgroup@gmail.com



End of Life Aid Skills for Everyone (EASE) is a learning opportunity to help you feel more confident and comfortable supporting others through dying, death, and bereavement. EASE is for anyone who wants to be better prepared to support family, friends, or community members facing the end-of-life. Whether you're currently caring for someone or simply want to be ready to offer support in the future, this course, developed by the Scottish Partnership for Palliative Care, could be for you.

Dates: Tues 3rd, 10th, 17th and 24th Feb 2026 (must attend all dates)
 Time: 6:30pm to 8:30pm
 Venue: Loch Leven Community Campus, Kinross, KY13 8FQ



You can find more info at www.goodlifedeathgrief.org.uk or to note your interest please use the QR Code or call 01764 653173.



Rotary 2025 Santa Sleigh Run Dates
 Club of Kinross & District

- 28th Nov, Milnathort, starting at 17.00
- 30th Nov, Mawcarse, Cuthill Towers & Glenfarg, Starting at 16.45
- 5th Dec, Kinross South Starting at 17.00
- 6th Dec, Kinross Central South, Starting at 17.00
- 7th Dec, Classlochie, Hatchbank, Cleish, Crook of Devon & Middle Balado, Starting at 16.45
- 12th Dec, Glenlomond, Kinnesswood & Scotlandwell starting at 17.00
- 13th Dec, Kinross Central North, Starting at 16.45
- 14th Dec, Kinross North, Starting at 16.45

For more information on the exact route on the night follow us on FaceBook

If you would like to give a donation, please click the QR Code and follow the link

CLEISH SWI INVITES YOU TO
An afternoon of coffee, cake & carols
Entertainment by the Perthshire Ukuleles
SUNDAY, 7 DECEMBER 2025
 2 pm - 4 pm
 Cleish Hall
Tickets £5
 For tickets contact Fiona on 07930 857 579

Kinross-shire Parish Church
Kinross Church Flower Group
 Saturday 6th December
 Church Centre
 9.30-12.30
Coffee Morning
 With
Local Makers and Fairtrade Stall

100th BIRTHDAY AND DIAMOND WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Do you know a Perth & Kinross resident who is celebrating their 100th or 105th+ birthday?
 Do you know a Perth & Kinross couple celebrating their 60th, 65th or 70th wedding anniversary?

Online forms for presentation requests are via the Lieutenancy website <https://perthandkinrosslieutenancy.org.uk/>

PKC can arrange for delivery of a basket of flowers, or for a local Councillor to present the flowers. **For more information:** Please contact lordlieutenancy@pkc.gov.uk, or call 01738 475009.

MOBILE LIBRARY
3 DECEMBER
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.



FESTIVE WREATH WORKSHOP
 CROOK & DRUM GROWING TOGETHER
 SUN 14TH DEC 2-4 PM
 CROOK OF DEVON VILLAGE HALL

MAKE A FRESH CHRISTMAS WREATH WITH A WILLOW AND MOSS RING
ALL MATERIALS SUPPLIED
 BRING DECATEURS OR STRONG SCISSORS AND ANY PARTICULAR DECORATIONS

BOOKING ESSENTIAL
 CONTACT AMANDA JAMES
 07963 476803

£25



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

P & K SCHOOL TERM DATES
 Term Ends: Tues 23 December
 Christmas Hols: Wed 24 December - Tues 6 January

NEWSLETTER DEADLINES

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
January	Monday 8 December	Saturday 3 January

Gaelic Society of Perth

The next cèilidh of the season will be on 12 December at 7.30pm at St Matthew's Church, Tay St., Perth. Stirling Gaelic Choir and a variety of other singers and instrumentalists will provide the entertainment. Come along and practice your Gaelic and enjoy the brilliant refreshments at half time – and a raffle! Admission on the door is £10 for non-members and £6 for members for a great evening's entertainment. Contact acaroline1000@gmail.com for further information.

KINROSS RECYCLING CENTRE
 Bridgend Industrial Estate
 Monday, Thursday and Friday 9am-4pm
 (last entry 3.45pm)
 Saturday & Sunday 9am - 4pm
 (last entry 3.45pm)

THE RECYCLING CENTRE WILL ACCEPT THE FOLLOWING MATERIALS

Bicycles	Engine Oil	Rigid Plastic Packaging
Books	Fluorescent, LED & Long Life Light Bulbs	Rubble
Bras	Fridges & Freezers	Scrap Metal
Bulky Goods	Garden Waste	Soil
Car Batteries	Glass	Stone
Cardboard	Household Batteries	Telephone Directories
Cartons and Paper containers with metal ends	Large Domestic Appliances	Textiles (Clothes & Shoes)
Cooking Oil	Non-Recyclable Waste (General Waste)	Timber
Electrical & Electronic Equipment (WEEE - remove & recycle batteries separately)	Paper	Car Tyres (maximum two per day, strictly household only)

Free compost available (subject to availability).

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Perth CAB can help you. Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

Advice line: 01738 450580
Appointment line: 01738 450581

Clients can access advice in the following ways:

- **By calling us** on 01738 450580 between 10am and 3pm any weekday. If the query is quick for us to deal with, we will do so and if it requires more time or research then we will arrange for an adviser to get back to them either via e-mail or with a telephone appointment.
- **Webchat** from our Perth CAB website www.perthcab.org.uk/ <https://www.perthcab.org.uk/contact-us>

Debt and Money Advice Service
 Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.



**MOBILE POST VAN AT
BUCHAN AVENUE,
KINNESSWOOD**

**MONDAYS 13.45 till 14.45
WEDNESDAYS 12.45 till 13.45**

Homes For Cats Wanted

Fife Cat Shelter, a Scottish Registered Charity, is always looking for homes for rescued cats.

Cats can be visited, by appointment, at Causeway Cattery, Scotlandwell.

Contact Rhona on 01383 830286.



**KINROSS DELIVERY OFFICE
ROYAL MAIL**

87 High St, Kinross KY13 8AR

MONDAY	8-10am
TUESDAY	8-10am
WEDNESDAY	8-10am
THURSDAY	8-10am
FRIDAY	8-10am
SATURDAY	8-12pm
SUNDAY	CLOSED

Baby & Toddler Groups

MONDAY

Milnathort Babies and Toddlers
Orwell Church Hall 9.30 -11am

TUESDAY

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall
9.45-11.30am

Stepping Stones

Kinross Parish Church 10-11.30am

WEDNESDAY

Breast Buddies
Health Centre 10-12pm

Glenfarg Babies and Toddlers
Village Hall 9.30am

Muckhart Babies and Toddlers
Church Hall 9.30-11am

THURSDAY

Montgomery Toddlers
Kinross Gospel Hall 9.30 -11am

FRIDAY

Portmoak Babies and Toddlers
Portmoak Church Hall 9.45-11.30am

Fossoway Babies and Toddlers
Crook of Devon Church Hall
9.30-11.30am

*Please let us know
if you have any
info to add to this list.*



EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Medical

Loch Leven Health Centre	01577 862112
Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours	01577 865252
NHS 24	111
Perth Royal Infirmary main switchboard	01382 660111
Perth Royal Infirmary (Admissions and Enquiries Desk)	01738 473734
Ninewells Hospital, Dundee	01382 660111
Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy	01592 643355
Queen Margaret Hospital, Dunfermline	01383 623623
Rowlands Pharmacy, Kinross	01577 862422
Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort	01577 862219

Police, non-emergency 101

Police, Fire, Ambulance & Coastguard Emergencies 999

Gas (worried about gas safety) 0800 111 999

Water (loss of supply, foul water emergency) 0800 0778 778

Floods SEPA Floodline recorded messages 0345 988 1188

Perth & Kinross Council (PKC)

Customer Service Centre (Mon- Fri, 8am-6pm) 01738 475000

Reporting non-emergency Road and Lighting faults (CLARENCE) 0800 232323

PKC Out of Hours emergency numbers

Adult care services	0345 301 11 20
Anti-social behaviour helpline (voicemail)	01738 476173
Child protection	01738 476768
Council housing emergency repairs	01738 476000
Dangerous buildings	01738 476476
Environmental Health	01738 476476
Flooding	01738 476476
Homelessness	0800 917 0708
Mental health services	0345 301 11 20
Roads (e.g. reporting blockage)	01738 476476

Traveline Scotland 0141 465 1878

Loch Leven Community Campus 01577 867200

Kinross High School 01577 867100

Community Councils

Cleish & Blairadam: Chair: Francis Principe-Gillespie
Email: cleishandblairadamcc@gmail.com

Fossoway & District: Chair: Nicola Marchant
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Glenfarg: Chair: Douglas Fraser
Email: secretary@glenfarg.org

Kinross: Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort & Orwell: Chair: Neill Bingham
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Andy Miller
Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

David West Chair
Chris Collins Secretary
Margaret West Treasurer
Members Roy Gilmour, Hannah Collins

Have a look at our website www.kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Portmoak Community Councillors

Andy Miller Chair E: Chair@portmoak.org
Ann Davidson Treasurer
Sue McGregor Secretary E: secretary@portmoak.org
Dave Patterson Member
Kenneth Donaldson Associated Member

Have a look at our website www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

CLlr DAVE CUTHBERT (Independent)
Tel: 01738 475110
Email: dcuthbert@pkc.gov.uk
Address: 85 Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EG

CLlr NEIL FRESHWATER (Scottish Conservative & Unionist)
Tel (office): 01738 475108
Email: nfreshwater@pkc.gov.uk
www.facebook.com/neil4kinrossshire

CLlr WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
Mobile: 07909 884042
Email: wbrobertson@pkc.gov.uk

CLlr RICHARD WATTERS (SNP)
Mobile: 07557 812513
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk

Pete Wishart MP

Member of Parliament for Perth and Kinross-shire

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
Telephone: 01738 639598
Email: Pete.wishart.mp@parliament.uk

Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Jim Fairlie, MSP

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
Telephone: 01738 620540
Email: Jim.Fairlie.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

All MSPs can be contacted at the following address:
The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour)

Email: claire.baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative)

Email: murdo.fraser.msp@parliament.scot

Roz McCall MSP (Conservative)

Email: roz.McCall.msp@parliament.scot

Alex Rowley MSP (Labour)

Email: alex.rowley.msp@parliament.scot

Mark Ruskell MSP (Green)

Email: mark.ruskell.msp@parliament.scot

Liz Smith MSP (Conservative)

Email: elizabeth.smith.msp@parliament.scot

Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative)

Email: alexander.stewart.msp@parliament.scot

KINROSS GARDEN GROUP 2025/26 Season

Thursday 11 December 2pm
Parish Church, Kinross.

FRAZER HENDERSON
*Stars Of The Celestial Mountains -
The Floral Highlights Of The Tien Shan*

All welcome to join us.

GRANTS FOR GOOD CAUSES

Kinross Community Council
Newsletter Limited (KCCNL),
Charity No. SC040913



All profits from the *Newsletter* are transferred to a charitable company, KCCNL, and given away to local good causes. Groups and individuals are invited to apply to KCCNL for grant funding. Decisions on grants are made at two meetings per year. The deadlines for grant applications are:

31 March and 30 September

More information at kinrosscommunitycouncil.com

Diary

December

Tues	2	Fossoway Community Council meets
Tues	2	U3A meetings, 2pm at KPC
Tues	2	Climate & Repair Cafes, library
Wed	3	Networking Breakfast, Green Hotel
Wed	3	Creative Writing Group, Library
Fri	5	Scottish Astronaut Talk (Aerospace), Campus
Fri	5	Santa in Kinross South 5pm
Sat	6	Kinross Parish Church Flower Group Coffee Morning, Kinross Church Centre
Sat	6	Milnathort Primary School Christmas Fayre
Sat	6	Santa in Kinross Central South 5pm
Sat	6, 20	Kinross and Ochil Walking Group Meets – see clubs entry
Sat/Sun	6/7	Arts@St Paul's
Sun	7	Santa in Classlochrie, Hatchbank, Cleish, Crook of Devon and Middle Balado 4.45pm
Mon	8	Newsletter Deadline for January issue
Mon	8	Kinross Historical Society Talk, Tofts, Crofts and Commonities in Kinross
Tues	9	Portmoak Community Council meets
Tues	9	Rotary Young Musician Competition, Campus
Wed	10	Carnbo Coffee and Chat 10-12am
Wed	10	Dr Bike Sessions, Park & Ride 11am-2pm
Thurs	11	Garden Group meets, see Club Entry
Thurs	11	Milnathort and Orwell Community Council meets
Thurs	11	Friends of Kinross Museum AGM
Fri	12	Santa in Glenlomond, Kinnesswood and Scotlandwell 5pm
Sat	13	Santa in Kinross Central North 4.45pm
Sat	13	Carol Concert at Cleish Church
Sat	13	Portmoak Film Society shows 'A Complete Unknown'
Sun	14	Let's Sing! Kinross Parish Church
Sun	14	Santa in Kinross North 4.45pm
Sun	14	Portmoak Christmas Tree Day
Wed	17	KHS Evening Christmas Concert, Campus
Thurs	18	KHS Lunchtime Concert, Library
Fri	19	Kinross Community Carols, Kinross Parish Church
Sat	20	Carol Service at St Paul's Church 6pm
Sun	21	Carols at the Cross, Milnathort Town Hall
Mon	22	Bereavement Service, Kinross Parish Church
Mon	22	Charity Concert in aid of Joselyne's Journey at the Campus
Wed	24	Crib Service and Watchnight Service, Kinross Parish Church
Thurs	25	Christmas Lunch at the Kinross Day Centre
Sun	28	Joint Kinross-shire Churches Service

The Kinross Newsletter is available from:

Greens of Kinross
Premier Stores
Read & Relax
Sainsbury's
Giacopazzi's
Keystore More
Giacopazzi's
Stewart & Smart

High Street, Kinross
 High Street, Kinross
 High Street, Kinross
 Station Road, Kinross
 Lathro, Kinross
 Green Road, Kinross
 New Road, Milnathort
 Stirling Road, Milnathort

Heaven Scent
Lochend Farm Shop
Kinnesswood Shop
Fossoway Stores
Mona's Coffee Shop
Powmill Stores
Powmill Milk Bar
Loch Leven's Larder
Glenfarg Village Shop

South Street, Milnathort
 Scotlandwell
 Main Street, Kinnesswood
 Crook of Devon
 Muckhart
 Powmill
 Powmill
 Near Wester Balgedie
 Glenfarg