



Kinross Newsletter

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Founding editor,
Mrs Nan Walker, MBE

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DEADLINE

for the September Issue

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Contributions for inclusion in the Newsletter

The *Newsletter* welcomes items from community organisations and individuals for publication. This is free of charge. (We only charge for business advertising – see below right.) All items may be subject to editing and we reserve the right not to publish an item. Please also see our Letters Policy and Notes on page 2. Submit your item (except adverts) in one of the following ways:

Email: editor@kinrossnewsletter.org
(all emails will be acknowledged)

Post or hand in to:

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Editor's Page

Cover photo: Wallace Shackleton

Cover Design: Lee Scammacca of Cree8.

Letter from The Editor

THE RETURN OF THE Farmers' Market on 22 August signifies another small step towards life in Kinross returning to 'normal'. It's great to see more of our restaurants and local businesses able to finally open up again and it's important that we continue to support them through this difficult time.

Some of our local restaurants will be taking advantage of the Government 'Eat Out To Help Out' scheme from 3 August, offering 50% off your bill, from Monday to Wednesday, up to a maximum of £10 per head.

We are lucky in Kinross to have such good local shops, and now that travel restrictions have eased it's vital that we remember to continue to use them whenever possible if we want to see them around for years to come.

While we sadly can't enjoy our beloved Kinross Show this year, we are to be treated to a Tractor Road Run on 8 August (see p19 for details). Come out and give the tractors a wave and a cheer if you can as they pass by. Results of the (online) Garden and Dog Shows will be published in the Newsletter next month.

Our local schoolchildren will be returning to their school buildings this month after almost five months

away from them, which for some will be a long-awaited joy (perhaps for their parents, too?) but for others, it could be quite the opposite.

Some will find it a frightening and challenging experience to return to a busy environment among so many people after months of learning to stay away from others, and having vastly reduced face-to-face contact with their friends and relatives.

Many older and vulnerable people have been shielding until very recently and are only now beginning to re-experience the freedoms of getting out and about and meeting people. For them, it must be a mixture of joy and trepidation, and it's for them that the rest of us must continue to remain cautious, following social distancing rules and helping to minimise the impact of a second wave of this dreadful virus.

My first physio appointment since March last week was indescribably wonderful.

After going steadily grey(er) over the past few months, and hiding away working hard at Newsletter Towers, it's finally time for me to face the music and book a haircut.

Hannah Phillips, Editor

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. Clubs etc should ensure that 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 address, which will be published with the letter. Letters should be truthful and not contain matter which could cause legal proceedings to be taken against the *Newsletter*. The *Newsletter* does not necessarily agree with any of the views expressed on the letters or indeed other pages. In special circumstances addresses may be withheld from publication on request (but must still be supplied to the editor).

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

Cllr: Councillor

CC: Community Council

CCllr: Community Councillor

Councillor

About the Kinross Newsletter

The *Newsletter* has been informing and supporting the community for over 40 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.

Thanks



Thanks for being crochetty!

Sylvie Macleary would like to thank all who have helped with the crochet rainbow project, which has been a wonderful community effort.

After making two rainbows for her grandchildren, she decided to use her leftover wool and make more – due to demand around 130 rainbows have been made in aid of charity and are hanging in windows in Kinross, Milnathort and Kelty.

She would like to say thank you to Christine Croft from Kelty, Kelty Community Centre, Shona Wales, Mhairi, the new owner of Skeins and Bobbins in Kinross and everyone else who donated loads of wool to meet the demand. A special thank you to all community members who kindly purchased a rainbow. She says:

'Together, we have raised £700! The money has been split as follows:

£300 to Oor Wee Café, Kelty

£300 to Broke Not Broken, Kinross

£100 to Benarty Food Bank.'

Sylvie also says it has been lovely being part of this initiative as it has given her purpose and focus during lockdown.



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Thank You For The Music

Thanks to all the wonderful musicians that played every Thursday during the Coronavirus pandemic in Drum at 8pm. This brought the local community together at a time when people were in lockdown. It enhanced local gratitude towards the NHS ... with clapping and singing.

A Drum resident

DO YOU HAVE A STORY?

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editor@kinrossnewsletter.org

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Letters

Litter – Less Tutting And More Action!

Littering has been truly horrendous across the country – the Meadows in Edinburgh and the Lake District come to mind in particular.

I think we have been lucky in Kinross! The litter in the bird hide at Burleigh Sands had been there for 6 weeks or so. People have commented and complained but done nothing about it. I went down on the last Monday in June and took a sack of bottles and cans away, as I did when I first came across it back in May. I returned on Tuesday with a broom and shovel to deal with the rest to find it barricaded again. The vandals had already removed one such barrier and must have taken screwdrivers, drills or whatever.

The latest is a little more robust but it would not surprise me to find they have returned with sledge hammers or even chainsaws. There are youngsters down there every weekend from 8pm on Friday and Saturdays lighting fires at the downed pine, smoking hash, boozing and engaging in other inappropriate behaviour. Yes, litter makes for interesting sociological study.

Local students and residents in Edinburgh were out with their bin bags as are the volunteers in the Lake District on a daily basis. So less tutting and more action please.

*Gill Edwards
Drunzie, Glenfarg*



Litter – a big problem in all rural areas since lockdown

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Contact LINETTE MANN – 07732 902419

Newsletter Deadlines

A list of future deadlines can be found on our website
www.kinrossnewsletter.org

The Kinross Newsletter

By The Community, For The Community

All profits are given away to local good causes



Yoga Classes in Kinross

www.simpliyoga.com

Tuesday Evenings - Kinross Church Centre
@ 7pm - All Levels
@ 8pm - Active Yoga

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FARMERS' MARKET RETURNS!



Picture by Eileen Thomas

KINROSS HAS NOT FELT quite the same without our wonderful Farmers' market, and it's great news that we can look forward to visiting the market in August when it finally returns to the streets of Kinross. The market has a great selection of wonderful artisan foods and produce and is well worth a visit!

The KLEO committee is delighted to announce that the Kinross Farmers' market will be back on Saturday 22 August from 10am until 2pm. Most of the regular stallholders will be there and everyone is looking forward to seeing

KINROSS FARMERS' MARKET BACK ON 22 AUG



our lovely customers again. There will be social distancing rules in place and, if necessary, there will be limitations on the number of customers at any one time at the market. There will also be hand sanitiser available both at the

entrances to the market and on each stall. Please come along and support our local stall holders.

Dates for your diary: *the following markets will take place on 26 September and 24 October.*

Charity Concert In Kinross



Local musicians set up fundraiser for Help Musicians Scotland

FROM 1 AUGUST, outdoor events (including markets and festivals) will once again be allowed – and it hasn't come a moment too soon. Young Kinross musicians of all disciplines are planning to get together at an outdoor summer concert on 16 August to perform classical music, jazz and rock at Loch Leven Brewery garden. Organised by KLEO, the concert will raise money for Help Musicians Scotland, a charity 'providing help, support and opportunities to empower musicians ... including health and welfare services with creative development funding'.

On 23 March all concert halls and theatres closed down, music festivals and all concerts were cancelled and all large cultural events were postponed until 2021. While the lockdown and all the restrictions that it brought had a huge effect on all aspects of life, it affected arts and music in particular. In the UK musicians are not provided with government subsidies unlike in other western European countries – e.g. Norway, Finland, France and Ireland. For many musicians, performing live provides their main income but, since the lockdown started, they have had none. Caroline Sewell, Musicians Union Scotland Organiser said that 80-90% of musicians are self-employed and rely on gigs, concerts or tutoring and at the same time 38% of musicians do not qualify for emergency or self-employment funds ('*What next for the arts in Scotland*' online debate on Green Party FB page, 3 July).

Music has not stopped though – it helped many people through the lockdown. Internet users had a great opportunity to continue enjoying it in a variety of ways. Classical music lovers had a chance to enjoy RSNO Fridays, BBC SSO in Isolation, one-off concert recordings released by Philharmonia of Cello Concerto No 1 with Sheku Kanneh-Mason, and young musicians were offered virtual sessions with Nicola Benedetti. Lovers of popular music benefited from individual gigs online – Finlay Smith and others (Napier University concert), Paul Anderson or the Coaltown Daisies live concerts online. All these concerts were raising money for the orchestras, bands and individual musicians.

Since 15 July pubs in Scotland have started to open outdoor beer gardens to attract the clientele over the short summer season. The entertainment industry was perplexed that the beverage outlets were prioritised. Yet beer gardens could become the first open stages for musicians to perform. As Caroline Sewell said, 'outdoor live performances could be a very helpful first step that would not only bring income for the musicians, but would allow the community to re-engage with music and to re-engage with the arts ... and provide happy community places.'

Loch Leven Brewery owner, Jamie Montgomery is very supportive of the concert and has agreed to provide his beer garden for the event. He has been planning to re-introduce live music at the beer garden as soon as the Scottish Government guidelines for moving out of the lockdown allow it. The concert will hopefully be the next step to help musicians by raising funds for their charity and initiating live music in Kinross.

As this is the first live music concert in Kinross since lockdown, distancing and other safety measures will be strictly observed to prevent Covid-19 spread. The concert is free for anyone who visits the beer garden at the Market Park, while access is on a first-come, first-served basis.

As with all similar venues, visitors will need to register on the Track & Trace system. iPhone cameras will automatically recognise the QR code image; just tap to open the pop-up link and fill in the details. Cameras on Android phones, however, do not automatically detect the QR code. Users will need to download a free QR Code scanner from the Android App Store first and then scan the QR Code on the sign to gain entry. Only one person from every household needs to sign in. Once at a table, the drinks menu and food menu will be accessed using a different QR Code.

For more information about the concert, contact Gosia Stanton on 07817 534284 or gosiastanton@gmail.com. Further details of the concert will be published on www.kleo.org, the KLEO Facebook page and via posters.

PERSIMMON KNOCKED BACK

New proposal would have increased build total by 70%

PERSIMMON HOMES have been refused planning permission by the PKC Planning and Development Management Committee for 169 houses on phase 2 of the Lathro Farm development.

Persimmon already had permission for 97 houses in phase 2 but were proposing to add a further 72 houses, which would have taken the total number of houses on the Lathro Farm site to 376.

A mammoth four hours of the virtual meeting, held on 1 July, was spent discussing just this one item on the agenda, at the end of which the councillors on the committee voted by 9 votes to 4 to reject the application. Refusal was proposed by Cllr Mike Barnacle and seconded by Cllr Richard Watters. Multiple reasons were given by the committee for the refusal.

A major concern was that such a large number of houses would have detrimental effects on Loch Leven. Each new dwelling in the area contributes to



a deterioration in water quality, with local waste water entering the loch. Despite using phosphorus stripping technology, not all the phosphorus can be removed.

Concerns were also raised about drainage and groundwater flooding on the site given the high water table.

It was argued that the proposed access onto Gallowhill Road would not comply with transport standards and would exacerbate the existing road safety concerns.

The development was thought by some to be badly designed with insufficient parking spaces, narrow roads and a lack of pavements.

There were also serious planning concerns from residents about the capacity of local schools, demands on local GPs, and the road network.

For more information about the planning application and the virtual meeting see the detailed report from the Civic Trust on p73, and also reports from Willie Robertson and Callum Purves on p24.



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New REDS Directory Open for Listings

THE NEW RURAL ENTERPRISE Directory Scotland (REDS), led by Perthshire-based charity GrowBiz, is now available for business and social enterprise listings.

The online directory has a three-fold role – to provide easy access to funding, offer enterprise support through GrowBiz and its partners, and promote rural businesses in every sector by stimulating collaborations and connections across Scotland. The purpose is to invigorate the rural economy, keeping micro-enterprises and their communities open for all to enjoy.

A key part of REDS is grant funding, which will be available to micro businesses and enterprises listed on the directory and has a unique 50/50 approach – 50% of the grant awarded goes to the business requiring the support, and 50% to businesses providing them with the services they need to get back up and running.

Rebecca Dearman of The Yoga Shed, Crieff, says of the fund, 'If we were to receive a REDS grant it would mean we could re-open The Yoga Shed and offer viable rates to our customers to rent



Rebecca Dearman

the space, kickstarting business activity for more than 10 other enterprises in our local area.'

All sorts of rural businesses and self-employed people, whether in need of funding or not, can benefit from being listed on the innovative directory. From cleaners to cafe owners, tour guides, accommodation providers, and distillers, to builders, creatives, instructors, photographers, carers and hairdressers,



the directory will cover a huge variety of services and is destined to become the go-to site for both locals and tourists to locate what they're looking for.

The directory can be navigated in several ways – using an interactive map of Scotland, with a search function, or with a more traditional list approach. This ensures that everyone can find exactly what they're after, whether it's location or service based. A listing on the site will cost just £10 a month from September 2020, and includes access to information, support and events.

Email connect@reds.scot to find out how to get your rural enterprise listed.

The free and confidential enterprise support provided by GrowBiz includes online events and learning sessions, mentoring, 1-1 advice and networking opportunities. Find out more at www.growbiz.co.uk

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REMANUFACTURING AND THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY



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AS SCOTLAND STARTS to move out of lockdown there has been considerable talk of the 'Green Recovery' and the Circular Economy. We spoke to Kirsteen Ross, Managing Director of award-winning office furniture remanufacturer, Kinross Wooden Products Company, and a Circular Tayside Ambassador, to find out more about how local businesses can develop a greener approach for the future.

The Circular Economy is a model that focuses on designing out waste and pollution, keeping products and materials in use, and preserving the world's finite resources. The circular economy moves us away from being a 'linear' throwaway society where we manufacture things from new materials, use them, then dispose of them in landfill. The Circular Economy is about ensuring products are designed and manufactured to be reused, repaired, refurbished, and remanufactured keeping products and materials in use for longer.

In today's society, there is growing social pressure and demand from customers and government for businesses to become 'greener'. By making small changes and better choices, you can play a part in stopping climate change and becoming carbon neutral. Major benefits are often massively reduced costs, stopping wastage of finite resources, and minimising environmental impact without any compromise on quality.



Kinross Wooden Products Company provides local authorities and businesses with practical solutions to reuse, repair, refurbish, remanufacture, and recycle office furniture. We are currently remanufacturing older style large desks into smaller ones for staff who now work from home. Earlier this year we carried out a major refit of the KYTHE

Youth Hub, next to the health centre. Our work was to dismantle all the existing partitions and desks and remanufacture them for a new layout with improved workspace and a new kitchen. By taking a circular approach rather than simply throwing everything away and buying new, KYTHE saved a significant amount of money and completed the project in a more sustainable way.

What Is Remanufacturing?

Kirsteen says 'Essentially, we make brand new furniture and other items using materials taken from surplus office furniture which would have gone to landfill. This is important for several reasons; fewer virgin natural resources are needed, less energy is used, large quantities of waste are diverted from landfill and all our products are designed with longevity in mind so that they can be used to create the materials stock for future remanufacturing.

This is not the same as upcycling, which generally means carrying out simple processes to a product such as cleaning and repainting or add new parts or decoration to it to improve its aesthetic appearance. Our remanufacturing process requires original products to be completely dismantled down to timber panels, screws, and fittings. These materials are then used to manufacture completely new and different products which are warranted in the same way any other new 'out of the box' product is. We create brand new

LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS PREPARE FOR RE-OPENING

WHILE KINROSS RESIDENTS must wait a little longer for the library and museum at Loch Leven Community Campus to re-open after the schools return in August, the AK Bell Library in Perth now has new opening hours: Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday: 10am-1pm and 2-4pm and Thursday 5.30pm-8.30pm. remember that if you do handle a book, please either consider checking it out or place it in one of the quarantine bins for staff to put back on the shelf later.

Perth Museum and Art Gallery opens from Saturday 1 August with their latest exhibition, 'New Ways of Seeing: Scottish Art Schools'. Entry remains free but museum visits will need to be pre-booked, via a new pre-booking service in partnership with

ArtFund <http://cultureperthandkinross.arttickets.org.uk>

From Friday to Monday the museum will open 10am-12.30pm and 1pm-4.30pm and again on Thursday between 5.30pm-8.30pm. If you have a friend or family member who is not online, visits can also be booked by calling 01738 444949 Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm.

You'll notice some changes when you visit. Please:

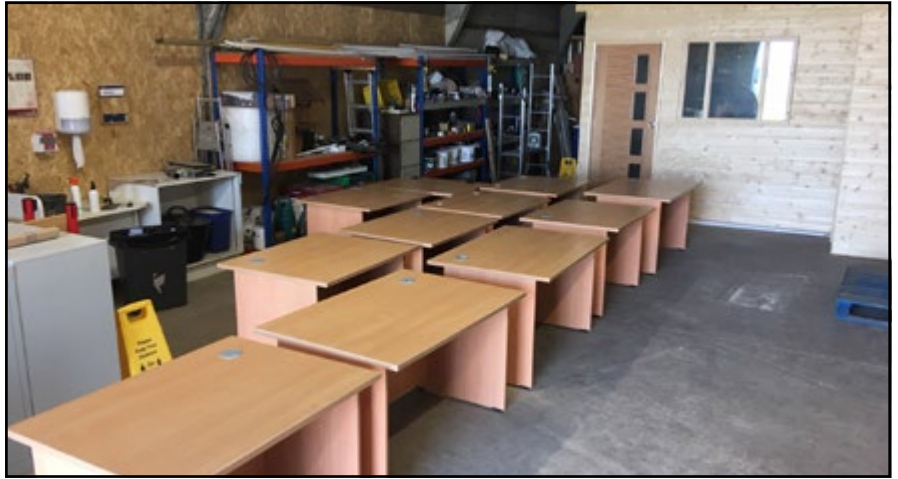
- ***Wear a mask or face covering***
- ***Follow safe social distancing guidance, clearly marked in the library and museum***
- ***Use the hand sanitising stations provided***
- ***Be kind to each other, and especially to the staff***

products, but we don't use virgin materials to do so.

To become more circular businesses need to move away from the Buy – Use – Dispose 'linear' economy and consider ways of keeping products in use for longer and ultimately ensuring they are recycled rather than landfilled. Products can be reused, repaired, refurbished/reconditioned and remanufactured before they are eventually recycled and a good manufacturer will have built longevity into the initial design of the products so consideration of this at the purchasing stage is also essential – i.e. what happens to my products when they are no longer useful to me.

So what does the future hold for Kinross Wooden Products?

Kirsteen says 'We have several large contracts in place with the public sector and we can see a major move to circular procurement within these organisations. The changes COVID-19 will make on the way business uses office space will create lots of opportunities for us and we are already working on increasing our staff numbers and expanding production capacity.'



Dr Donald Duncan Bequest Committee

THE ABOVE COMMITTEE have, for many years, provided bursaries for educational purposes for applicants whose parents were resident in Kinross at the time of their birth, and who have received at least three years primary or secondary education in the county of Kinross.

Applications are welcome from anyone meeting these criteria, and who are to undertake further education

at university, college or other establishments as long as the committee is satisfied as to the course or training in question. Includes full-time or part-time studies. Awards may be given for one year and subsequent years at the discretion of the committee.

Applications must be lodged by 30 September 2020 to be considered at the committee meeting to be held later in the year. Application forms can be obtained from Andersons LLP, Solicitors, 40 High Street, Kinross KY13 8AN or by emailing mail@andersons-kinross.co.uk.

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HAPPY DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN!



LOCH LEVEN BREWERY are delighted to be opening the 'Kinross Beer Garden' in The Market Park, directly opposite The Green Hotel, in the heart of Kinross.

Their award-winning Great Scots beers (Warrior Queen, Outlaw King, Shining Knight & Kingslayer) have proven a popular addition to events all over Scotland, including the Edinburgh Fringe, Edinburgh Christmas & New Year and Perth Winter Lights Festival, to name but a few.

The beer garden will be open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 12-10pm (from July-October) selling the brewery's 'Gold Award' winning 'Great Scots' craft range, alongside a couple of guest beers, ciders, and of course wines and

spirits. Teas, coffees, cakes and soft drinks will also be served. The brewery aim to cater for children too, who are welcome to join in from 12-8pm. Furry friends are not forgotten there are even free dog biscuits and water for well-behaved pooches.

The team at Loch Leven Brewery have been working hard behind the scenes to help create an enjoyable outdoor experience, whilst adhering to the important and strict government guidelines around social distancing, in the light of Covid19. There will also be the option of both outdoor and undercover seating. To help make your experience even more

cont over



KINROSS BEER GARDEN

FRIDAY - SUNDAY 12 - 10PM

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Loch Leven Brewery are delighted to introduce 'Kinross Beer Garden' in The Market Park

- Friday - Sunday 12-10pm (July - October)
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- Teas, Coffees, Soft Drinks, Snacks & Food
- Children and dogs welcome
- Live Music will be performing periodically
- See Social Media for further details







Charity Cycle Passes Through Kinross



John and Kate Bosley

HAVE YOU SEEN BALLOONS, banners or other decorations located outside Burnbank B&B yet? They will be there throughout August and you may be wondering why. They are a thank you from the Kent Association for the Blind for a kind and inspiring couple who have been working hard with their charity fundraising efforts.

Kate and John Bosley from Maidstone in Kent are planning to ride 1400 miles, including from Land's End to John O'Groats, and are staying at the Burnbank Bed and Breakfast in Kinross on their way as part of their incredible journey which will last over 20 days in August.

Not particularly worried about their feat of cycling, the couple are more concerned about the availability of their accommodation in the current situation, as they have 21 bed and breakfast stops booked for their epic journey.

Kate's memory and eyesight was seriously damaged after a terrible cycling accident in Tenerife after which she spent six months in hospital. After the

accident the Kent Association for the Blind supported Kate to help her understand the implications of her disability, advised her on the support available and trained her to walk safely with a long cane. Her passion for cycling never diminished and as soon as possible, she was back on the bike, this time cycling in tandem with her husband, John.

The couple's journey will take them from John O'Groats to Land's End and then on to Margate, the location of headquarters of the Kent Association for the Blind, for which the couple are fundraising.

Kate said, 'Because I know about charity fundraising I have always wanted to thank them and make a difference. I don't know what I would have done without them,' she said.

They are hopeful, however, that the cycle will still be possible. 'We won't know until nearer the time. I think it will still go ahead,' Kate said.



Kate in training for her epic cycle

cont from previous page

enjoyable please remember, especially if you are popping by in the evening, to wear 'cosy and warm' clothes; it is Scotland after all. There will be table service for all orders and an easy-to-use app system for all ordering and payments, making everything as safe as possible for everyone. There will also be a track and trace registration system on entry.

Keep an eye on the social media page as the Brewery hope to include some informal live music, once the appropriate government guidelines allow.

The Tap Room at the brewery (next door to the beer garden) will be open as normal for off-trade sales (see the brewery's website for more details). They aim to continue supplying loyal customers with their popular and sustainable

refillable 1 and 2 litre bottles (growlers). Why not get them filled to takeaway while you savour a pint in the beer garden – sounds ideal!

So, whether you are planning a night out with family and friends, have been golfing at the fantastic Kinross Golf Courses, or you're simply visiting the area, pop by over the forthcoming summer weekends and shake off the 'lockdown blues'.

Keep your eyes peeled for some children's entertainment if and when the weather is good, and once government guidelines allow for your wee ones to safely expend all that energy they have built up these last few months.

Please be considerate and sensible at all times. Drink responsibly and help make this a great and memorable experience for everyone, locals and visitors alike.

Crosswell Fountain Work Completed

AFTER WORK HAD TO BE halted by the recent Coronavirus pandemic, conservation work has now finally been completed on the Crosswell Fountain.

In 2018 Kinross in Bloom had looked into the possibility of carrying out some work on the Crosswell fountain which missed out during the recent regeneration work carried out at the south end of the town. They employed a Consulting Engineer, Addison Conservation and Design, to carry out a survey and produce a report and conservation requirements to tidy up the fountain.

After recommendations, conservation work to be carried out included removing and re-setting the stone work in the upper water basin, cleaning out mortar joints throughout the fountain and repointing with a sympathetic hydraulic lime/clay based mortar, brushing down the entire fountain to remove algae and any vegetation in the mortar joints and treating the whole structure with a sterile solution, and finally, relining the lower water basin.



The restored Crosswell Fountain

Sponsorship was sought and a working contract produced. Several firms were invited to quote for the work and after some 'hiccups', the contract was finally let to Newton Grange stonework.

Work was scheduled to start on Monday 23 March 2020. Unfortunately, this date coincided with 'lock-down' and work was immediately stopped. Following consultation, Newton Grange Stonework were able to assure everybody that the work could still be carried out safely within the Government imposed restrictions and work was duly restarted. Following some delays in the receipt of certain materials due to the Covid19 crisis, the work was eventually completed on 23 June.

You may have noticed that the fountain does not look 'new'. This is because the cleaning of the stonework was carried out in a sympathetic manner. It was thought that water and sand blasting would leave the masonry surface open to the possibility

of rapid erosion, which would be detrimental to the fountain.

The Chair of Kinross in Bloom, Graham Barnett would like to express his personal thanks to several people for their hard work and endeavour in getting this project of the ground and completed. Firstly Susan Mitchell, the Secretary of the Bloom group, for all the long hours and hard work she has put in. Thanks also from Graham to Jenny Williams and Elspeth Bruce of P&K Council, Kirsten Mathison of Souter Associates and Krystyna Pytasz of Addison Conservation and Design, who all helped to get this project off the ground and completed within this difficult time, keeping us on the right track. Finally, a big thank you for all the support and help given by all the members of the Bloom Group Committee.

Graham told the Newsletter, 'To accompany the repair works, Kinross in Bloom have commissioned an Information Board which will be erected in front of the fountain. This Board will give a 'potted' history of the fountain and the local area. It will go up when all the paperwork and fabrication is completed. We hope that all who visit the fountain in the future will take the time to read this information board.'

HISTORY OF THE FOUNTAIN

The fountain was built in 1885 directly over the Cross Well, which was the source of the public water supply. The previous year had seen the Dundee Courier report on the Inauguration of Water Works at Kinross on 1 August 1884. The opening ceremony of introducing water into Kinross by means of gravitation took place in the presence of the Burgh Commissioners. Mrs Bogie, wife of the Chief Magistrate officiated, turning on the water, which was then supplied to residents of Kinross.

During the summer of 1885, Robert Burns Begg achieved great success in raising subscriptions for the erection of a fountain on what was described as 'a very suitable site adjoining the town steeple'. It was decided that the foundation should be made from stone and that it should have a 'spouting apparatus'. A competition to design the fountain was held; the Kinross Marshall museum still holds the original drawings of some competition entries.

The foundation stone was laid with Masonic Honours. A large number of people turned out to see the procession. Headed by the Milnathort Brass Band, the brethren marched, carrying banners and other insignia to the centre of the town, passing on their route through arches of bunting and flag. Arriving at the cross, they marched to the site of the fountain. A prayer was given, and a number of items making up a time capsule was then deposited into the lower part of the masonry in a cavity which had been specially prepared for them. These items include a number of coins, a Kinross-shire Advertiser, two directories and other county documents.

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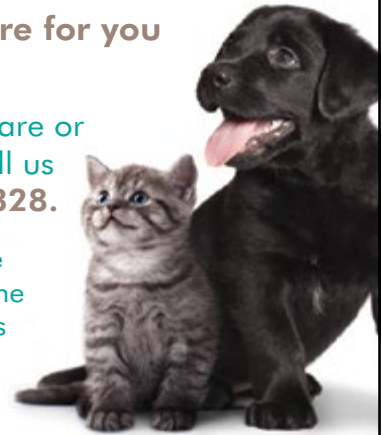


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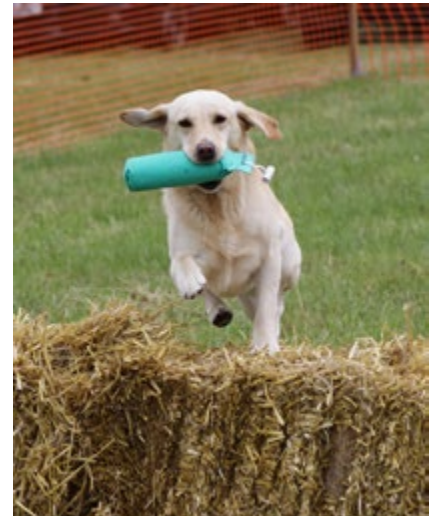
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Kinross Show Tractor Run



THE PANDEMIC THAT HAS swept through the UK since March has affected everyone in one way or another. Here in Scotland and Kinross-shire the number of cases of Covid-19 has been a lot lower and life is slowly returning to normal; well as normal as it's going to get for the next month at least.

All agricultural shows have been cancelled even the mighty Highland Show; a bitter disappointment to the organisers of these great social events.

As I mentioned last month we are going to have a tractor road run on Saturday 8 August (which would have been Kinross Show day) taking in the splendour of the Kinross-shire countryside.

We are going to have a horse and carriage, a decorated trailer and 20 trac-

tors of all sizes and ages going round the Loch starting at Fruix Farm.

Leaving Fruix Farm at 9.45am the tractors will pass through Kinross (10.05), Milnathort (10.20), Balgedie (10.40), Kinneswood (10.45), Scotlandwell (10.55) and back to Fruix Farm at 11.25. All times are approximate.

We would like to have 20 tractors. If you would like to enter then email your name, address and make of tractor to kinrossshow@gmail.com on a first come first served basis. Please meet at Fruix Farm at 8.45am onwards.

Hopefully the weather will be kind and if you see the tractors give them a cheer or a clap, it would be much appreciated.

Andrew Turnbull, Show President



The pictures shown here are from previous Kinross Shows showing the enormous variety of events and attractions - let's hope the show can go on in 2021!

KINROSS TRISHAWS UPDATE

THE TRISHAWS MANAGEMENT TEAM have been busy lately looking at ways to get the trishaws restarted and implementing measures to protect against the risk of COVID-19 transmission. You may soon see the trishaws around our local streets but currently they will not be delivering any passenger rides and only be used for training and practice for our pilots (who were newly recruited just before lockdown).

Pilots will be taking their family or friends in a social bubble out for training as they must undertake a minimum of four hours personal practice time in addition to the pilots training course. The team very much hope to offer passenger rides later in the year and wish all their passengers the best and hope everyone is keeping well. They look forward to seeing you soon.

NEW 20mph SPEED LIMITS IN P&K

TEMPORARY 20mph SPEED LIMITS are to be introduced in the next few weeks both in Kinross and Milnathort. The new limits are part of the £1.1 million Spaces for People project which aims to support active travel during lockdown. The 12 towns and villages across the Perth and Kinross region which have been selected for the 20mph project are Auchterarder, Alyth, Blairgowrie, Bridge of Earn, Comrie, Coupar Angus, Crieff, Glenfarg, Kinross, Milnathort, Pitlochry and Scone. These 12 towns have been chosen as they have a high density of pedestrian and vehicle movements.


The introduction of these new measures, (in some cases an extension to an existing zone) will hopefully improve road safety, enable safe physical distancing and encourage people to get outdoors while coronavirus restrictions remain in place.



A further 29 villages have been chosen because they have limited or no footways resulting in pedestrians and vehicles sharing road space, including Cleish in Kinross-shire.

Funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Sustrans Scotland, Spaces for People is a temporary infrastructure programme offering funding and support to make it safer for people who choose to walk, cycle or wheel for permitted journeys and exercise while physical distancing in place during COVID-19 as we transition out of lockdown.

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STEPHEN'S SUPERHEROES

ON SUNDAY 26 JULY, after this Newsletter goes to print, the team from the Kinross Co-op, the Lyon family and other friends and supporters will have completed a sponsored walk around the loch dressed in superhero costumes in memory of 21-year-old Stephen Lyon, who tragically took his own life in June.

They are raising money from SAMH, the Scottish Association for Mental Health and for SLF, the Stephen Lyon Foundation. Stephen had shown no significant signs that he was struggling or having suicidal thoughts and the foundation was set up by Stephen's family with the aim of empowering young men who are experiencing such thoughts, and to help them take control of their lives.

SLF is a voluntary organisation and it is hoped that the service will open soon, to act as a pedestal for change and awareness, led by research, with local support for the needs of those affected by suicide. You can contact the foundation at stephenlyonfoundation@gmail.com.



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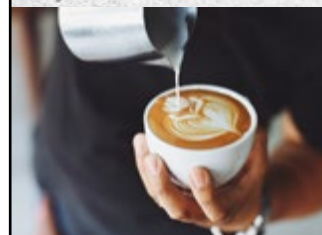
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Councillor Mike Barnacle

Rumbling Bridge Gorge

An abridged copy of an email sent to Andy Clegg on 5 July about local and tourist access to Rumbling Bridge Gorge:



Dear Andy,

This area was celebrated as a place of special beauty by Sarah Murray in A Companion Guide to the Beauties of Scotland in 1799. It has been neglected over recent years and I am not sure of the current status of any management plan but note some recent fence repairs. I note an email of 4/6/12 re the need for a path linkage from the Gorge to the Dollar footpath network and a pedestrian crossing near the nursing home. Also, following the planning consent 13/01233/FLL for a Hydro Scheme in December 2013, a developer contribution of £10,000 was made to PKC for footpath improvements in the area, which has not currently been spent?

There are also a number of visitor car-parking initiatives but no joined up thinking! i.e. adjacent to Braehead development as planning condition (previously PKC roads were unhappy with this locus for visitor parking), a planning permission for houses in grounds of the nursing home containing a visitor car park not actioned, a proposal for a new bridge across Devon by TRACKS with improved parking at Naemoor road and picnic area (the police previously wanted prohibition of parking here if better parking elsewhere), a willingness known to me by the owner of the ground between the nursing home and Naemoor road to help facilitate a carpark and footpath link. I would appreciate it if you could look at the ways in which we could improve the Gorge for locals and tourists alike with perhaps a site visit involving the local members and Fossoway CC.

Kind regards,
Cllr Mike Barnacle

I had the following response on 16 July:

Dear Mike,

Many thanks for your email and I absolutely agree this is a really important and under promoted site. We do have it in our programme for a proper site management plan to capture the issues, opportunities, funding and partnerships which will be needed to make the most of it.

We did make a start on it but have had a number of staff changes which delayed things, along with an inability to re-fill a vacant project officer post for over a year, despite advertising and interviewing twice. We are currently looking at some changes to that role to see if we can attract some better candidates.

In the meantime, we have done a number of significant repairs to the existing timber structures to ensure the site remains open and safe to use. Any further investment in infrastructure would benefit from the management plan approach and seeking external funding as we do successfully with the vast majority of our projects. This makes the Council's resources go much further but does take time to do.

Until then our approach is, by necessity, very much reactive repairs unfortunately. However, as soon as we have capacity in the team, we would be delighted to arrange meetings with the key parties and community to see what we can do as a partnership project for this much deserving site.

Best regards
Andy Clegg
Community Greenspace Manager (Interim)

Below is an abridged copy of an email sent to my ward colleagues on Wednesday 17 June, prior to a virtual meeting held on 30 June when we agreed to work together on the issues mentioned therein with the addition of affordable housing in rural communities, building on Covid19 experiences

by getting voluntary groups together, enhanced Kinross-shire border signage (forum) and the new cemetery policy!

Dear Colleagues,

I will not be standing for re-election in May 2022 when I will be 75, all being well. I have informed Karen Reid and Tayside Pension Fund accordingly! I have asked Karen Reid for a private meeting with me to discuss the above.

I am seeking progress on the following matters before I step down:

- *Pilot Area Committee of PKC for Kinross-shire,*
- *Lack of policy at PKC on maintaining sustainability of rural communities*
- *Ensuring the retention of 1 banking facility in Kinross-shire*
- *Pursuit of a rail link from Kinross to the Fife Circle (PKC policy)*
- *Restoring the landscape designations for the Cleish Hills & Devon Gorge*
- *Addressing the o/s crime & environment issues at Crook Moss Gypsy Traveller Site;*

In addition to these which I have tabled for talks with our CO, you may have other items that you feel we could work on together over the next two years i.e.

- *Ochil Hills & Lomond Hills Regional Parks creation and extension*
- *Level of housing developments in Kinross & Milnathort and their effect on the condition of Loch Leven, its catchment and our local health facilities*
- *Kinross-shire campaigns re digital connections*
- *Litter/flytipping?*

What do you think? Also note that, if no progress is made with some of these issues before I step down, I will seriously consider leading a campaign for Kinross-shire to secede from PKC and do a Rutland, principally because I don't think the planning dept in Perth is capable of improvement.*

Kind regards
Cllr Mike Barnacle

* Rutland is England's smallest county with the large expanse of Rutland Water, rural and similar to Kinross-shire with its loch, but we have more distinct geographic hill boundaries; Rutland was swallowed up by Leicestershire in yet another ill-advised Government re-organisation but the local people fought a successful campaign to get their county back; Kinross-shire merged with Perthshire in 1975 to become PKC and I see no reason why we couldn't secede therefrom if the people wished that?

Councillor Michael Barnacle
Independent Member for Kinross-shire

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Councillor Willie Robertson

Loch Leven Water Quality

The Persimmon application for phase 2 of Lathro Farm was refused at the July meeting of the Planning and Development Management Committee. However, comments from planners at the committee raised a few issues with me around the Council's planning policies with regards to Loch Leven. This has given rise to number of questions on this. I have written to Peter Marshall the Council's Head of Forward Planning and asked if he could provide answers to the questions below.

A planning officer stated at the planning meeting that under LDP2 the rules about limiting the increase in permitted phosphorous loading for Loch Leven had been relaxed and that new housing developments are permitted even though they lead to increases in the amounts of phosphorous entering the loch. This contradicts the statement contained within the Council's planning guidance for Loch Leven revised in May 2016. **Who proposed this relaxation and why was it agreed? To my knowledge none of the Kinross-shire ward councillors were consulted on this change.**

Because of the need to protect Loch Leven, 10% of the housing numbers allocated for Kinross-shire were removed and transferred into the Perth housing area. However, all applications coming forward for the Kinross/Milnathort housing areas are always at least 10% over the site allocations. These increases are usually accepted by our planning officers. **Why is the agreed 10% reduction being ignored?**

A Best Practice discharge limit for Total Phosphorus (TP) was established in the mid-1990s by the Forth River Purification Board (FRPB), following an EU workshop on achievable standards for phosphorus in sewage treatment processes. That was accepted at Kinross and also at the new Milnathort STW. It remains as the licenced limit at Milnathort to the present day.

In 2007, SEPA set new conditions for Kinross sewage treatment works (STW) under the provisions of the Water Environment and Water Services (Scotland) Act 2003, and the daughter regulations The Water Environment (Controlled Activities) (Scotland) Regulations 2005 (Licence number CAR/L/1001409). The new conditions included increasing the amount of phosphorus which the licence allows to be discharged. The original permitted maximum concentration of 2mg/L TP was increased by more than 50% to a new value of 3mg/L Soluble Reactive phosphorus (SRP) (a soluble fraction of the total obviously means the total will be the same or more probably for sewage effluent, a greater quantity).

Who requested that the discharge limits be increased by 50%? What are the environmental benefits from this increase?

As soon as I receive answers to the questions I have asked I will include them in my Newsletter report.

Road Resurfacing

Two streets badly in need of resurfacing, Montgomery Street, Kinross and Church Street, Milnathort are included in the road works programme in the next financial year 2021/22.

Green Park

The path resurfacing work in Green Park was not completed last winter. I have chased up the Council to find out when this will be finished. I have also had requests for better signage for Green Park and I have asked for this.

Councillor Willie Robertson



Councillor Callum Purves

Coronavirus

While the coronavirus pandemic continues to present many challenges for local residents, businesses and community groups, there is quite a lot of good news to report this month.

It has been heartening to see how well local businesses have been able to adapt so that they can reopen while adhering to the restrictions that are in place to keep people safe. The measures recently announced by the Chancellor on behalf of the UK Government, including a cut in VAT on tourism and hospitality products and services and the 'Eat Out to Help Out' discount scheme throughout August, should help this vital sector to get back on its feet. I would encourage as many local residents as possible to support our local businesses at this time.

This support for the hospitality sector is in addition to the to the significant funding the UK Government has already delivered for Scotland. The Chancellor's furlough scheme has secured the incomes of 736,500 Scots while a further 155,000 have been supported with Self-Employment Income Support Scheme. In addition, the UK Government has delivered nearly £5 billion extra in Barnett consequential to support local government, health and social care, the arts, and businesses. This just goes to show the benefits of Scotland's place in the United Kingdom.

We have also seen a welcome U-turn from the Scottish Government on schooling. While teachers and parents have been striving hard to ensure that children continue to learn at home, this is no substitute for the classroom environment. The original Scottish Government plans to have only half the pupils in at a time would have meant that some pupils could be in school as little as one day a week. This was clearly an intolerable position, which would have significantly affected children's development and hit the poorest and most disadvantage the hardest. Thankfully, after pressure from parents and educational experts, they relented, and schools are likely to resume full time in August.

In the last month, there have also been some significant and positive developments at Perth & Kinross Council.

Lathro Meadows Phase 2

As many of you will know by now, the application from Persimmon to add nearly even more houses to this site was refused by nine votes to four. The result was surprising in and of itself but also in how emphatic it was. This was a welcome change of approach from the Council's Planning Committee, which has often been reluctant to take the concerns of local residents into account when making its decisions.

In my deputation to the Committee, I highlighted a number of issues with the application. First, the increase in the number of houses proposed was contrary to policies designed to protect Loch Leven. Secondly, there are concerns about drainage and groundwater flooding on the site given the high water table. Thirdly, the proposed access onto Gallowhill Road would simply have exacerbated existing road safety concerns. Finally, the development was poorly designed with insufficient parking spaces, narrow roads and a lack of pavements. In addition to these specific concerns, all of the concerns raised about the previous applications (capacity at local schools, the health centre, and on the roads) still stand.

This was a great team effort with all four ward councillors working together at the meeting to ensure that the concerns of those in Kinross-shire were heard. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who wrote letters of objection to this application, which helped to strengthen our case.



Spaces for People

The Scottish Government recently announced a new Spaces for People fund to support projects to adapt streets for social distancing measures. While this is welcome, I am not convinced that the introduction of purely advisory one-way systems on our streets like the one the Council has imposed on Kinross High Street will help. My group pointed out that forcing people to cross the road more frequently to comply with the one-way system was in itself a safety hazard, but it seems that this had not been taken into account.

20mph Limits

There has been one benefit of the Spaces for People fund, however, and that has been allowing 20mph speed limits and zones to be fast tracked. I do not support the blanket introduction of 20mph speed limits in our towns and villages like we have seen in Edinburgh, but I do support introducing them in targeted areas (such as where there are no pavements or the streets are narrow) where there is strong community support for their introduction.

In addition to the one that has recently been implemented in Kinnesswood, a number of other sites that I have requested will have 20mph limits introduced. These include: Keltybridge and Maryburgh with a 40mph buffer between the B996 and Maryburgh; the High Street in Kinross from the current 20mph zone down to the junction with Clashburn Way; down Ladeside, along Duncrieve Road and up Greenbank Road in Glenfarg; and in Scotlandwell.

A977

While works on the A977 mitigation have frustratingly stalled (before the coronavirus pandemic), there is some welcome news about road improvements. The poor condition of the Main Street in Crook of Devon, which exacerbates the problem of noise from HGVs, is an issue that is regularly raised with me by local residents. The stretch from the garage to the pub is scheduled to be resurfaced from 24 August. In addition, the Main Street through Powmill is also scheduled to be resurfaced from 17 August.

56 Bus Route

Concerns were previously raised with me about changes to the 56 bus route. This resulted from Stagecoach withdrawing services that it operated commercially and the Council having to step in. Extensive consultation was undertaken in Glenfarg, which would have been left with no service at all. People were also worried about services from Kinross and Milnathort to Perth College, and from Perth in the evening. While bus timetables have been temporarily changed even further due to the pandemic, the Public Transport Unit have committed to a consultation on the changes in Kinross and Milnathort so that we can ensure an adequate service is in place. This is likely to take place later in the year.

CCTV

Since the beginning of last year, there have been increasing problems with crime, vandalism and antisocial behaviour in Kinross and Milnathort, particularly in the town centres. This has led to a number of suggestions that CCTV should be introduced both to act as a deterrent and to ensure that those engaging in such activities can be caught.

The Council is currently engaged in a project, part funded by Regional Development monies, to upgrade CCTV in the 'Tay Cities'. Use of the money has previously been restricted to Perth and Dundee. I asked if this could be extended to the wider region and this request has recently been approved. We shall look to progress the projects in Kinross and Milnathort in the coming months.

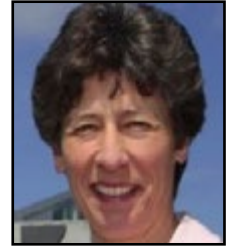
Committees

As I have mentioned previously, at the start of the coronavirus pandemic, civil servants at the Council invoked

emergency powers. Essentially this meant that, while still consulted, councillors would not be making decisions. Clearly, this is an unsatisfactory and unsustainable position and I am glad to note that it will cease on 17 August and that full democratic decision making – to the extent that you can say that about local government – will be restored.

Councillor Callum Purves

Liz Smith, MSP



As we now enter phase 3 of the roadmap out of lockdown spare a thought for our beleaguered tourism industry, which has lost millions of pounds during the Covid-19 crisis.

The tourism industry in Scotland is normally worth around £11.5 billion a year to the economy but has suffered very badly due to the lockdown. The much-awaited announcement that social distancing will be relaxed to one metre for pubs, restaurants and the retail sector was very welcome news – something the Scottish Conservatives and the business sector had been pushing for some time.

However, although this will help some parts of our tourist sector, the Scottish Tourism Alliance (STA) has warned that 'a great deal is at stake' for them, and matters were not helped by the First Minister recently suggesting that anyone from England visiting Scotland may have to go into quarantine for two weeks.

STA revealed that English holidaymakers had been asking about full refunds for their Scottish 'staycations' if Ms Sturgeon forced them to quarantine.

Tourism has a vital role to play in kick-starting the nation's economy, but business as a whole face many difficult challenges ahead as we come out of lockdown. The decision to ease social distancing to one metre for the hospitality and retail sectors has given them a lifeline, but it was very interesting to hear the thoughts of Professor Graeme Roy, Director at the University of Strathclyde's Fraser of Allander Institute, when he underlined how serious the situation is for Scotland's businesses by stating: 'The immediate priority for many businesses is survival.'

The Scottish Conservatives have tried to help matters by encouraging residents to shop locally with our 'Support our high streets campaign,' which included asking the Scottish Government to relax rules on outdoor eating and drinking.

The party also set out a five-point plan for businesses, entitled 'A Plan To Rebuild Our Economy', which is aimed at kick-starting the economy. This includes proposals for freeing up planning restrictions and licencing along with greater support for Business Improvement Districts.

In addition, businesses need certainty with sustained cuts to business rates including reducing the large business supplement and rates relief. The five-point plan stressed how more public procurement can help local economies – for example, every £1 spent with a local small or medium-sized business adds another 63p to the local economy.

We also asked the Scottish Government to help businesses go digital and trade online. The Scottish Conservative Party's ambition is to make Scotland the 'E-Commerce Capital of Europe' by setting up an E-Commerce Task Force.

The health of the nation is paramount – especially in unprecedented times like we face now - but it is also vital that we safeguard the country's economy as we now move towards the 'new normal.'

Liz Smith, MSP

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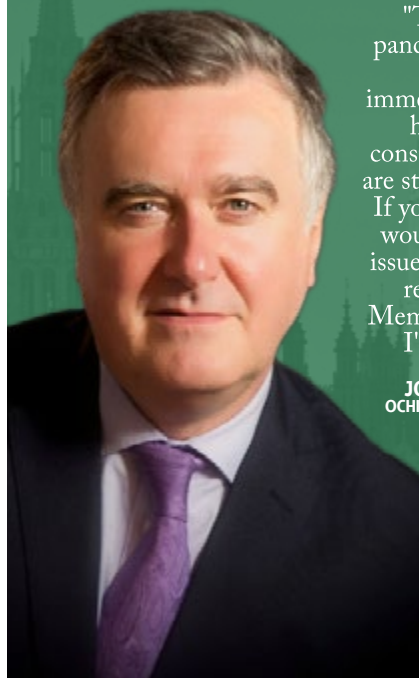
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Roseanna Cunningham, MSP



As I write, we have had a whole week with no Covid-19 related deaths, new infections are in single figures each day and the number in intensive care is reducing. Because the numbers are going in the right direction, our progress through the phases out of lockdown is continuing with the biggest step yet towards the old normal.

That progress is down, in huge measure, to extent to which the vast majority of people have adhered to the advice that has been issued.

The tourism sector can start up once more and pubs and restaurants are being re-opened. All of that brings with it a mixed sense of excitement and trepidation. I sincerely hope that this latest easing of restrictions will not result in an increase in the infection rate and that we are going to continue on this trajectory in which more and more pieces of the jigsaw are being put in the right place and we are starting to see a picture of our daily lives emerge that resembles the one on the lid of the box.

August is now upon us and every year, this is a time which for many brings another sense of excitement and trepidation as final preparations are made for getting children back to school. This year, of course, that has a significance far beyond the standard and for pupils and parents there will doubtless be many questions and concerns. I know that teachers, other school and everyone involved in the education of our children have been working really hard to make this happen.

As I considered what to focus on in this month's column I received information about the publication of new scientific advice for both the safe re-opening of schools and the resumption of school transport.

That advice indicates that no physical distancing is required between children and young people in primary and secondary schools.

For pupils using public transport, the advice recommends that guidance from the Scottish Government and Transport Scotland should continue to apply but dedicated school transport services should be regarded as an extension of the school estate, with physical distancing measures between pupils therefore unnecessary for as long as infection rates in Scotland remain low.

That is the bottom line. We must continue to drive the spread of this virus down and by keeping ourselves informed on the up to date guidance – and following that guidance, we will all play our part.

To all our young people, but particularly those starting out on the journey of education, or making the challenging but exciting transition from primary to secondary schooling, you have ahead of you new friendships, new experiences and many opportunities. I wish you every success in the world.

For any constituents needing advice or assistance, on the wide range of issues that fall under the responsibility of the Scottish Parliament, I can be contacted by post (63 Glasgow Road, Perth PH2 0PE), by phone (01738 620540), or by email (Roseanna.cunningham.msp@parliament.scot).

Stay safe and keep following the guidance that is being issued by the Scottish Government.

Roseanna Cunningham, MSP

John Nicolson, MP



It's been four weeks since my Mum died. The flowers friends sent have faded. And the cards have been put away. The absent-minded urge to pick up the phone to call her seems to be receding, replaced by a gnawing, growing acceptance that I will never hear her voice again.

I've experienced loss before – grandparents, a beloved aunt, and my Dad when I was a child. And yet, the unique pain of bereavement still has the power to surprise, no matter how many times it has struck before. The numbing grief which overwhelms every thought is brutal and pitiless.

And now there's the long, complex business of winding up a lifetime.

Mum was born in Govan and grew up in a room and kitchen in Scotstoun. Her beloved Dad was killed in the Clydeside Blitz and she left school to support her family working in the Post Office. When my Dad died she returned to work there, soldiering on behind the counter until she was over 80. Each time she reached '65', she'd retire again and move to another sub post office, shaving a decade off her age.

She was insecure about leaving school at 14 and went to night class in her 50s, scoring straight As in her Highers. As she got older, she became more confident. She was funny, opinionated, thravn, and passionately socially liberal. She always objected when people told her that things were better in the old days. She liked living now.

Mum moved into her flat as a young bride in 1960 and never left. Cupboards and boxes are bursting with her memories – ancestors on pre-paper tin photography plates posing on location in the Australian gold rush, her father's Bible with a child's scribbles on the front piece, and her own mother's last gift – a birthday card with a £10 note she couldn't bring herself to spend.

Each day at the house brings tears. She'd kept her wedding horseshoe, made of silver with a white satin ribbon attached, and every anniversary card my dad had sent her. All his love letters too. They'd been work colleagues and he'd dropped countless billets-doux furtively on to her desk as he'd passed. My school report cards are all there. None to be proud of. And then there are her diaries scribbled in jottings – dozens of them charting who was in and who was out of favour over the decades.

Clearing the house will take months. I can't wait for the process to be over. And yet, I don't want it to end and have to put the key in the lock of my childhood home one final time.

As a beautiful young woman, my Mum had been surrounded by men and loved their company. That never changed. My abiding memory of a dozen holidays with her in Greece throughout her eighties was returning from the beach to find her at the hotel swimming pool surrounded by handsome, young, gay men hanging on her every word.

She could light up a room.

John Nicolson, MP

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Mountain and Outdoor Safety

With the easing of lockdown and the beautiful weather recently there has been a noticeable increase in people heading to the great outdoors and enjoying the best that Perth and Kinross has to offer; particularly when it comes to walking and climbing.

However, given the propensity for the weather conditions to change rapidly, particularly at altitude, it is incumbent on all to make sure that they are prepared for all eventualities. After all there is no such thing as bad weather, only poor clothing choices.

So, before you head out to enjoy the wilderness please take a few minutes to ensure you and your party are fully prepared. Firstly, ensure that you carry clothing to deal with all types of weather, including hats and gloves as the temperature at the summit of a climb may vary significantly from the bottom; consider multiple layers which can be added or removed as required. Sturdy footwear is essential, as is a waterproof jacket and trousers and if you're taking a GPS device then make sure you have spare batteries; also take a map (of the correct area and know how to use it).

Compass, whistle, bivvy bag, spare foodstuffs and a first-aid kit should all be mandatory and don't cost the earth. Also, a mobile phone is of no use if it's got no charge so invest in a power pack or switch it off if not required.

Complacency is the climber's enemy so don't just assume that once you have reached the summit it's all over; descending can be equally perilous.

Always notify someone of your intended route and expected return time; a 'Climbers Location and Identity Verification' form can be found on the Police Scotland website as can further information on keeping yourself safe and a series of mountain safety videos

Every individual is responsible for their own safety whilst on the hills so don't find yourself relying on the professionalism of a mountain rescue team when a few simple preparations and precautions can help us all enjoy the best that the outdoors has to offer.

For more information visit the 'Keep Safe' pages on the Police Scotland website where there are also links for advice about safety around inland and coastal water. Or visit the Scottish Mountain Rescue website.

Recent Incidents

At the time of writing, there were no incidents to report in the Kinross-shire area from July.

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

Rogue Traders - Who Should I Call...

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

- **Contact the police immediately on 999**

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

- **Contact the police on 101.**
- **Try and take a note of vehicle details or registration numbers, and descriptions of anyone suspicious.**

...if I want to contact the police anonymously?

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

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

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

Police Scotland – local community

Telephone 101 for non-emergencies

Community officers for Kinross-shire:

PC Ben Clark and PC Matthew Ross.

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

Community Sergeant (Kinross-shire): **Sgt Michelle Burns.**

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

PC Spalding is also on Police Scotland twitter and can be followed on twitter.com/policescotland or [@Kinross](https://twitter.com/Kinross)

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Facebook: www.facebook.com/PoliceScotland

Website: www.scotland.police.uk

Community Watch

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

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

Crime Stoppers

– Telephone 0800 555 111

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

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Features

A Feast For The Eyes



Detail from J Blaeu's 'Fife ViceComitatus, The Sherifdome of Fyfe', Atlas Novus, Vol. V, showing Loch Leven and part of Kinross-shire

Kinross (Marshall) Museum, for its size, contains one of the best collections of manuscript maps to be found in a small local museum in Scotland. Dating back over nearly three centuries, these maps and plans provide a wonderful resource for anyone wanting to explore the landscape, place names and historical geography of Kinross-shire. To find the first detailed maps of the county, however, you have to search back into the mid-17th century when Scotland was put on the map by a Dutch publisher named Joan Blaeu.

Sometime between about 1583 and 1614, a clergyman and graduate of St Andrew's University named Timothy Pont travelled the length and breadth of the country mapping Scotland and compiling geographical descriptions of each region he passed through. A remarkable undertaking, this comprehensive and detailed survey survived in the form of manuscript maps which eventually found their way to Joan Blaeu, a Dutch map-maker in Amsterdam.

But it was not until 1654, after countless delays, that the Scottish maps were published in the form of an atlas comprising 49 maps and 154 pages of descriptive text. With the publication of the fifth volume of Blaeu's Atlas Novus, Scotland arguably became one of the best-mapped countries in the world at that time.

By the beginning of the 17th century both church and state were taking a keen interest in promoting map-making. Not only that, Scotland was developing close links with the Low Countries at a time when the centre of gravity for map

and atlas publishing was shifting there from Italy. Amsterdam, in particular, became the world centre of geographical publishing, with the Blaeus developing a major world atlas project. It was not until 1631 that Pont's maps reached Amsterdam and it was to take another eleven years for Joan Blaeu to complete the engraving of 35 maps.

Because the original manuscript maps were either illegible or lacking in coverage, Blaeu called on the services of Robert Gordon of Straloch to provide seven drafts based on Timothy Pont's work as well as four new maps filling gaps in areas where there were no Pont manuscript maps available.

cont overleaf

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Features

Cont from previous page

Civil war in Britain, followed by the Anglo-Dutch War of 1652-54 further delayed publication of the Scottish volume, but the resulting atlas, presenting maps by region or county, illustrated Scotland in a form never seen before.

Fife and Kinross are exceptionally well covered on three maps published in the Blaeu atlas. The West Part of Fife and the East Part of Fife are largely thought to be based on Timothy Pont's survey without the intervention of Robert Gordon.

A third map covering the whole of The Sherifdome of Fyfe, however, was drawn by Robert Gordon's son James who created a totally new map following a survey in 1642.

A sketch by James Gordon of that part of the map covering Kinross-shire, as it was at that time, later found its way to the Advocate's Library in Edinburgh. Entitled *Keanrosse-shyre* described Oct. 25 1642, this sketch was lithographed from the original drawing two centuries later when the Kinross antiquarian 'David Marshall, Loch Leven Fishings', was granted permission by the Faculty of Advocates on 25 May 1865. A copy of this map can be found in the map collection in Kinross (Marshall) Museum.

The Blaeu maps were not designed to help you navigate your way from A to B; you will, for instance, see roads on only one of the 49 maps. The accurate location of places was less important than what has been described as political 'land writing' or regional geography that provides information on settlements, rivers, woodlands, mines and mills.

On the detail illustrated here, townships and farms such as 'Kineskwood' (Kinnesswood) and 'Caviltoun' (Cavelstone)

are depicted with a small circle and more important centres and castles with larger stylised sketches, mostly coloured in red. The pre-William Bruce Kinross House is named New hous and churches such as 'Orwell K.' are depicted as a circle with a cross. Landscape features including 'Binn-eartie' (Bernarty) are shown in a simple stylised fashion and although there are no roads shown, you will find bridges crossing the Gairney Water and the South Queich. Curiously, on Loch Leven there is, in addition to Castle Island and St Serf's Island, a third unnamed island.

Shown to be the most accurate map in the whole volume, James Gordon's resurvey of The Sherifdome of Fyfe, as published in full colour by Joan Blaeu, is certainly, in the words of Blaeu, 'a feast for the eyes.'

Prof David Munro



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The Drone Ranger

I was born at the edge of an airfield in the Mull of Kintyre, son of an Air Traffic Engineer with a mother who worked for Canadian Airlines. It is hardly surprising I took up a hobby involving flight. But why droning in particular?

Droning gives you a unique perspective on the world. The everyday and mundane become the amazing and spectacular. Your local town and countryside can be analysed and enjoyed from a myriad of previously undiscovered angles.

My advice is to buy a cheap drone for about £30 or so and learn about pitch, roll and yaw the hard way. No automatic pilot, no GPS, no auto take-off or landing. Find the largest grassy area you can and practise, practise, practise. If you crash, bash or smash your beloved drone you have only lost the price of a few fish suppers.

When you are ready, buy a better drone, but think. Are you interested in the silky smooth cinematic shots you see in epic films, or are you more of an action-adventure droner? The decision will guide you to choose a drone with a top quality camera or an fpv drone with superb manoeuvrability. Decide who you are going to be.

I spent a year or so shooting video. I liked the dynamic of making a castle seem to shoot into the sky by dipping down below the horizon or heading straight for a subject and veering off at the last minute, making clips seem active and exciting. It was definitely a good way to annihilate your flying machine.

I eventually chose to be the cinematic type hence the carefully composed shots of Kinross-shire you may have seen on the Kinross Community Group FaceBook Page. In doing this I went through a whole new learning curve which included working out ISO, shutter, aperture settings. I am still learning which makes this hobby continually challenging and enjoyable. The more recent drones do it all for you.

Eventually I sought out people of similar interests and through FaceBook groups such as Droning Scotland and learnt about the lucky folk who drone for a living, the people who travel as part of their jobs and catch a quick half



an hour here and there droning as a method of relaxation.

That's not my way. I'm retired. I look up the BBC Weather app often, to find that perfect day, low wind, sunny but

not too sunny, no rain. It may only be one day in a month or two but the anticipation gives me the dopamine my brain is missing. There is plenty of time to plan about three places to drone on that day. Three batteries, each giving me 34 minutes of flying joy. I can be away from early in the morning catching a sunrise heralding the new day, appreciating what birds do naturally, until just before the black pit of night as the sun sets and the shreds of light sleep soundly until the new dawn.

So do it! Buy a drone, follow the drone code, appreciate what's around you and fly a whole new chapter.

For more pictures, see my Facebook page, 'Yer drones oot the windae.'

Andy Masson





Views from above (clockwise, from left):
Kinross House
The old Kinross High School
The Orwell Stones (below)

Opposite page: Andy Masson (top)
Kinross Parish Church (below)



Features



Top left: Milnathort. Top right: Andy droning on
Below: Sad end for the Windlestrae.





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Loch Leven Health Centre Out of Hours 01577 865252

NHS 24 111

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Victoria Hospital, Kirkcaldy 01592 643355

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Davidson's Chemist, Milnathort 01577 862219

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(*42* telephone and leave a voicemail)

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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

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Don't Let Summer Tick You Off

AS COVID-19 RECEDES, hopefully not to return, this is probably an opportune time to draw your attention to another disease, the cause of which definitely returns every year. I refer of course to Lyme disease.

Lyme disease was only recognised as recently as 1993 and is caused by a bacteria known as *Borrelia burgdorferi* which sounds like something you would catch in a drive-through. The bacteria are transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected tick. These ticks are found all over the UK but are particularly common in Tayside and the Central Highlands, in woodlands, long grass and open countryside. Although Lyme disease can occur at any time of year, it is more common in summer and early autumn.

The Big Tick Project in 2016 found that one third of dogs studied had ticks attached which can then be transmitted to their owners.

The importance of awareness of the disease lies in the ability to prevent tick bites, as there is no current vaccine against Lyme disease. The following advice may help:

- If walking, running, cycling or even playing golf, **wear long sleeved shirts and trousers tucked into socks.**
- **Use insect repellent** on exposed skin.
- **Check yourself, family members and pets** for ticks at the end of a day spent in woodland or long grass areas.

Tick Removal

Ticks, if found, are best removed with special tick removal tweezers available at pharmacies or veterinary surgeries. After removal, the area of skin should be cleaned with



The tell-tale rash of a tick bite

antiseptic or soap and water. **DO NOT** try to burn ticks off or douse them with alcohol.

When to contact the surgery:

If you are not sure if you have removed all of the tick, please contact the surgery, you may be asked to send a photo of the area. A number of people bitten by ticks develop a distinctive rash sometimes up to three weeks after being bitten. The photo above shows a typical rash. If the affected person also develops fever and muscle aches, you should contact the surgery or our Out of Hours service.

Again, a photograph will be helpful to the clinician in deciding how to deal with the situation.

Treatment of Lyme disease is beyond the scope of this article, but remember – prevention is the key. Be 'tick aware'.

Dr Alistair McCracken, GP

A Letter From Dr Gordon Allott

Many of you will already know that I left St Serfs Medical Practice on Friday 26 June to take up a full time job in the NHS Tayside Department of Dermatology. I've been working part time in Dermatology for the past 12 years and could not refuse this opportunity when it came along.

It's bitter-sweet leaving Kinross. I have been here for 14 years: it's the longest I have worked in one place and I have loved getting to know the area and the

people of Kinross-shire. I have made so many friends who I am sad to part from. I count myself fortunate to have had the support of a skilled, professional group of medical, nursing, pharmacy, associated health professional, and reception staff colleagues. At the same time I'm really looking forward to the challenges and opportunities of my new role.

It is great to see that the practice has recruited some wonderful new doctors, all of whom are much younger,

smarter and with more hair than me. The practice looks to be in safe hands for the future.

Patients make any general practice – we would be out of a job without you! – and over the past 14 years I've got to know so many of you very well. It is one of the great privileges of general practice to share in your lives at times of both joy and sadness. Thank you all. I wish you the very best for the future.

Dr Gordon Allott

Everyone Is Somebody

RECENTLY I came across this little poem:

*I kept looking for somebody
To solve the problem,
And then I realized,
I am somebody.*

Anon

When you read these few words and think about them, they start to take on a different meaning. Have you ever had a problem that you thought you couldn't solve? Was your first thought to get someone else to solve your problem for you? You could sit on your chair forever and wait for someone to solve your problem. I wonder if that system of sitting and worrying works very well? It's amazing how many people do employ that exact strategy. Often we don't recognise the gifts and talents we have. Or we may lack confidence in our own abilities so we look to other people to solve our problems for us. Many people think of strengths as characteristics that others can see and admire.

However, there are many qualities (such as our emotional intelligence) that give us an inner strength. When we learn to trust our inner strength we often find that we have the answers we need and we can solve our own problems. Emotional Intelligence is a modern term for what used to be called common sense. Psychologists, principally Daniel Goleman, have been studying what makes an effective, happy, and balanced person. The studies have shown that an emotionally intelligent person has the following characteristics. These people are:

- Self aware
- Good managers of their feelings
- Able to make decisions
- Able to manage stress
- Take personal responsibility for their actions
- Able to identify with others' feelings
- Good communicators
- Able to work well with others
- Able to deal with conflict

Doubtless you will recognise some or all of these in your self, but also notice that you are stronger in some areas than in others. The good news is that we can all be good at all of these things, although many choose not to be – hence the numbers of fights and hurt feelings around. It just takes awareness, a little practice, an open mind and a willingness to change.



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There is a saying that one sign of madness is to keep doing the same thing over and over, expecting a different result. Take a little time to ponder this. On a sheet of paper, write out all the qualities that you think you have, but that other people might not be able to see. Then, beside each quality write how you might use that quality, to help yourself or another.

There is another way that you can use your innate qualities and trust your inner self in problem solving. It's called the 'Steven Spielberg Syndrome'. Spielberg always knew that he wanted to make pictures, wonderful pictures that would bring pleasure and information to millions. Steven knew what he could do, but was also very aware of what he could not do. So, he gathered around himself all the people who had the strengths that he did not have. He was not a lighting expert, he did not know how to use a hand-held camera well, and he did not have a perfect eye for design. None of these 'weaknesses' stopped him from making his films, because he sought out and found the people who could do these things. He recognised his strengths and weaknesses, and put both to good use.

There is nothing to stop us from claiming the 'Steven Spielberg Syndrome.' It is the strong person who asks for help. It is the wise person who can admit not to know something and seek the answer. It is the brave person who admits loneliness, and the humble person who can admit to making a mistake. What a paradox, vulnerability as strength.

So, when you are looking for somebody to solve your problems just remember: YOU ARE SOMEBODY!

Jo Middlemiss



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Go Wild In The Water



Photo of wild swimmers by Julia Barnes

IF, LIKE ME, YOU struggle to walk past an open body of water without wanting to just jump right in, you're not alone. While a paddle is sometimes satisfying enough, especially on a cold day, there are psychological benefits to taking an invigorating, and usually very cold dip in a natural water source.

Wild swimming makes you feel alive. Not only does it satisfy a hunger for adventure and create a mood-boosting feeling of invincibility, it can help with chronic pain. Florence Nightingale and Charles Dicken both claimed to have been cured by traditional forms of 'hydrotherapy'; in days gone by, regular cold baths were often used as a tonic to strengthen the mental constitution and physical state.

Wild swimming can be an excellent mental health tonic, producing a natural endorphin high. It is a very good way to release stress, like a form of mindfulness or meditation. Entering cold water and immersing yourself in it can also help to sooth muscles, relieve depression and boost your immune system. It will certainly bring you into the moment, as you focus on physical sensations.

When you enter the water your body undergoes 'vasodilation', the widening of your blood vessels. Fresh blood is pumped to your extremities. The Turks and Romans were there way before us with their hot-cold plunge pools. A cold dip provides a psychological kick start, releasing endorphins, a natural high bringing on intense feelings of well-being and an addictive urge to dive back in.

The more you swim in cold water the less you will feel the cold and the greater the health benefits. This called 'cold adaptation'. Not only does it reduce your body's sensation of coldness, it boosts mood, libido and the immune system. Coldwater swimming is also a good way to burn calories quickly, and build muscle tone. Don't stay in so long that you start to shiver; get out and warm up after a maximum of 20 minutes.

Where to swim wild?

Sadly, with blue-green algae in Loch Leven during the summer months, you will have to look elsewhere for a safe place to

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Yoga With Catharine - 7.45pm

Friday

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Meditation with Zoe will be FREE. Classes will be £7.00. You will need to download the free Zoom app, this can be done on a phone, laptop, computer or tablet. Signing up to classes is essential as you will be sent an invitation 15 minutes before the class starts with log in information.

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swim. Luckily, Scotland has plenty of places to offer! Take a look at www.wildswimming.co.uk or join the Wild Swimming Scotland group on Facebook – there are local groups listed here where you can join and swim with others, as well as discuss the merits and pitfalls of wetsuits and suitable footwear.

How to stay safe

- *Never swim in canals, urban rivers, stagnant lakes or reedy shallows. Riverbanks can be slippery and hard to climb. Shingle beaches 'shelve' quickly, often becoming very deep not far from shore. Weeds and reeds are annoying but also can be dangerous if they are very thick. If you swim into dense reeds, avoid thrashing or fast movements and use your arms to swim away from that area.*
- *Check the current. Throw in a stick – if it floats off faster than you can swim, you won't be able to beat the current when returning upstream.*
- *Gauge the depth. Diving or jumping should be carried out with great caution, even if you frequent a particular spot. Cold water shock can be deadly. If you must dive or jump always check the water is obstacle free and gauge the depth first by getting in and checking it out from the water, not from the side.*
- *Never swim in flood water and be cautious of water quality during droughts.*
- *Cover open wounds. Always cover up nicks and scratches with a good quality water resistant plaster.*
- *Know your algae. Blue-green algae is a slippery and*

potentially dangerous substance. It's most commonly found in the late summer, and can cause skin rash, irritation to the eyes and sickness if swallowed.

- *Don't get too cold – warm up with exercise and warm clothes before and after a swim. Hypothermia comes on gradually. You may start to feel 'foggy' or excessively tired. If your teeth start chattering or you're starting to shiver then get out, put on some dry clothing and do some light exercise – a walk is enough.*
- *Always make sure you know how you will get out before you get in, in case you get into trouble or need to get out of the water fast.*
- *Wear footwear if you can.*
- *Watch out for boats. Wear a coloured swim hat so you can be seen.*
- *Don't swim alone. Avoid swimming alone. If swimming with a friend isn't possible then trail a bright tow float behind you on a cord and wear a colourful swim hat – red is the most visible.*
- *Prevent cramps by being well hydrated before you get in. Dehydration and excessive strain on muscles can cause cramp, particularly during a long swim – if this does occur swim backstroke back to shore and rehydrate.*
- *Wild swimming is often not suitable for young children, who need constant supervision in water and a good quality buoyancy aid.*

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Community Council News

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

Milnathort And Orwell Community Council News from the July meeting

Present at the meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2020 were Community Councillors (CCllrs) Craig Williams (chairman), Malcolm Thomson (vice chairman) and Elizabeth Rougvie (secretary); Councillors (Cllrs) Callum Purves and Willie Robertson, and four members of the public.

Apologies were received from: CCllrs Sean Colebourn and Andy McCrae.

Police Matters

Concerns were expressed about the number of break-ins to property and vans that had taken place during lockdown, often involving the theft of expensive tools and equipment. Cllr Robertson will take up the matter with the police and in the meantime members of the public are advised not to keep valuable items in their vehicles.

Matters Arising

CCTV Cllr Purves advised that he had enquired about the council's mobile CCTV unit but it was not yet available. A member of the sub-committee formed to investigate the installation of CCTV in the village joined the meeting later and reported that local businesses would be approached on or after July 15 with a view to offering them incentives to install CCTV at their premises. Meanwhile, broadband is to be installed in Milnathort Town Hall, which will be helpful.

Planning Matters

Applications Decided

20/00817/FLL Change of use from open space to form extension to garden ground at 31 Marshall Place. *Refused.*

20/00611/FLL Change of use from agricultural land to form extension to garden ground (in retrospect) on land adjacent to 4 Netherhall Steadings. *Approved.*

20/00647/FLL Erection of four houses (revised site layout) on land at Hattonburn Farm. *Approved.*

Correspondence

Email from PKC setting out proposals for enhancing physical distancing measures for pedestrians. These include extending the existing 20mph zone in New Road to South Street and Stirling Road. *Noted.*

Email from PKC including a link to a consultation on the impact of COVID-19 on communities. *Noted following discussion.*

Email from PKC regarding the fly-tipping fund set up to help landowners, communities and individuals carry out mini-projects to clear fly-tipping from private land. A total of £20,000 is available for this and applicants are encouraged to seek support from their local councillors. Visit www.pkc.gov.uk/flytippingfund for more information. *Noted after discussion.*

Email including a survey to gather information for a new initiative, Get Out Get Active Tayside (GOGA). *Noted.*

Email regarding the proposed removal of 17 payphones, including the one at The Cross. Consultation closes on September 27. *Noted.*

Email about the Scottish Government's Community and Renewable Energy Scheme (CARES). *Noted.*

Email regarding the launch of the REDS initiative (Rural Enterprise Directory Scotland) and highlighting the grants and

support available via GrowBiz Scotland. For more information, visit crowdfunder.co.uk/reds

Invitation from Kinross-shire and Glenfarg Communities Stronger to attend a Zoom meeting on 23 July. *CCllr Thomson will attend.*

Email from the Festive Lighting Company including stock list for Christmas 2020. *Noted following brief discussion.*

Councillors' Reports

Cllr Robertson thanked his fellow ward councillors for their efforts in helping to defeat the Lathro Phase Two application by nine votes to four. He was congratulated by the CC chairman for his achievements in terms of planning.

Cllr Robertson advised that he has written to the Reporter assigned to determine the Pitdownies appeal asking if a late submission would be accepted about the impact of the proposed development on Loch Leven. The Reporter had agreed this was valid and will be taken into account.

There are a number of overgrown hedges in the village, notably in New Road and Crawford Place. Householders are reminded that they must be cut back to ensure they don't obstruct pavements.

Adult cyclists are reminded that they must not cycle on pavements.

Other business

Parking on pavements: Following concerns about a van permanently parked on the pavement in Auld Mart Road, it was agreed that the secretary would email the company concerned to ask if it could be moved.

Speeding issues: Several residents have complained about the speed of vehicles and bicycles going down North Street. Cllr Robertson will ask the police to monitor and Cllr Purves will follow up proposals to install a vehicle-activated sign. Concerns have also been raised about speeding in Burleigh Road, where vehicle-activated signs are already in place, and Back Loan. Cllr Robertson advised that he had already contacted the police about Back Loan but will also ask for Burleigh Road to be targeted.

Blocked drains: A member of the public had contacted the CC about the blocked drains at the zebra crossing in South Street. Cllr Robertson will follow this up, along with the issue of vans being parked too close to the crossing.

Milnathort and Orwell Community Council will be taking a break in August, so the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 10, 2020 at 7pm. It will be held via Zoom if still necessary.

Kinross Community Council News from the July meeting

Present at the meeting held on 23 June 2020 via Zoom were Community Councillors (CCllrs) W Freeman (Chair), D Colliar, L McKay, M McFarlane, Councillors (Cllrs) C Purves and W Robertson and Mrs C Aird.

Apologies were received from: Cllr T Stewart, Cllrs M Barnacle and R Watters.

Police Report

There had been no police report received by the time of the meeting. After discussion it was agreed that the Minute Secretary would email Police Scotland to advise that the CC had resumed their monthly meetings and to ask Police

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Scotland to attend on a regular basis. A written report is to be requested if representatives are unable to attend.

Matters Arising

Kinross in Bloom/Crosswell Fountain

Cllr D Colliar advised that he had spoken to KiB regarding the planning application to be submitted – all particulars have been submitted.

Website

Cllr M McFarlane confirmed that there had been a productive meeting in respect of the website – what had been seen previously had been a rough outline but it had been agreed that the website would now be shared. One action which came about following the meeting was the request for biographies of CC members to be included. Cllr W Freeman thought the bios was a good idea but that it was up to individual members as to whether they wished information to be uploaded and suggested using the by-election submissions, rather than creating new ones. Cllrs D Colliar and L McKay confirmed that they did not wish their biographies to be uploaded. Cllr McFarlane advised that the next iteration of the website was due in early July and the CC would be invited to review and comment on the content.

Kinross Town Centre

Cllr D Colliar requested an update in respect of PKC returning to work following Covid-19 and asked whether the Roads Dept are working as he had noticed a hole in the monoblocks and bent poles at the opticians. Cllr W Robertson advised that the Roads Dept are undertaking emergency repairs only but that contractors had been brought in to help. It was agreed that Cllrs C Purves and W Robertson would follow this up.

Cllr L McKay advised that there had been a post on the CC Facebook page where a member of the public had advised that they had received an email advising that works on Bowton Road had been completed (potholes and manhole cover) but they had not. Cllr L McKay agreed to forward the details to Cllr W Robertson after the meeting.

Cllr C Purves advised that Councillors have a meeting with the Roads Dept. in the next couple of weeks in respect of repairs and proposed timelines and feedback would be given a future meeting.

It was noted that demolition work at the Windlestrae Hotel had started.

Speeding in Rural Areas

The issue of speeding was raised, especially in Gairneybank where one resident had sadly lost her pet. It was noted that while speeding issues could be raised with the CC, this was a Police Scotland matter but it had been noted that there had been an increase in the amount of speeding, especially since lockdown. Cllr Purves advised that he had requested vehicle activated speed signs but that there were no VAS available – Police Scotland have said that they would increase their patrols in the area.

Cllr L McKay commented that when drivers were slowing down for the VAS, they were being overtaken by other drivers and suggested that rumble strips be put on the roads as a deterrent. Cllr W Robertson agreed to ask PKC to put in speed monitors which would advise exactly how much of a problem it was. He will also speak to Police Scotland about increasing their checks in the area. Cllr McKay agreed to pass on details of the resident's address.

Planning

Applications Received

20/00580/FLL Alterations to dwelling house and erection of a dwelling house at land 10 metres east of 51 Argyll Road, Kinross

20/00668/LAW Alterations and extension to dwelling house (proposed) at 9 Broom Road, Kinross

20/00642/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house at 9 Parliament Square, Kinross

20/00700/FLL Erection of a dwelling house to form poultry manager's accommodation, formation of access roads, parking areas and landscaping, installation of air source heat pump, erection of a fence, gates and associated works at land 780 metres south west of Balado House Lodge, Balado

Planning Applications Determined by PKC

20/00606/FLL Extension to dwelling house at 16 Mavisbank, Kinross. *Approved*

20/00571/FLL Alterations and extension to dwelling house at 21 McWilliam Place, Kinross. *Withdrawn*

20/00507/IPL Renewal of planning permission 17/00497/IPL (erection of a dwelling house (in principle)) at land to rear of Station Road, Kinross. *Approved*

20/00460/FLL Alterations to dwelling house at Kinrara, St Ronan's Drive, Kinross. *Approved*

20/00415/FLL Installation of replacement door at 5 Swansacre, Kinross. *Approved*

20/00288/FLL Alterations to boundary fence, formation of hardstanding area, erection of a storage shed and associated works at King George V Playing Fields, Muirs, Kinross. *Refused*

Reports from Perth & Kinross Councillors

Cllr C Purves advised that PKC were currently working under emergency powers with regular committees not meeting at present, although virtual meetings have commenced recently and the planning and licensing committees have recommenced their meetings.

There is a full Council meeting tomorrow where discussions will be centred on the budget and dealing with a possible reduction in funding.

Community engagement is moving forward with conversations taking place in respect of what PKC do well (as seen with Kinross Kindness) and what could be improved upon. Business grants/support was issued quickly with obstacles being removed in order to help the community in the recent pandemic.

Cllr W Robertson advised that he had written to PKC in respect of the overgrown plants in Burns Begg Street – work had commenced prior to lockdown to resolve this issue but the area has become even more overgrown in recent times.

In respect of the planning application by Persimmon Homes for Phase II at Lathro, Cllr Robertson advised that there was a meeting next week where he would ask to speak. He is of the opinion that the application should be deferred due to a PKC planning rule which states that the application should be refused if phosphorous is entering the Loch. Scottish National Heritage are seeking funding to research phosphorous coming from land, waste water or treatment works and Cllr Robertson is of the view that until these studies are complete, no planning applications for houses should be approved meantime.

Reports from CC Representatives

Cllr M McFarlane advised that he had attended a meeting on 8 June hosted by Cllr Purves in respect of broadband availability. There is around £14m to draw down to put Gb broadband into Kinross-shire with residents being able to claim £1500 each and businesses £3500. There was a lot of detail provided at the meeting, with the suggestion that a community partnership be set up. A steering committee has been set up and Cllr McFarlane has volunteered to sit on this committee.

Cllr Purves confirmed that there had been a lot of interest, with Milnathort and Cleish CCs having representatives on the steering committee. More information will be provided at a future meeting.

Cllr L McKay advised that she had received an email in respect of a rail link between Kinross/Perth/Cowdenbeath and enquired as to the current position.

Community Council News

Cllr Robertson advised that he had met with Transport Scotland nearly 5 years ago and at that time, the rail link was not seen as a priority and the only way to progress this issue would be for MSPs to support the suggestion of the rail link.

Cllr Purves advised that the most recent development had been that Liz Smith had raised motions in the Scottish Parliament. PKC had taken a view to re-establish the Perth/Edinburgh link and Cllr Purves agreed to speak to Liz Smith about this further. An update will be given at a future meeting.

Correspondence

Royal Mail Cllr L McKay advised that there appeared to be a backlog in deliveries by Royal Mail and having spoken to a member of staff at the local depot, it became apparent that some staff had been furloughed while others were off sick. There was a particular issue with mail deliveries in the Muirs/Springfield Road area and after discussion it was agreed that Cllr McKay would contact Royal Mail to discuss what could be done to improve the situation.

All other correspondence has been circulated to Members.

Any Other Competent Business

Stagecoach Buses (Route 56) Cllr C Purves advised that there had been a change to the timetable of this particular route with a lot of consultation in the Glenfarg area. Apparently if the bus route is part removed, PKC will step in to arrange a service to be provided but if the route was fully removed then Glenfarg would have very little service.

A review of services is to take place once lockdown has been removed and things are getting back to normal. An update will be given at a future meeting.

The next meeting of Kinross Community Council will be held on Tuesday 28 July 2020 at 7.30 pm via Zoom unless other arrangements are made.

Portmoak Community Council News from the July meeting

Present at the meeting held on 14 July via Zoom were: Community Councillors (Cllrs) G Cox, (Chairman); D Morris (Vice Chair); A Davidson (Treasurer); S McGregor (Secretary); A Cragoe; S Forde; Councillors (Cllrs) C Purves and W Robertson and 3 members of the public.

Matters Arising

Covid-19 impact in the area: G Cox wanted to look quickly at the impact of Covid-19 in Portmoak: To provide context he indicated that there was good news on horizon: Sweden are showing almost identical cases and fatality rate as Scotland, and probably going to declare herd immunity shortly, so there appears to be low levels of virus and therefore light at end of tunnel. Downsides: if Covid19 is eliminated no longer high priority for a vaccine. Elimination is straightforward

by actioning lockdown, more difficult is how to continue to suppress the virus. Pandemic situation may continue through winter and into Spring hence PCC shall need to actively plan measures to support the community.

Footpath from Scotlandwell to the Church, Hall and beyond:

The Chairman acknowledged that the development of this footpath had not progressed since last meeting. Nevertheless, PCC had responded on 19 June, to a PKC consultation under additional Covid19 initiatives, to again highlight dangers of footpaths in Scotlandwell, Kinnesswood, Easter Balgedie, and Wester Balgedie. Cllr Purves commented that in addition to this response, PKC were also looking to introduce other 20mph limits, and possibly extend the 20mph Kinnesswood trial to Scotlandwell. Cllr Purves had also asked PKC for their views on the PCC consultation response. This was about 2 weeks ago. Cllr Robertson suggested PKC may have capacity issues during the pandemic. PKC employees have been redeployed and are just now starting to come back from redeployed positions. PKC have been swamped with requests from the latest consultation and may be struggling to process requests from all the different areas. Cllr Purves indicated frustration that some actions for implementing social distancing signage changes were being taken without due process being followed e.g. in Kinross, they have started putting out stickers for 1-way system on pavements but no risk assessment has been done re: crossing roads at certain points. Meanwhile rural requests with long standing concerns have been ignored. The Chairman offered if PCC could do anything to help expedite actions? He had witnessed a near fatality when out walking along footpath down to Scotlandwell where a person had stepped off footpath into the road, to allow a mother with a pram to continue on the footpath, but had stepped into path of an oncoming truck which in turn had to take avoiding action swerving to other side of road, luckily there was no oncoming traffic. To note the Social Distancing guidelines are forcing people to step into the carriageway as the footpaths are not wide enough. Cllr Robertson agreed that that particular section of road has a terrible path. There is urgency to spend, but there should be long-term planning for spending. Cllr Morris commented that this situation always seems to arise, PCC need to have a set of open ready projects ready to go when funds become available. The Chairman repeated the offer from the PCC to Cllr Robertson and Cllr Purves that if the PCC are willing to assist to facilitate PKC to help them spend their money.

Portmoak traffic calming & 20mph speed limit: The Chairman requested an update from Cllr Purves who commented that there had been a large number of requests for 20mph zones in Kinross-shire. Cllr responded that he has been, and will continue, to actively pursue this with PKC. Cllr Robertson responded that he was advocating a new policy which would require 20mph limits to be established in all areas where



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narrow pavements existed. Cllr Purves agreed with Willie Robertson. The Scotlandwell 20mph limit is progressing. In the case of Kinnesswood it had been previously raised to PKC Officers about the offer from Daryl McKeown to discuss various options and there was still an option to do that, though maybe not site visits at present. This measure is a very quick short-term measure. We should still look to progress this and arrange another meeting. For other traffic calming issues, the officers need to do site visits.

Cllr Cragoe commented that the local community had raised concerns again and there was a suggestion to start a petition to raise awareness of the issue. It may be possible also to get a road traffic engineer to visit the area and give the local community some guidelines on best options. Cllr Robertson suggested to try and progress 20mph speed limits without petition for now, though a petition may be useful later. The Chairman indicated that PCC have a plan that they would like to see happen which included: 1. 20mph limits in Scotlandwell; 2. improvement to the path between Scotlandwell & Kilmagadwood; 3. Buildouts in Kinnesswood, Road layouts in W Balgedie and Scotlandwell. The PCC are prepared to compile a coordinated plan if this is helpful to PKC. Currently the PCC were going for a piecemeal approach due to offers of funding for specific changes. The Chairman commented that the Scottish Government policy of staying 5 miles within your locality had attracted a huge increase of visitors into Portmoak, the carparks at Moss, Church and Village Hall are packed. Portmoak want to welcome people, but visitors are often not used to driving in the countryside, there is an increase in cars and motorbikes speeding, litter, bikes and pedestrians. While restrictions have been lifted people are not changing their habits accordingly, they are continuing to stay local. A member of the public pointed out that these issues are true in all areas of Portmoak,

not just the largest villages. Cllr Robertson agreed these were problems which had taken PKC by surprise, also wild camping and leaving rubbish, tents and BBQs. To date in Kinross-shire this has not been a huge problem, but there has been an increase particularly at Burleigh Sands and Glen Vale.

Portmoak Cemetery: There was some confusion as to the actions arising from the last PCC meeting. The Chairman summarised: PCC believe there are two viable sites: site#1 adjacent to the existing Church cemetery is owned by people in Kirkcaldy, site#2 is between Easter & Wester Balgedie and owned by a local farmer who is amenable to selling the land. Cllr Cragoe thought at the end of the last meeting it was decided to look at both sites: Site#1 is the easiest option as infrastructure is there and requires only cutting through the hedge. Site#2 is easier to obtain, but it would be more expensive to convert. It was thought PKC were to write to the owners of the land adjacent to the cemetery to ask their permission. Cllr Robertson thought that site#1 next to cemetery had been dig tested and the site wasn't suitable. Cllr Cragoe said another site at the bottom part of the cemetery had been tested and was unsuitable, but the site beside the road is suitable and requires only to be cut through the hedge. Cllr Cragoe had emailed PKC and spoken to Liam Hynd last week, and was expecting a call back but this has not happened. Site #2 will incur costs for the land and cost to adapt it and is also exposed and not ideal for burial services. Site#1 has infrastructure e.g. car park existing already. The Chairman commented that the last contact with landowners of Site#1 was with regard to the Scotlandwell footpath and they were not interested in selling. In original LDP that land was zoned for development, but in LDP2 it is no longer zoned for development so the owners may be more receptive now. Cllr Purves: suggested if Site#1 is an easy extension and the community are able to get an agreement from the landowners that would be the best way to proceed. Under current policy it is unlikely that a compulsory



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purchase will be made. It doesn't mean it's not possible. It would be best if PCC could contact the land owners again. The Chairman responded to Cllrs that PKC do not appear to be willing to use their powers where necessary. He asked if PKC staff would come down and do a site visit before the next PCC meeting. Cllr Purves agreed to ask for the site survey. But reiterated the compulsory purchases powers aren't so straightforward, where appropriate they should be used, but under the current policy it is unlikely. Cllr Morris commented that there was an excessive reluctance on the part of PKC to use compulsory purchase powers to deliver public needs and this attitude had to change, as a matter of urgency. W Robertson thought the PKC Officers had probably taken decision to concentrate all burials in the same site. It could be suggested there is dragging of feet. Nothing will probably be done, leaving people with no option other than a plot in the Kinross cemetery. Cllr Purves concurred that this is the policy – to concentrate burials in the main conurbations.

Loch Leven water quality: Cllr Robertson: believes that the guidelines have been relaxed with regard to the upper amounts of phosphates allowed to go into the loch. It was unclear who was responsible for what appeared to be the steady erosion of the protection standards that had been established for water quality in Loch Leven in previous years. It might be related to recent large house building projects in the Kinross area.

Core Path PTMK 115 (Glen Vale to Glen Lomond and Dryside Road): The Chairman outlined again the increase of visitors coming into Portmoak during lockdown, also that this coincided with the farmers' lambing period. There had been some difficulties including signage removal. Cllr Davidson explained the Core Path PTMK 115 was previously indicated with a sign on Dryside Road which showed where the core path left Dryside Road and turned up towards the Lomond Hills – the sign had gone and is still missing. The question was would PKC or someone else (possibly a landowner) put the sign back so that people could see the route of the core path. Additionally, a social media forum was promoting the walk to John Knox's pulpit via Glenlomond, and incorrectly citing directions for a path from the car park at Glenlomond direct to John Knox's pulpit. Currently Glenlomond residents have placed temporary signage at Glenlomond village diverting the traffic from Glenlomond along the Dryside Road to Glenvale. although this throws the parking problem over to Fife. The problem has already been communicated to PKC, and needs only action. Cllr Robertson indicated he would ask Dave Stubbs at Community Greenspace what is happening. Cllr Davidson offered to assist Dave Stubbs, should a site visit be appropriate, to indicate exactly where the sign should go. Cllr Morris indicated that the PCC Paths Group had brought this missing sign problem to the attention of PCC Community Greenspace several weeks ago but their intended site visit had been cancelled because PKC had a policy in place which regarded such site visits as 'non essential'. There was an urgent need for this policy to be changed.

New Matters

Bank of Scotland closure Kinross: PCC noted that this had been postponed, for the time being.

SEPA/Scottish Enterprise River Leven Catchment Project: Cllr Morris reported on recent press coverage of this project, which was a joint effort by these two government agencies to promote sustainable development aims in the context of the climate emergency, along with a range of partner organisations. It was a ten-year programme for completion in 2030 and had attracted international recognition as an exemplar of how economic and environmental goals could be achieved in cooperation with local community interests. So far the focus of effort had been in the lower reaches of the River Leven but it was anticipated that initiatives would follow in the upper reaches, including the area around Loch Leven. So far the emphasis had been with Fife based organisations and

there appeared to be, as yet, no engagement with PKC or local community councils around Loch Leven. Ward Councillors and PCC welcomed the opportunity for dialogue with SEPA and SE on this project and this would be pursued in the near future.

Local Police Report: The Chairman commented that police presence in Portmoak has been a game of 2 halves: first lots of police cars cruising about enforcing lockdown, but no evidence of police when there were issues with Scramble Bikes on core paths, or checking the speed of traffic on the local roads.

Planning

New applications:

20/00711/AML Land 20 Metres East Of Leven House Scotlandwell Erection of 2 dwellinghouses (matters specified in conditions of **17/02274/IPL**). Closing date for comments: 3 July 2020. PCC had requested an extension of this closing date so that the application could be discussed at the PCC meeting on 14 July but this request was refused by PKC. A letter of objection to the planning application was submitted to PKC on 10 July. PCC had received confirmation that the application had been approved on 7 July, three days before receipt of PCC objection. PCC noted, once again, that there was concern that, despite the original planning application for 10 houses having been rejected by a Scottish Government Reporter, that had been followed by repeated applications for smaller numbers of houses at the same location which had all been approved by PKC. This had resulted in the number of builds being now almost the same as the original rejected application. The Chairman expressed annoyance at the way in which PKC seemed oblivious to the waste of time and effort on the part of PCC and others in making representations against these planning applications. The Planning team at PKC seemed to make no consideration of what PCC says on this matter and completely ignores the previous decision of a Scottish Government Reporter. We need to get to a situation where the PCC comments are listened to. Cllr Robertson commented that the land was part of a flood plain and almost a bog, on occasion. Cllr Purves, commented that the decision date appeared to have been on 7 July knowing that a representation from the Community Council, as a statutory consultee, was still awaited. PCC agreed to make representations to the Scottish Government to the effect that the planning process in PKC was not fit for purpose. Cllr Robertson indicated that similar concerns had been expressed by other Community Councils in Kinross-shire.

Progress with Developments:

Westfield Community Liaison Committee: update on public availability of minutes of the Westfield Liaison Group meetings. The last meeting, a site visit to the Hargreaves energy from waste facility (under construction at Earls Gate, Grangemouth) was the same day as the last PCC meeting and will be reported to next meeting of the Liaison Committee. A tender document has been prepared by Hargreaves for the feasibility study (by Hargreaves and Brockwell Energy) of the proposed, multi-user, off-road path between Westfield and the B996/B9097 junction, with links into local communities. PCC was pleased to note that this work was proceeding despite the Lockdown difficulties. Cllr Morris noted that George Lawrie had left TRACKS. Cllr Robertson, explained that because much work had stopped over the summer with regard to Covid-19, nothing had been done about replacing George Lawrie. In the meantime, it was hoped that George would still be able to provide some advice on the Westfield project, as needed. The Chairman queried if there was any news about the actual financial viability of the Westfield site given current economic difficulties. A local member of the public who has visibility of the site commented there appears to have been some work around the wind turbines, and landscaping. Apart from that there did not seem to be much happening on site.

Paths Group: to note progress: Cllr Dave Morris reported that both the PCC Paths Group and PKC had been busy out strimming paths. The increased activity by PKC was related to Covid 19 requirements and the need to keep 2 metre separation between path users. The Paths Group have been progressing the Kinnesswood car park sign and associated leaflet, and this is near completion. There has been an increase in volunteer participation in the Paths Group which is great. At the moment, weather has been quite dry so paths are in good condition.

Treasurer CC Accounts: Michael Bruce Way: Balance £2171.73 General Account: Balance £695.80 Awaiting £700 invoice for leaflets and sign. Funding for leaflets applied for.

Councillors' Reports:

Cllr Purves: flagged that PKC are conducting an engagement process: Recovery and Renewal process, Impact of Coronavirus, to tie in with wider objectives. There was a move to adopt a more 'think yes' approach within the council and other ways to reduce bureaucracy. What can council do better? What can community groups take on and do better. It seems good that PKC are open to change. The consultation process was open to all of the public. People within the Portmoak Community are invited to express their views of their experience during the Covid-19 pandemic by visiting: <https://consult.pkc.gov.uk/housing-environment/covid-19-impact-survey/>

Cllr Robertson: explained that due to the Covid-19 pandemic PKC are exceeding their spending limits in lots of areas, and an emergency budget was likely. Things are very much up in the air: school transport is a consideration, for example, with a huge increase in costs due to physical distancing requirements. Road safety measures may be constrained by budget considerations.

Matters Notified To The Secretary plus Matters Raised From The Floor:

Co-options of additional members to PCC: The Scheme for Establishment of CCs in PKC limits the number of co-opted members to no more than one third of the total CC membership. This means that PKC has already reached that limit with two co-opted members out of six total members. But we can add people with particular skills or knowledge as 'Associate Members'. Option is for a fixed period, or the term of office of the CC. In addition, people who are co-opted, e.g. Sue McGregor & Ann Davidson, will become normal full members after 12 months, at that point in time PCC would have 6 full members and could move to co-opt more members, subject to PKC agreement. If you exceed one third under any circumstances a by-election is automatically triggered. The Cllrs agreed this was correct. PCC agreed to appoint Graham Smith and Kenneth Donaldson as Associate Members, subject to their agreement, with a view to co-opting them in due course.

Guidelines on holding physical Community Council meetings: The Cllrs indicated that most CCs were proceeding with online meetings.

The next meeting of Portmoak Community Council will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 11 August 2020 via Zoom (access details can be requested by emailing Secretary@Portmoak.org).

Fossoway and District CC News from the July Meeting

Fossoway and District Community Council did not meet in July. Their next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 4 August, 2020 at Carnbo Village Hall if Government guidelines allow. It will be held via Zoom if still necessary.

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Club & Community Group News

Common Grounds

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



Common Grounds opened its doors on Saturday 18 July. Stringent care is being taken to ensure every safety precaution so that all who come do so safely and with confidence. There's an air of excitement at the prospect of catching up with friendly faces and cheery chat.

As important, however, will be the fundraising for hard pressed charities whose incomes have been devastated in such a short time. Hopefully, if all goes well, we will be back in action but will go forward cautiously and only open on Tuesdays and Saturdays at the usual time of 10am to 12.30pm. This will be reviewed as time goes on. With the easing of lockdown (hopefully successful), readers can find time to discover/rediscovers the warm hospitality that is on offer at Common Grounds. Our yellow billboard at the entrance to Church Street, Milnathort will point the way!

Our opening hours are still 10am to 12.30pm Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. You can also check our website.

Contacts outside of opening hours are Elspeth Caldwell (Convener) on 01577 863350 and Linda Freeman (Secretary) on 01577 865045.

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Wednesday, Friday and Saturday at the Guide and Scout Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. You can also check our website.

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Portmoak Community Woodland Group

<http://www.portmoakcw.org.uk/>

Himalayan Balsam is a plant with pretty pink flowers and ugly habits. It's an invader which has been rapidly colonising field edges and ditches round Kinross-shire and smothering other vegetation.

That's why members of Portmoak Community Woodland Group have been battling against it for the past few weeks by pulling up armfuls of the plant. This trench warfare has been taking place in the ditches near the main entrance to Portmoak Moss. Luckily Scotland moved into Phase 3 of easing lockdown just in time for a serious offensive in early July.

Our volunteers were easily able to keep socially distanced, working at intervals along the ditches and with plenty of hand gel and disinfectant in case we had to share any tools. Himalayan Balsam grows very tall and has thick stems but its roots are shallow so it's actually very easy to pull out by hand. Aside from thinking about Covid-19 we had to be careful in

Portmoak Community Woodland Group volunteers demonstrate the art of social distancing while bashing the Himalayan Balsam



some of the deeper ditches which are also full of brambles and sticky mud. Then there's the risk of getting ticks. In the event the one injury was a wasp sting.

This is the third consecutive year we've done Himalayan Balsam bashing and, where we've kept at it, we appear to be winning the fight. Very little has reappeared in the ditch beside the main entrance path where our principal effort has been focussed. It's really important to keep going if we're to prevent it getting into the Moss itself.

Our other battle line is the one against reseeded birch saplings in the centre of the Moss. You can see where we have pulled them out but they're growing really fast in the areas we haven't been able to get to yet.

Woodland Trust Scotland have promised to tackle the birch which has grown back along the northern edge of the peat dome and we hope to see them in action any day now. Most of their staff were furloughed during lockdown and their contractors were unable to operate. Like all charities they are going to suffer money problems but seem confident that they'll be able to do some of their key work.

The good news is that the woods have never been busier and we're very pleased to be welcoming new members to the woodland group this summer. There's always plenty to do and plans to make for the future so we hope others will also join us.

Kinross & District Rotary Club

www.ribi.org



New President for Kinross Rotary

The new Rotary year begins on 1 July and on Monday 29 June we held our first online presidential handover. Outgoing President Phil Teale reviewed the past year's activities, unfortunately slightly curtailed by the pandemic since March. He thanked the council and members for their help throughout the year and, with a little bit of magic, handed over the chain of office with his best wishes for a successful year to incoming President Brian Timms.



New Rotary president Brian Timms

Brian is looking forward to his year in office and tackling the challenges of membership, service, public image and renewed strategy in the 'New Norm' after the pandemic. He hopes that members will continue to help the club become fully engaged in the local community whilst having some fun at the same time.

District Governor Elect Alistair Robb addressed the meeting. He told us that he believes that the last three months of lockdown has identified areas of need in all communities that has provided Rotary with the power to change lives and to give people in need hope for their future.

Toastmaster

'Rotary Opens Opportunities' and personal benefit to members includes the chance to develop leadership and public speaking skills.

On 13 July, Gerry Dunn spoke online to members about Toastmasters; a non-profit educational organisation that operates clubs worldwide for the purpose of promoting communication, public speaking and leadership. Recently, an alliance has been announced between Rotary and Toastmasters to further enhance opportunities for personal and professional growth. Gerry explained to us how Toastmasters meetings encourage members to become more effective communicators through a range of experiences, challenges and supportive measures.

There are Toastmasters Clubs in Perth and Dunfermline; visit www.toastmasters.org for further details.

Fit, Hairy and Still Raising Funds!

Our usual summer events have, regrettably, had to be abandoned this year. However, Rotarians are seeking new and inventive ways to raise funds, turning challenges into opportunities, supporting the community and having fun!

Lockdown 1200

Do you need to shift some pounds and get fitter again after Lockdown? We recognise that cycling or walking is excellent for our fitness and wellbeing and many members of the club

Rotary

Club of Kinross & District

Lockdown 1200

Virtual Route : Kinross to Inverness – North Coast 500 – Inverness to Kinross

During August members of the Rotary Club of Kinross & District Rotary Club will cycle or walk the cumulative distance of 1200km to raise funds for :

BROKE NOT BROKEN and KINROSS CENTRE

Your support of this event would be very much appreciated. Donations can be made via our Just Giving page :

www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/secretary-rotaryclubofkinrossanddistrict

have pledged, during the month of August, to cycle (outdoors or indoors) or walk a such cumulative distance of 1200km along a virtual route; approximately the distance from Kinross to Inverness, the North Coast 500 and returning to Kinross. We hope to raise a minimum of £1000 to continue our support for Broke Not Broken and the Day Centre who have been doing great work in our community during the lockdown. If you would like to support our efforts on Lockdown 1200 you can make a donation via our Just Giving page at www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/secretary-rotaryclubofkinrossanddistrict.

Hair Today

Has your hair grown out of control during Lockdown? George Lawrie vowed not to get his hair cut to see if he can replicate his wedding photo of 40 years ago. He has invited sponsorship to raise funds for the Rotary 'End Polio' campaign and 'The Royal Highland Education Trust'. George has raised £175 so far for each of his chosen charities!

Happy Ruby Anniversary, George and Mary!

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An idea of what one day's lunch parcels might look like for Broke Not Broken

Ethiopia Medical Project

We also continue our humanitarian service globally as well as in the local community, and regularly support Rotarian Jo Middlemiss and her Ethiopia Medical Project. On 16 July many club members attended a hugely successful virtual speaker event, 'Footnotes of an Adventurer' with Alistair Humphreys. Alistair's travel experiences are quite extraordinary and we all thoroughly enjoyed his engaging anecdotes which will hopefully inspire us to live a little more adventurously! It is expected that the evening should raise over £3000 for the Project. To find out more about Alastair's adventures visit <https://alastairhumphreys.com/> and www.ethiopiamedicalproject.com for details of this amazing charity.

Well Done!

Members of the club congratulate past President Malcom Wood of Peel Tech on the company winning a Silver Award for technical innovation from the Royal Highland Agricultural Society of Scotland. This is a prestigious award that is handed out annually at the Royal Highland Show for recognition of innovation that helps the food and farming sectors advance efficient practice in production and processing. We're proud of you Malcolm and Peel Tech!

Come and Join Us!

We will be unable to meet in person in the immediate future, but online meetings will continue with great success and we are planning ahead. We would love you to join us.

Please contact George Riddell, club secretary, by email at secretary.krdc@gmail.com or check our Facebook page.

Broke Not Broken

Kinross Food Bank

It has been a mixed month of highs and lows. We received a lovely letter praising our hard work from the Lord Lieutenant but we know a lot of hard work remains to be done. Isn't that nice? He said:

'Thank you and very well done for all you have done, are doing and will do in the future for your Community ... On behalf of Her Majesty, thank you all. This crisis has brought out the very best of peoples' humanity and compassion – yours is a shining example of that.'

We continue to work harder than we ever have done before and on several fronts. In June we delivered 314 parcels

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Donations from Morrisons and from St James' Church

to individuals and families in Kinross-shire. We continue to receive referrals for people who have never used the food bank before. This is due to various issues including unemployment after lockdown, low income and illness.

We have also been successful in several bids for funding to deliver several other projects. One is our counselling service; it is now fully funded for the next year and is continuing to be well used. We now have six spaces for clients to receive one on one counselling. Thanks to the National Lottery for their support with this important service.

We have also received £8500 to supply fresh fruit, veg and dairy to our clients for the next six months. These items are among the most expensive on a shopping list and are important for a balanced, healthy diet. We are so grateful to PKAVS for their help with the funding application and for their ongoing support.

We received £2500 from the Community Initiatives Fund to supply outdoor activities to families by purchasing and distributing balls, frisbees, skipping ropes, chalk and other items to encourage people to be active. We worked on this with Cath Devanny, Active Schools Co-ordinator. Cath was

crucial to the delivery of this project. We were able to get great value for money by working with Poundland Perth and Dunfermline and have agreed to use the excess funding to buy helmets and bike locks to support the Bike Project with Men's Shed.

Whilst we have a whole host of people to thank, we would like to give a big shout out to Sandy Baird. At the start of lockdown Sandy donated the use of a refrigerated trailer to hold some goods we received at the last minute. We are not geared up for a large donation of that kind and the quality and quantity could not be passed up. He agreed to give us the trailer for a few weeks; four months later we still have use of the trailer and we are so grateful to him for this as it allows us to store fruit and veg for distribution in our parcels.


We continue to receive donations from Sainsburys, Poundland, Morrisons, Tescos and Baynes and are now also working with D&D dairies to get regular dairy items.

We are now starting to look forward to the future. Like many, we expect that things will never really be the same again and we have to consider that will look like for us and our clients. We have built up lots of contacts with other groups like the

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Club & Community Group News

Crook of Devon Resilience Group, other food banks in Alyth, Auchterarder, Alloa and Perth and various other individuals and groups who regularly go above and beyond.

A pool of dedicated volunteers have really been pulling out all the stops to ensure we can deliver to some very rural locations as well as in towns and villages each week. We are aware of how heavily we rely on them. Working out how to best use our volunteer force resource will be one of the key features of our future planning.

Our volunteers get a lot out of what they do. Here is a wee snippet from one of our volunteers about why they volunteer for us:-

'Now that I'm not able to do my normal stints at the Foodbank, I'm really pleased to have a weekly slot to do home deliveries. It's been great to get to know just a few of the many people that Broke Not Broken are supporting. My

daughter has also enjoyed joining me, chatting with some of the children we meet on the doorstep (at a safe distance of course!). Naturally I'm sad that foodbanks need to exist but this pandemic has shown just how vital they are and, under different circumstances, I could need to use them too.'

If you would like to donate or volunteer please email admin@brokenotbroken.org.

If you want to donate food there are drop-offs at Sainsburys, Co-op and Glenfarg Village Shop.

If you want to donate money:

- Contact us by email at admin@brokenotbroken.org.
- Donate money onto our store card at Sainsburys instore.
- Donate to the Just Giving page set up by Kinross Kindness.

As always, thanks for your support. Contact us by email at admin@brokenotbroken.org.



View of Glenfarg' by Muriel Bell - August 2020 from the KADAC Calendar 2020

Kinross and District Art Club

www.kadac.co.uk

In autumn our 2020 calendar was on sale at our exhibition. This calendar will now be hanging in houses around Kinross and further afield. It has been a delight to turn the calendar each month during lockdown and see yet another lovely work of art by our artists. We could not possibly have imagined how significant 2020 would become when we produced the calendar last year. Since the start of these strange times, we have turned over the calendar five times now; March through to August. We hope that the simple pleasure of turning to the next month on your calendar has given you as much joy as members felt when they created it.



In usual circumstances, regular club sessions would have been starting again on Tuesday 25 August 2020. However, this is not possible due to current Covid-19 restrictions. We hope that, as these restrictions continue to change, painting sessions will be able to resume. Mindful of the guidelines, the committee are currently working to develop the safest and simplest way to restart the regular paintings sessions. These preparations will ensure that we will be ready to open whenever we are permitted to do so. Meanwhile we will continue to enjoy painting and sharing our artworks with each other electronically.

During normal times, the club meets each week on Tuesdays and Fridays (2-4pm) in Millbridge Hall. If you are interested in joining the club and developing your own creativity, you will

Kinross Centre

Hope you are all safe and well.

We have some good news; we are hoping that we can open again in August! We don't have an exact date yet as we are waiting confirmation but let us assure you that we are ready to go when we get the go ahead.

There will be a few changes in place; we will be operating a one way system when entering and leaving the building, we will also be taking temperatures (which is contact free) and, while travelling on our buses, everyone must wear a face covering. We will also be asking everyone to sanitise their hands when entering and leaving the building. We have screens for social distancing and there will only be two people at a table for lunch. We know this will be difficult at the beginning but hopefully we will be back to near normal soon. We will be able to do some activities like bingo but cards and dominos are not possible for the time being.

Meanwhile we are continuing with our meals, shopping and medication deliveries and we will still be delivering lunch to those of you don't yet feel they can return to the centre. This will continue for as long as needed.

Starting a new normal will be very difficult so in the meantime continue to stay safe.

Lastly, a great big thank you goes to all the hard working staff, volunteers and committee at Kinross Centre along with all other organisations in this area We couldn't do this without you!

We would love you to be involved with the Kinross Centre either as a service-user, a volunteer or as a supporter. If you would like further information please contact Nan Cook on 01577 863869. Please stay safe.

Kinross High School

Following what has been the most unusual and challenging school year in the history of Kinross High School and all the hard work that has gone into operating in a virtual learning environment, we can safely say our whole school community has well and truly earned a break this summer!

Although it's more Kinross than Kavos this year, we hope our pupils and their families have the opportunity to explore more local destinations and make the most of the Scottish sunshine as lockdown restrictions are relaxed further. The teachers became the students this year by quickly learning new digital skills so, after months of adapting to teaching in Virtual School, we also hope our teachers enjoy some well-deserved time off.

With many of our usual end of term events scuppered by the pandemic and the likelihood that large gatherings won't be possible for some time to come, we've had to find alternative ways to celebrate the successes of our school community.



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Our electronic newsletter Virtual School Roundup was emailed home weekly to showcase the everyday things pupils were doing to make their teachers proud. Sharing updates from each faculty gave parents and carers the opportunity to see some of the inventive and creative learning and teaching going on. You can check out how hard our young people have been working on our website.

The end of term provides an opportunity to reflect not only on all the amazing achievements during lockdown but also on our young people's performance throughout the school session. In our final term of the session, we emailed home around 2000 personalised electronic praise postcards which we hope gave our pupils and their parents a wee boost during lockdown and despite it not being possible to host our annual Awards Ceremony on campus, Mrs Brown recorded a special message for the winners. Their certificates were posted so they could celebrate with their families from the safety and comfort of their own homes and those due to receive medals or trophies will be able to do so at a later stage.

Another one of our annual events to get a digital makeover was the Positive Destinations Event which brings together presentations from various organisations for those taking their first steps into the world beyond Kinross High School. Special thanks go to our Skills Development Scotland, Perth College, UCAS and SAAS for their contributions.

Each year, the transition days allow P7 pupils to find their way around the building and get acquainted with their teachers to help allay their nerves; despite restrictions, we couldn't let our incoming S1s miss out on their transition experience, so the milestone event was taken online! Using our interactive

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map of the school, pupils were able to click their way around the corridors and visit classrooms to see introductions from the principal teachers of each department who gave them a fun task to complete before they start. We're looking forward to welcoming them to Kinross High School in August when they'll have the whole school to themselves for a day before we begin to welcome other year groups back. The transition webpages will remain online throughout August to support pupils as they begin their journey with Kinross High School so have a look on our website.

Re-opening schools is a big step in the Scottish Government's plans to ease out of lockdown and the health and safety of our community remains at the heart of our plans to re-orientate pupils to Kinross High School. Teachers and staff will have time to make any final preparations on the in-service days on 10 and 11 August and the rest of the week will see a phased return of pupils. All being well, we look forward to welcoming all pupils back to full time education from 17 August.

Kinross High School remains at the heart of Loch Leven Community Campus and whilst we take our first careful steps towards a full return to school, the campus will remain closed to members of the public until we receive further government advice on how we can provide services safely.

We hope all at Kinross High School enjoy the remainder of their summer holiday and we look forward to welcoming pupils back to Kinross High School in August!

Guide Dogs

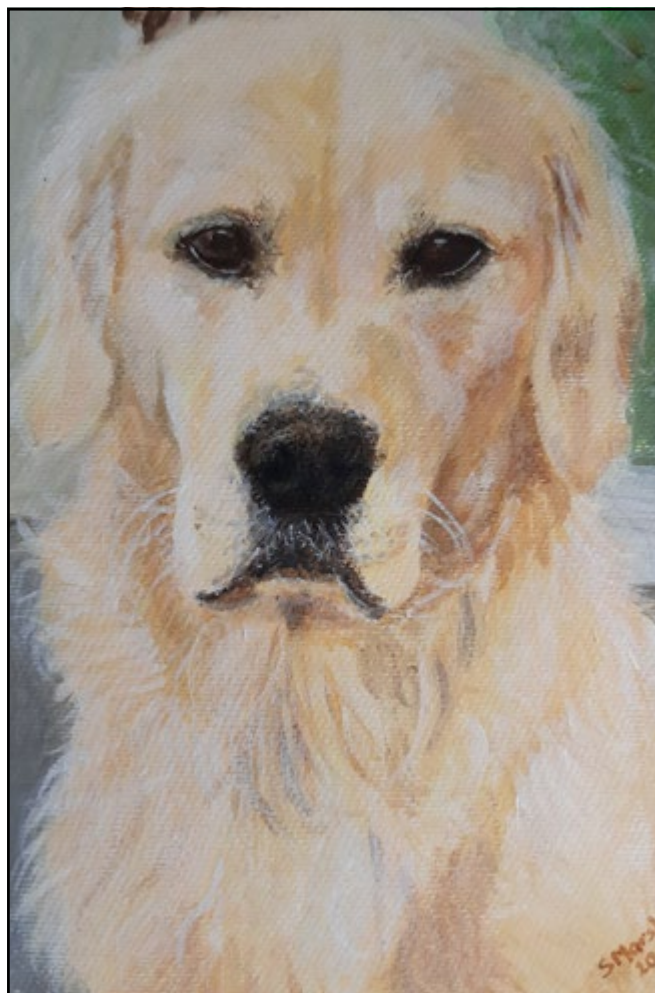
As Guide dogs start to increase training again, along with placing puppies back into training centres, we need to increase our fundraising efforts as well. During lockdown we have looked at different ways of doing this. Sheila Marshall continues to take commissions for dog portraits. These ones are of Molly and Casper. Molly is a guide dogs supporter dog who will be helping out when we start having public engagements again. Casper is a lovely pet who hopes to become a Daddy in the not too distant future.

If you are interested in having a portrait done, don't hesitate to get in touch by email at she61@hotmail.co.uk.

We will be having a fundraisers coffee and chat get together on 18 August. We will meet at 10am at The Courthouse in the Jailyard; unless it's raining, in which case we will be inside. Please join us to chat even if you don't want to be an official fundraiser, as we always love to meet people for ideas. There will be at least one pup in attendance.

Meanwhile, we have a challenge for you. '100 for Guide Dogs' is your challenge, your way; run 100, cycle 100 or swim 100 between 1 July and 30 November. You could complete 100 metres, 100 minutes, 100 days. Be creative! Whatever you decide to do, get sponsored to do it and raise £100 to receive your bespoke medal. Complete all three for the full set! Search '100 for Guide Dogs' online for more details.

Every step, pedal or stroke and every penny you raise will count for Guide Dogs. Together, we can help people affected



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Club & Community Group News

by sight loss live their lives to the full. Every day, 250 more people join the 2 million already living with sight loss. This number is set to double by 2050 so our work is more important than ever before.

I keep plugging away, doing dog portraits for donations. If anyone would like me to do an A4 acrylic dog portrait, I can be contacted by email at She61@hotmail.co.uk.

If you would like to be a registered guide dogs volunteer, please let me know and I'd welcome you and any ideas for fundraising. Again, the message, stay safe.

As aye, Sheila Marshall

Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation

www.kleo.org.uk



Return of Kinross Farmers' Market

The KLEO committee is delighted to announce that the Kinross Farmers' market will return on Saturday 22 August from 10am until 2pm. Most of our regular stallholders will be there and we are looking forward to seeing our lovely customers again. There will be social distancing rules in place and, if necessary, we will limit the number of customers at the market at any one time. There will also be hand sanitizer at the entrances to the market and on each stall. The next markets will take place on 26 September and 24 October.



Summer Concert in aid of Help Musicians Scotland

On Sunday 16 August at 3pm in Market Park (green by Loch Leven Brewery), young musicians from Perth and Kinross will present a programme of mixed classics, jazz and rock. Come and enjoy live music and help us raise funds for Scottish Musicians in need. The entry will be ticketed to ensure social distancing rules on the day. For a ticket please contact Gosia Stanton on 07817534284 or by email at gosiastanton@gmail.com.

Further details of the concert will be published on our website, Facebook page and on posters.

Leven Voices = Virtual Voices

You can join Virtual Voices from the comfort of your living room (or whatever room you like!). Come and sing with Horsecross Arts Tutor Emma Neck via zoom. Sessions will run from Tuesday 18 August to 6 October at 7-8pm. The cost is £3.50 per session or 8 sessions for £24. For tickets, go to www.horsecross.co.uk. A zoom link will be sent to you an hour before the session starts.

Kinross In Bloom 200 Club

July Draw

1st	No 11	Andrew and Edna Burnett
2nd	No 6	Paul Baughan
3rd	No 8	Jean Beveridge
4th	No 22	Kate Francis



Kinross in Bloom



Finally the fencing was removed from around the Crosswell Fountain! We were so pleased that the work was completed before our deadline of 30 June. Our thanks once again go to everyone who supported Kinross in Bloom in getting this work done (see below). The work on the information board is going well. Once this is installed, the project will be complete.

Our second piece of good news is that we received enough plants to fill our planters around the town. After months of inactivity we cleared the planters of the pansies, put in new soil, fertiliser and the plants were in within two weeks! We would like to thank the residents of Swansacre who filled the planter at the James Mungie statue.

No date has been set for our next meeting due to the continuing restrictions. If, when the restrictions are lifted, you would like to be a part of Kinross in Bloom, please contact us by email at susan.mitchell50@gmail.com

Crosswell Fountain





Socially distanced Bloomers in Kinnesswood

Kinnesswood in Bloom

While individuals in the group have been doing their bit for the village by cutting grass, weeding and pruning, until recently we could not really work together. So it was a great relief to get back to Saturday morning work parties, starting with Raymond's Garden. As you can see in the picture there was plenty of room to socially distance.

At the same time, like everyone else, it feels good to catch up with people face to face and see that everyone is doing well. There is nothing like outdoor exercise and companionship to improve wellbeing.

Unfortunately there was a little damage to the school grounds recently. It was unfortunate as most children appreciate how lovely the grounds are and they are very lucky to be able to use the football pitch when the school is closed. Hopefully this was an isolated incident and the lovely floral displays will be left to grow and be appreciated. It's only a few weeks now till school starts again.

The wild flowers along the roadside are really beginning to show themselves now. It's lovely to see the insects, particularly the bees, making the most of the variety of plants.

Rory has been very busy working on refurbishment of the cart and, now that he has the required wood, progress is much faster. Hopefully we can post pictures next month. It really has been a wonderful lockdown project. We are delighted to have had support from the Portmoak Festival to fund

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Recipe



Supplied by Kinnesswood in Bloom

Spiced Beetroot and Orange Chutney

Ingredients

- 1.5 kg beetroot, trimmed, peeled and diced
- 3 onions, chopped
- 3 eating apples, peeled and grated
- Zest and juice of 3 oranges
- 2 tbsp mustard seeds
- 1 tsp coriander seed
- 1 tsp ground cloves
- 1 tsp ground cinnamon
- 700ml red wine vinegar
- 700g granulated sugar

Method

In a preserving pan (or your largest saucepan) mix together all the ingredients. Bring to a gentle simmer then cook for an hour, stirring occasionally until the chutney is thick and the beetroot tender.

While the chutney is cooking prepare your jars by washing thoroughly then put in an oven or microwave to sterilise. Once chutney is ready, let it settle for ten minutes then spoon into the jars and seal while still hot. It will keep for up to six months in a cool dark place. Once open, refrigerate and eat within two months.

the cart and school raised beds. Thank you very much from Kinnesswood in Bloom.

All this sunshine and rain has really brought on the roadside weeds. I expect we'll have to get our hoes out and scrape along the edges of the road!



Boys Brigade Buglers

Boys Brigade and Girls Association



Well it has been a most unusual time for staff and members of our Anchors, Juniors and Company sections since operations halted in March. BB headquarters have been producing weekly activities for all sections as highlighted on our Facebook page. Meanwhile, we are waiting to hear from HQ when, how and in what shape we will be able to return to meetings.

We intend to start the new session with an awards night so that badges and trophies can be awarded to those who have earned them through achievements at Company, Battalion and National levels. We are still waiting for a decision on what happens regarding our two Queen's Badge seniors who missed out on their weekend completion course at Scottish HQ Carronvale due to the lockdown.

Due to the pandemic restrictions our usual income from marquee hires has been written off. However we have a couple of bookings in September which should help our finances.

Our 100th birthday celebrations have also been put on hold due to the continuing limitations for large groups.

Meanwhile we are still on the lookout for Kinross BB memorabilia in the form of photographs, newspaper articles, individual memories and so on. If you have any of these please forward them to David Munro, 7 McWilliam Place, Kinross.

Kinross Flower Club

www.kinrossfloralartclub.org

I hope all members have kept well through the lockdown period enjoying the good weather and creating beautiful gardens!

In view of the current uncertainty about social gatherings, we have decided to cancel our three autumn meetings and reschedule them for the following year. We hope to start meetings again on 25 February 2021.

Keep safe and well.

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Kinross Garden Group



We should now be well into our summer programme of visits to gardens but, unfortunately, the whole programme had to be cancelled this year. All members have been informed by the committee. We hope members have been making the most of the generally lovely weather and enjoying their own gardens.

However, if you now feel like a visiting a garden, look on the have a look at Scotland's Garden Scheme website. It shows that there are quite a few gardens open by arrangement near here. These include gardens at Braco Castle and Helensbank at Kincardine; phone the owner before you want to go. Also, Branklyn Garden in Perth is open; it's National Trust and a real gem.

We are still waiting for lockdown to ease further before finalising details of the winter programme. For details of membership of the Kinross Garden Group contact Caroline Anderson on 01577 864589.

Kinross Museum

The government has continued easing lockdown in a number of sectors and museums and galleries were allowed to open from 15 July. However, the re-opening of these facilities to the public is being approached step-by-step in a risk-based fashion.

Kinross (Marshall) Museum remains closed for the moment. We hope to re-open soon after considering advisory procedures and protocols for museums, libraries and archives. We also have to operate in tandem with the Community Campus, Campus Library and High School, adopting procedures that meet public health guidelines.

As soon as we are able, we will let people know when they can once again come to see our displays and visit us in the museum study room. In the meantime, we continue to help as best we can with enquiries in addition to providing interesting stories on Facebook and in the Newsletter.

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Mrs Lorraine McMillan,
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Crossford



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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Those were the days – no masks, no social distancing... Twinning trip to Gacé in 2018

Kinross and District Town Twinning Association



Due to lockdown over the past three months, there are no plans for our official twinning visit to Gacé in late July 2021 yet. The Kinross committee will meet in September to finalise dates and discuss travel options with costings.

Twinning visits between Kinross and Gacé have taken place since 1974. Initially exchanges were made on an annual basis but we now operate a two out of three year exchange cycle with our next visit due in 2021. Thankfully 2020 was the free year with no visits planned. The Gacéans will be due a return visit in 2022.

New members are welcome to join the group visit next summer. The only cost is the transport to Normandy where you will be linked with a host family for the week. There will be visits to places of interest in Normandy. There is also likely to be a visit to Paris, the French capital city.

For further information, contact twinning secretary David Munro on 01577 862126.

Kinross Library



The AK Bell Library in Perth reopened to the public on Saturday 18 July at 10am. It was the first public library in Scotland to do so. You can find the new opening hours online at <https://culturepk.org.uk/libraries>.

Please note that, at present, we have restricted our service to book borrowing only and are not offering public access to computers.

We have also launched a new 'Click and Collect' service. Details can be found online at www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries/click-collect-service. Alternatively, call 01738 444949 on weekdays for details (Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm. Thursday to 8pm).

We've put together some reading lists for you, as well as a list of reading resources. These are available online at www.culturepk.org.uk/libraries/reading-resources/.

You can listen to the Culture Perth and Kinross podcast online at www.anchor.fm/cultureperthandkinross. It features talking exhibitions, recommended reads and other tales from across the region.

Finally, become a Book Hero by donating £7 (the cost of a new book) to Culture Perth and Kinross online at <https://culturepk.charitycheckout.co.uk/bookhero>.

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Japanese monumental shrine at Cowden Garden by Margaret Stewart

Kinross Camera Club

kinrosscameraclub.org.uk/wp/

Our Virtual Club Nights held using Zoom on Thursday evenings at 7.30pm have been a great success over the summer and will continue into August. This enables us to stay connected and discuss each other's images submitted under the 'Picture a Week' scheme.

The new season's syllabus will begin at the start of September and we have been working hard to prepare a full schedule which can be delivered either as in-person meetings or online.

Currently we do not yet know how the former might work as it depends on government advice and the operation of our regular venue which have yet to be clarified. It is very likely



that our syllabus will begin in an online form, at least for the first few months.

If you would like to know more about KCC or would like to join our online meetings, please contact secretary@kinrosscameraclub.org.uk

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Kinross Beavers

At the beginning of June the beaver leadership team were busy distributing golden envelopes to all the beavers; they were told not to open it until they were instructed to during our online meeting on the 12 June. When they beavers opened the envelopes they were surprised to find all the badges that they had earned over the past few months!

In addition to that some of the beavers received special awards in their envelopes and we were delighted to present eight Chief Scout's Bronze Awards. Congratulations to Andrew, Harry, Euan, Finlay, Bailey, Ben, Jude and Ryan. Additionally, 100% attendance certificates were issued to four beavers who had full attendance at our Colony meetings during the spring term. Congratulations to Benjamin, Harris, Finlay and Rupert! Also, congratulations to Benjamin and Ailah who both received special recognition awards for their effort and being kind and helpful last term. Well done!

At our online meeting on 12 June we said goodbye to Benjamin and Aaron, both of whom are moving to cubs. As a result, we appointed new lodge leaders. Congratulations go to Ailah, Euan, Harry and Andrew who were appointed to these positions.



Harry with his Bronze award and Lodge Leader badge



Jude and his Bronze award

In the middle of June we usually have our summer sleepover at the hall but we had to change our plans this year due to the pandemic; the beavers took part in a 'Summer Sleepover at Home' instead. Whilst participating in the sleepover the beavers completing a variety of activities including making a mini campfire in a jar, creating the Scout sign (fleur-de-lis) out of lego or anything they could find in their house, preparing and cooking meals and exploring their local area by going on a walk. The beavers had a great time and, on the Saturday evening, we had a special online meeting as everyone came together to reflect on the activities before enjoying a story and campfire songs to officially end the sleepover.

The beavers loved the science experiment they did back in April and, at the end of June, we were delighted to welcome Stephen Jones back to our online meeting as he did another fun experiment with the beavers; the waterproof hanky experiment. The session was enjoyed by all but the parents; they acted as the beavers' assistants for this experiment and got a wee bit wet!

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On the subject of getting wet, the beavers have made a virtual water fight video instead of the annual water fight which traditionally marks the end of term and the start of the summer holidays. They had a great time filming their clips! Thanks to the parents for supporting us with this and with everything else to help keep beavers going during this challenging time.

Beavers will continue over the summer holidays. We will meet every second week and issue challenges for the beavers to complete in between. We will provide an update on what the beavers got up to over the summer in the next newsletter.

Cubs have decided to take a break over the summer holidays but they will be back when the schools return in August. Sandy and his team will be in touch with parents with further information nearer the time.

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Finlay with his Bronze award

opportunities both behind the scenes and directly supporting young people. With full support and training, you can volunteer on a flexible basis. Not only is it rewarding and great fun, you'll also learn some brilliant skills transferable to the workplace and further education. Please contact us by email at kinrossbeavers@hotmail.co.uk for more information.



Ryan with his Bronze award

Kinross Partnership



All the Zoom meetings are at 8am on a Wednesday morning, and they last around an hour. The dates are as follows: **5 August and 19 August**. Joining these sessions couldn't be more simple – just contact the Partnership on mail@kinrosspartnership.org.uk and we will reply with the joining instructions for the meeting.

www.kinross-shirepartnership.org.uk

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Concerns over the ecology of Loch Leven played a part in the refusal of Persimmon's latest planning application (Photo: Eileen Thomas)

Persimmon: Extra Houses For Phase 2 Rejected

Persimmon Homes' application for 169 houses on phase 2 of the Lathro Farm development was refused planning permission by PKC's Planning and Development Management Committee (PDMC) on 1 July.

The meeting was a 'virtual' one with councillors participating from their homes. The Trust's planning group chair, Eileen Thomas, made a deputation by telephone, as did local councillors Willie Robertson and Callum Purves.

The Trust and Cllr Robertson concentrated on environmental arguments. Every additional house contributes slightly to a deterioration in the water quality of Loch Leven as local waste water discharges into the loch. Although the local treatment works include phosphorus stripping, the technology cannot remove all the phosphorus, which has an adverse effect on water quality. PKC has obligations under international and national law as well as under its own Local Development Plan to safeguard Loch Leven as it is as a Special Protection Area due to its importance as a breeding and feeding location for wildfowl. The loch is also hugely important as a tourist attraction and for the amenity of local residents.

Cllr Purves raised various matters including existing drainage problems at Lathro and the unsuitability of Gallowhill Road to take the extra traffic that would be generated.

Persimmon already had permission for 97 houses in phase 2 under their original planning consent, but proposed changing the layout and housing mix to add a further 72 houses. If approved, the application would have taken the total number of houses on the Lathro Farm site to 376.

The application had been recommended for approval by planning officers, but, after four hours on this agenda item alone, the councillors on the committee voted by 9 votes to 4 to reject the application. Refusal was proposed by Cllr Mike Barnacle and seconded by Cllr Richard Watters. Grounds for refusal included: overdevelopment of the site; insufficient demonstration that there would be no adverse effects on Loch Leven; and insufficient demonstration of compliance with transport standards in respect of Gallowhill Road.

The Trust is very pleased that the committee recognised the importance of Loch Leven and PKC's responsibilities for the loch's protection through its own policies.

Virtual Planning Meetings

Prior to the PDMC meeting of 1 July, the Trust had written to PKC's Chief Executive Karen Reid with its concerns regarding the determination of significant planning applications under Covid-19 restrictions. When the Trust first wrote to Ms Reid, site visits were not allowed and the Trust was concerned that the democratic process could be compromised by technical problems in a virtual meeting. (Any councillor losing connection and missing part of the presentation or debate is not allowed to vote.) Our concerns were dismissed by the Chief Executive.

However, just such a situation arose with another agenda item at the July meeting. The application was for alterations to a public road in Stanley, which was related to another application for a large housing development. Councillors had been confused as to whether they were allowed to visit the site; some had, some had not. One councillor lost his internet connection and was not allowed to vote. The vote by the remaining committee members was tied 6-6. The convener then used a casting vote to grant the application, much to the anger of Stanley residents.

Complaint On Handling Of Windlestrae Application

The Trust lodged a formal complaint regarding PKC's handling of the planning application to build 41 dwellings on the site of the former Windlestrae Hotel. The complaint had ten parts and PKC has upheld four out of the ten parts of the complaint. This included that the Report of Handling to committee had incorrectly stated that the access road was outwith the Kinross Conservation Area.

The Trust's complaint has also resulted in the Council realising that it had an out of date protocol on its website regarding the procedures for council officers to follow when they switch a document on the Public Access planning from 'sensitive' (visible only to council officers) to public view.



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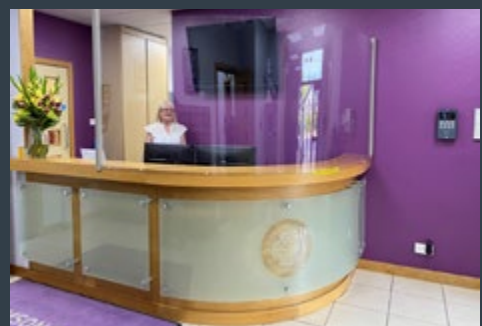
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Sports News



Kinross Volleyball

Volleyball is back!

Outdoor volleyball is back in action on Monday nights. Sessions run on the grass area to the rear of the campus from 7-8.30pm, weather permitting.

In conjunction with Sports Scotland, Scottish Volleyball in has allowed volleyball to start again with the following restrictions in place. It must take place outdoors only, playing four-a-side, remembering social distancing (no blocking) with sanitisation before and after play. We have had a couple of Monday sessions already and it looks as if the outdoor grass version of the sport will continue for quite a while. We do not expect indoor volleyball to resume until nearer the end of the year.

Meanwhile, four club members have been invited to play a weekend of volleyball at Overpelt in Belgium on their outdoor beach courts. The De Haan tournament was cancelled by their local council just three weeks ago and the Overpelt Volleyball Club stepped in to invite a Kinross foursome to play on their home turf (sand)! There has been a friendly relationship between Kinross and Overpelt for many years. The teams usually meet up twice a year when competing in

Perth's Scottish Open tournament and also in De Haan.

Now that we are back in action, new members are welcome to come along to the Monday evening sessions; it is all free!

For further information contact club coach Dave Munro on 01577 862126.

Kinross Otters

www.kinrossotters.co.uk



Back in the water

While we wait for further clarification on when leisure centres may be able to open and how our club might look as a result, we've been trying very hard to keep our young people engaged with Kinross Otters.

We devised a range of competitions, challenges and fun tasks to keep our swimmers amused and in touch with their fellow Otters. We set challenges like a World Tour where families tallied up their miles and aimed to reach all the towns named Kinross around the world, a photo scavenger hunt, a swimming themed bake off, a pizza making challenge, and new for July; Otters Got Talent! More news on this next month but, in the meantime, we've celebrated all our swimmers and their challenge attempts on our Facebook page.

The biggest news for us at the time of writing is that some of our older swimmers actually managed to get back in the water this month!

Our friends at Willowgate activity centre have re-opened and, with specific guidelines in place, we managed to secure a range of open water swimming slots at their lagoon. Our first week saw around 20 Otters attending and it was great to see them back in the water! We were impressed with their levels of fitness after so long away and we'll continue to work on stamina and stroke as the sessions continue.

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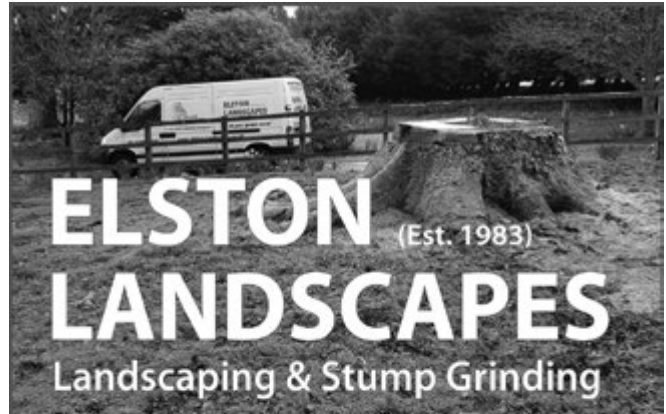
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Otters lockdown montage

There has been an overwhelming response to all the challenges and you can see a photo collage of some of our worthy winners and their achievements below.

Team sports have suffered so much as has the wellbeing of many young people during the pandemic. We've tried really hard to make sure the Otters family stays strong and that our sense of togetherness isn't diminished.

Huge thanks go to coach Fiona and the rest of the coaching team who have spent many hours creating challenges, running competitions and liaising with governing bodies on what measures need to be in place for a safe return to the pool.

We're hoping our next update includes news on when we'll be back in the pool. In the meantime, stay safe everyone.

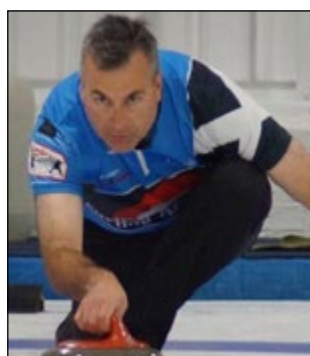
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Kinross Curling

Warm welcome to our new General Manager

We are delighted to announce that David Jones has returned to Kinross Curling as our new general manager. David is delighted to be back working at Kinross where he started as Development Officer back in 2010. David is also excited to be working at one of the very best curling facilities in the country with great curlers and staff.

The staff have already been working hard behind the scenes as we prepare for a new curling season that is due to start on 1 September. We are very keen to carry on with 'business as usual' while ensuring that everyone is safe and has the best experience possible at the rink.



David Jones: back to Kinross Curling

We hope to hold some 'Try Curling' beginners courses soon to encourage new people to get involved in our great sport. Remember that the café bar is always open for drinks and light snacks whether or not you are curling. The door is always open and all are welcome.

Please keep an eye on our Facebook page to keep in touch.

Meanwhile David and the team hope to see you all soon.

Orwell Bowling Club

Bowling Green Avenue, Milnathort
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orwellbowlingclub.weebly.com

Bowls Scotland have cancelled all competitions for 2020 and, at the moment, it is unlikely there will be any friendlies or internal competitions taking place this season.

In the meantime, we await further information from the Scottish

Government and are staying safe. Check our website and Facebook for any updates. Further advice can be found on the Bowls Scotland website.

Kinross Badminton Club

The club has been closed since 17 March and we're sure that many people are missing playing badminton at our local club. President Bill hopes everyone is well and has been staying safe during this pandemic.

We would normally start the new badminton season in August when the new school term begins, but at this point in time we don't know when the sports halls at the Community Campus will reopen for public use.

Lockdown restrictions permitting, we are hopeful that the club can return on Tuesday 1 September. We are keeping our fingers crossed but this is dependent on when Live Active Leisure are able to reopen the indoor facilities.

When we do reopen, we look forward to playing again with

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existing members and meeting new members who will be very welcome to join us.

Please check our Facebook page (search for Kinross Badminton Club) where we will post any new news about reopening and confirm the reopening date when we have it.

Kinross Colts

We are delighted that we have been able to resume training and we thank all parents and players for their patience and understanding during the long period of inactivity.



The club has spent a great deal of time working to ensure that we are complying with all of the COVID guidelines around distancing, sanitisation, first aid and training durations. As you can see from the photo, our teams are split into groups to ensure that no more than ten kids are training together.

We now look forward to being able to start playing games in the near future, the kids are all eager to get back to normal.

The club has been busy during the lockdown however. We

have a new club badge based on a design by Douglas Brown of our 2011 team.

We have also agreed a new deal for supply of all playing and training kit and equipment with Soccer Shop Direct in Rosyth.

Exciting times for the club. We can't wait to see our teams playing games in their new kit and we're looking forward to seeing games played at our new ground at Donaldson Park.

Kinross Tennis Club

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

We always welcome new members of all ages so please have a look at the new website and get in touch if you have any questions or would like further information.

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Kinross in Bloom: Volunteer group that provides and maintains floral displays to enhance the environment of Kinross. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Susan Mitchell at: susan.mitchell150@gmail.com

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). If you would like to find out more, we would love to hear from you. Pop in and speak to Nan or telephone 01577 863869.

KLEO (Kinross-shire Local Events Organisation): If you enjoy local events on your doorstep, like the monthly Kinross Farmers' market and the winter festival events (concerts, comedy and the festive street market), please join the KLEO team! For more info about KLEO events, go to www.kleo.org.uk. If interested, please contact Bouwien Bennet at info@kleo.org.uk or call 01577 863107.

RSPB Scotland Loch Leven: We need volunteer fundraisers to help support the wonderful world of nature on our doorstep. Pin badges, bucket collections, events and sponsored walks – if you'd like to join our team, please contact Lyndsay Stobie at: Lyndsay.Stobie@rspb.org.uk or call 01577 862355.

Kinross (Marshall) Museum: The Museum Trust is looking for volunteers to help care for Kinross-shire's heritage collections and man the Museum Study Room in the Loch Leven Community Campus on Thursdays and Saturdays. If you would like to know more, drop by or contact the Museum on 01577 867153 or email: information@kinrossmuseum.org.uk.

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

Kinross Heart Start: Campaign to secure funds for public access defibrillators in Kinross. Contact Pamela Hunter to find out how you can volunteer on 01577 862419.

Light Up Kinross is a small local charity with responsibility for Kinross Christmas lights and decorations. We require additional volunteers to assist with fundraising and administration of the lights. If you are interested, please contact David Colliar, email davidcolliar@tiscali.co.uk or Bill Freeman, email billywhizkid78@gmail.com or contact our Facebook page.

Common Grounds: Charity café staffed by volunteers on Tuesdays, Wednesday, Fridays and Saturdays in Guide Hall, Church Street, Milnathort. Open to public 10am-12.30pm. Opportunity to serve in café or bake for the café. Also opportunity to gain recognised hours towards Duke of Edinburgh Awards and Saltire Awards for young people 16 years and over. Funds raised are used to support charities mainly in Africa. Contact: Convener Elspeth Caldwell on 01577 863350 or Secretary Linda Freeman on 01577 865045 for more information.

The Potager Garden is a small community garden in Bowton Road, Kinross, KY13 8EQ. It is a registered charity run by volunteers, a main aim being to give education to schoolchildren about plants, gardening and the environment. If you would like more information about our volunteering opportunities, please contact the Convenor, Amanda James, on 01577 840809, or amandajames1577@gmail.com

Children's Hospices Across Scotland: Can you spare a few hours of your time? We are looking for volunteers in our **kitchen, housekeeping, driving, childcare** and **garden** teams.



Anyone who is interested is welcome to come for a visit. Please contact us by phone on 01577 865777 or email volunteering@chas.org.uk. To apply online visit www.chas.org.uk.

Seamab is a residential school that cares for and educates some of the most vulnerable children in Scotland. We are looking for volunteers to help us place and manage collecting cans across Perth and Kinross. Volunteering for Seamab will help make a huge difference to the lives of the children at Seamab and will be a great way to meet new people and develop new skills. For more information please contact Melloney Flinn at mflinn@seamab.org.uk or call 01577 840307.



Milnathort Town Hall committee: Can you spare a couple of hours a month? We are looking for volunteers to join us. For further information please contact us at milnathorttownhall1@gmail.com. We would love to hear from you.



Volunteering with Aberlour!

We are currently recruiting new volunteers to support Aberlour, Scotland's Children's Charity. If you have a genuine interest in the wellbeing of children and families and live in the Perth and Kinross area we would love to hear from you. To find out more, visit www.aberlour.org.uk/volunteer, or contact Shonagh (Volunteer Coordinator) on 07864 625069/shonagh.ferguson@aberlour.org.uk.



SPARKs are a group allowing adults of all ages who have support needs or disabilities to meet together with their carers to improve their health & wellbeing. They meet in Loch Leven Community Campus every Thursday 1-3pm. Volunteers will be supported by workers Roseanne Gray – P&K Community Learning & Development Worker and Shona Fowler – NHS Project Worker. For more information please call 01577 867216 / 867218 or 07769 243282 / 07896 280843.



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

Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme

Do you have some spare time? Do you enjoy driving? Are you a people person? If so we have the ideal volunteering opportunity for you. Kinross-shire Volunteer Group and Rural Outreach Scheme provide drivers to take people, mainly elderly, to appointments, shopping, etc. Basically any trip most of us take for granted can be a challenge for someone without a car who cannot manage public transport. Our volunteers provide not just a driver but a helping hand and a listening ear.



There is never any pressure, you accept the trips you want to do and no more. Some of our drivers are happy taking people to Ninewells, etc, others prefer to just do local runs – both are equally valuable. At KVG&ROS we value all our volunteers and in fact are the holders of a Volunteer Friendly Award. If you are interested and would like to hear more please phone Pauline on 01577 862685.

For more volunteering opportunities, go to the community website www.kinross.cc and look for 'Volunteering', or look at www.vaperthshire.org

Organisations: If you would like a volunteer appeal to be added to the list above, please email the Newsletter Editor.

Please let us know if you no longer need your appeal to be listed.



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Out & About

Loch Leven NNR



Back To The Reserve

WE ARE BACK! After nearly four months away, Neil, Chris and I are finally back working on the reserve. The place has changed since we were last here, and for me especially as the last day I worked on the reserve was Halloween! Everything is so lush and green.

Our first job when we arrived back was to make sure the trail was safe. We have a brand new ride-on mower so we have cut the verges and even cut in a few 'lay-bys' to make social distancing a bit easier. The new mower is much quicker than our previous one so we have been able to do this quite quickly and move onto other jobs.

Chris and I are now battling a range of Invasive Non-Native (INNS) plants around the reserve. There is a lot of Himalayan balsam around and we have been strimming and hand pulling where we can. Normally we would have our team of volunteers out helping us which would make this a much quicker and more enjoyable task but at the moment it is just the two of us. There is also quite a bit of giant hogweed along the North Queich which we are trying to remove so please be aware around this area.

On Monday 3 August, work will be starting on installing some new viewing screens near to where the old hide at Kirkgate used to be. The work should take around two weeks and the Heritage Trail will remain open although there may be some temporary disruption.

We managed to launch the big boat back on the Loch this week. Neil is



hoping to get the sheep out on St Serfs soon; there will be plenty of grass for them to munch their way through during the summer.

We have started our Wetland Bird Surveys again. I really enjoy going out and seeing what is about on the loch. There was a large raft of tufted duck snoozing by the factory hide; we also had a brood of gadwall swimming past which was really nice to watch. Little grebe and great crested grebe were also out in good numbers with large groups of mute swan building up on the Loch. I was lucky enough to see a kingfisher at Levenmouth but typically it flew off when I was speaking to some visitors about it! I was working at Findatie the other weekend and watched a mixed flock of over 200 swifts, swallows and

sand martins flying over the loch feeding on the emerging insects. It was quite a sight; they just seemed to keep coming! Hopefully our insect surveyors will be able to get out soon and start surveying around Burleigh. We have seen lots of damselflies, butterflies and bumblebees around the Reserve.

We're trying to update the blog, Facebook and Instagram pages as often as we can so keep checking for updates.

It is great to be back on the Reserve and see everyone enjoying the Trail. We are not able to engage with everyone the way we would normally as we still have to keep our 2m distance but, if you see any of us while we are out and about, please wave and say hello!

TTFN

Louise Clark – Seasonal Reserve Officer

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The Fish Hawk Drops In For Dinner

CAN YOU BELIEVE it is August already? We are starting to return to some sort of normality at the RSPB Loch Leven Reserve, with the carpark and toilets now open. It may be that by the time you are reading this the shop and cafe will also be open, but please keep an eye on our Facebook page – RSPB Tayside and Fife for updates. We're very much looking forward to welcoming you back when we're able to.

The warden team have been busy making a new trail in the Bee Meadow, which is just off the Wetland Trail. They have cut a winding path through the wildflower meadow, which attracts many different butterflies and bees. There is currently no charge for the Wetland Trail so the 'Bee Walk' is also free. Please remember that if you are accessing the RSPB Trails or the Loch Leven Heritage Trail from our car park please do read and follow any signs and follow government guidelines on social distancing to keep yourself and others safe.

When you are out and about around the loch, keep a look out for ospreys. They will be taking the opportunity to fish on their way south, where we onwards to Africa on their migration. The adults will have raised their young and done their job for the year! Some of the birds you will see are this year's chicks making the lone journey for the first time with only their innate internal map to guide them – truly astonishing when you stop to think about it.

At the moment we're unable to offer any events at the reserve but there's no reason why you can't get wild and explore nature yourself. If you haven't already come across the Wild



The osprey - look at those claws...

Challenge why not head to our website and check it out. This month we recommend having a go at 'shake a tree' to discover the wee creatures that live in amongst the trees. All you need is a pale sheet and some trees or bushes. Lay your sheet out underneath the branches and give them a gentle shake, then have a look and see who has been dislodged from their leafy world. If you've got a magnifier and a bug pot you can have a closer look and, using the downloadable ID sheet, have a go at naming them. Our top tip is to stand slightly to the side of the branches you're shaking so that you don't end up in a shower of minibeasts!

For those of you into your social media we have started a new campaign called **#MyWorldNow** where we encourage you to tell us about the things – big or small that you have noticed and started to appreciate more during these challenging times. It's fair to say life was a lot less busy for many of us and that gave us the opportunity to observe things that we probably wouldn't have seen or thought about before. Whether it's cleaner air, the birds and bees in your garden or on your daily walk, the roadside verges have more flowers – we'd love to hear about it. By taking part you will be inspiring others think more and perhaps even take action for nature.

Yvonne Boles

Senior Site Manager – Tayside Reserves

Weather



Recent Weather Reports from Kinross

June

Total Rainfall	71.3mm / 2.85in
Heaviest Fall	9.2ml/ 0.36in (9 Jun)
Total Sunshine	128.3 hrs
Sunniest Day	11.0 hrs (1 Jun)
Max Temp Average	18.20c
Highest Temp	25.5c (25 June)
Min Temp Average	10.25c
Lowest Temp	5.1c (21 Jun)

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August In The Garden

WELL, IT'S BEEN QUITE a mix weather-wise so far this summer hasn't it? As well as being ideal growing conditions for flowers and vegetables – the weeds have been loving it!

So, the summer's starting to wind down now but there's still plenty to keep you busy in the garden.

August is a great time to start collecting seeds from your flowers for next year, and regular readers will know that I'm a huge fan of free stuff! Pick a dry day and collect seeds from plants such as sweet peas, nigella, marigolds and petunias. Pick seed heads that have darkened and/or close to exploding. Leave the seed heads to dry out in a cool, dry place and then place in envelopes for next year. Remember to label the envelopes as believe me, you won't remember what's in them.

Deadheading is still playing a huge role in the garden just now so do this regularly to prolong the flowering period of your plants. This is especially true for hanging baskets – they're up for such a short time that you want them looking gorgeous for as long as possible.

For some reason, I have many, many hardy geraniums in my garden, all different sizes and colours. So, this month I'll be giving them all a trim to try and encourage them to give me a second flush of flowers in a couple of months' time. You can do this with all your summer-flowering shrubs to encourage new growth.

If you forgot last month, you can still

Deadhead dahlias to prolong flowering



Dwarf sunflower. Just because!

take softwood cuttings in August. Penstemons and hydrangeas are ideal for this. You can root in compost or water and pot up when roots start to appear. I have a hydrangea cutting I took from a friend a few weeks ago that's sitting in a glass of water on the kitchen windowsill. Nothing yet, but I'm still holding out hope. I'll let you know if I'm successful.

August is also a brilliant time to take cuttings of woody herbs such as lavender and hyssop. The technique is the same for softwood cuttings as in you take a cutting from this year's growth, slightly below a set of leaves, trim and put in compost or water to root. I'll be trying it this year with some hyssop which was another freebie from a dear friend.

Talking of lavender, now's the time to give it a good trim if it's finished flowering so that its compact, bushy shape is maintained. Just take a pair of shears to it but remember not to cut into the old wood, just this year's growth.

Order your Spring bulbs for next year! There's such a variety to choose from to suit the smallest to the biggest garden, and pocket. And it's lovely to see them coming up in the Spring, letting you know that the year is about to start all over again.

Well, that's it for this month. I hope

you're all well and managing to get out a bit more now. Take care and enjoy your garden.

I'll leave you with a picture of a dwarf sunflower, just because they're one of the happiest plants I know.

Teresa Stirling

Hardy geraniums, ready for a trim



Farming

To Parasite (and back again...)

WELL, IT SEEMS TO have been a hectic few weeks here at Backward Farm since my last article. The ewes are all sheared and all the ewes and lambs were given treatments for internal and external parasites, which are basically stomach worms and liver fluke on the inside and flies and lice on the outside, as well as a multi-vitamin boosting drench. I think the ewes have recovered from the embarrassment of their 'lockdown' haircuts and, after all they do say that the difference between a bad haircut and a good haircut is two weeks!

Parasite control is an important part of keeping livestock both for their welfare and for how efficiently they grow and produce meat or milk. The main culprits to watch out for are various types of stomach 'worms' which occupy the digestive tract where they can feed on the nutrients and attach themselves to the lining of the gut, causing damage which limits how the animal can absorb nutrients into its blood stream. There are also lungworms which as the name suggests damages the lungs. Liver fluke is another common parasite and one which is an increasing problem due to the climate becoming wetter and milder, apparently. It has a very complicated life cycle which revolves round grazing animals eating infected snails. It is mainly active during the winter months, autumn and early spring so sheep are particularly at risk as they tend to be outside all year, and hopefully the dry spring/early summer this year should have helped to control this.

The main external parasite to affect sheep is the sheep scab mite which is controlled by dipping the sheep or giving them an injection. Various flies, such as blowfly can cause problems for sheep by laying their eggs in the damp wool which then hatch into maggots which burrow into the skin. Various pour-on fly repellents or dipping them stops the flies from landing on the fleece and laying their eggs, as well as removing the nuisance factor, making the animals more settled. Sheep, as usual, are the most affected, but it can be useful to give cattle a fly repellent to take away the nuisance



factor and to reduce the risk of diseases such as mastitis.

After a showery spell of weather, we eventually got our silage, hay and haylage made. This year, we have carted the bales in straight after they have been wrapped to avoid them being damaged by birds, which has been a particular problem with the horse haylage bales we make. It sometimes felt like it slowed the process down but overall, I think it has been worth it, as there is nothing more frustrating than seeing freshly wrapped bales pecked to shreds by jackdaws and seagulls, and having to re-wrap them. There have been a few late nights (or early mornings) but we have what should be some really nice haylage and hay all safely in store before the rain came on this morning. Apologies to our neighbours if we disturbed them with our unsociable working, in particular last night but it was all in the name of providing high quality feed for cattle, sheep and horses!

With the weather as our master in farming, you just have to roll with the punches as conditions allow. Also, thanks to Newsletter Editor Hannah for her patience (again) and hopefully it should be back to Fiona next month.

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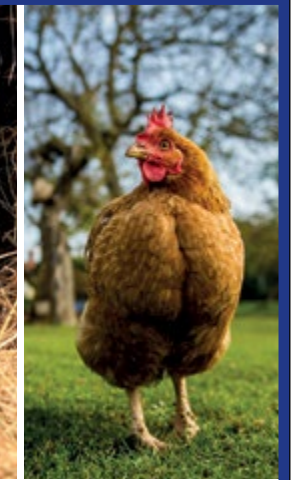


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Church of Scotland (Charity no SC012555)

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10 Station Road, Kinross KY13 8TG

Church website: www.kinrossparishchurch.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/kinrossparishchurch.org

Church E-mail: office@kinrossparishchurch.org

Church office and church open: Mon-Fri 10am-12 noon.

Church Office: Tel. (01577) 862570

Contact the church office if you are interested in leasing rooms in the church or church centre.

Minister: Rev Alan D. Reid MA, BD Tel: (01577) 862952

Assistant Minister: Rev Kathleen (Kathy) Dain tel. 01577 531424

Ordained Local Minister: Rev Margaret Michie (01592) 840602

Session Clerk: Jaffrey Weir Tel: (01577) 865780

The church has been broadcasting worship services and times for reflection online and this has been appreciated by many, including people beyond the congregation.

Weblinks for Sunday Worship and midweek times for reflection and prayer:

Kinross Parish Church Facebook page

www.facebook.com/kinrossparishchurch

Kinross Parish Church worship channel on YouTube

www.youtube.com/channel/UC480WCgwA2SU1zBXLg%klfA

The church is running a network of telephone contacts offering support and encouragement. Anyone who would value having someone phoning them for a regular chat should phone or email the church office – messages left will be accessed remotely every day.



Cleish Parish Church

Church of Scotland

(Charity No: SC003168)

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse BD (Hons)

Tel: 01577 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Neil Maclure

Email: neil.maclure19@gmail.com Tel: 01577 864826

Please visit our website: www.cleishchurch.org



We are really sorry but due to the Covid-19 restrictions we have had to cancel all services of worship, meetings and events for the foreseeable future.

Whilst our buildings are closed our church family life still continues. We are keeping in touch through our email network, phone and 'Zoom' worship services every Sunday:

Fossoway Church at 10am and Cleish Church at 11.30am

We will celebrate **Holy Communion** by 'Zoom' on **Thurs 30 July at 7pm.**

If you would like to join us please phone the Rev Lis Stenhouse 01577 842128.

Orwell and Portmoak Parish Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC015523)

Minister – Very Rev Dr Angus Morrison

Telephone: 01577 863461

Email: angusmorrison3@gmail.com

Website: www.orwellportmoakchurch.org.uk

Contact the Office: 01577 861200

Orwell Church will be closed for refurbishment for several months, but we hope, following a review by the Kirk Session early in the month, to resume services in Portmoak Church in August, while continuing the online worship provision. Please check the church website or Facebook page for further information. We expect relatively small numbers to attend in the early stages of re-opening, with this hopefully growing over the ensuing weeks and months.

Online services are posted each Sunday morning and are available for the rest of the week. To access these, log on to the church website, as above, click on Online Worship and follow the link on the page. DVD versions of the service are available to those without Internet facilities.

The Church Office and Shop is also closed until further notice. The office email below is being checked, but less frequently than normal.

orwellandportmoakchurch@gmail.com



Not Too Late!

Family Week online children's holiday club, 3-7 August from 10am-12pm, exploring God's wonderful world. Register at office@kinrossparishchurch.org for online

access and delivery of Wonder Zone kits to receive email links. More information can be found on the Kinross Parish Church Facebook page.

Loch Leven Church

(Charity No: SC049050)



Loch Leven Church is temporarily meeting online via Zoom, at 10.30am each Sunday. Everyone is very welcome to join the service; please just email us for the details to join in.

As lock-down continues to ease, and where government advice permits, outdoor activities will also be planned.

To find out more about us, please visit our Facebook page 'We Love Loch Leven', our website www.lochlevenchurch.com, or email us at info@lochlevenchurch.com

Fossoway, St Serf's & Devonside Church

Church of Scotland (Charity number SC013157)

Church Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross-shire, KY13 0UY

www.fossowaychurch.org.uk

Minister: Rev Lis Stenhouse Telephone: (01577) 842128

Email: estenhouse@churchofscotland.org.uk

Session Clerk: Mrs Janet Harper Telephone: (01577) 840225

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Email: office@stpaulskinross51.plus.com

www.stpauls-kinross.co.uk

Fr David Mackenzie Mills, Rector.

Tel: 01577 863795

Email: frdavidkinross@gmail.com

You can also find us on Facebook

www.facebook.com/stpaulsepiscopalchurchkinross

St Paul's is inclusive, friendly and welcoming to all age groups (whether regular churchgoers or if you're simply inquisitive about who we are and what we do.)

Despite continuing relaxation of laws relating to Covid-19 lockdown, limitations posed by our building mean that services and events connected with St Paul's will remain online only for the time being. Sunday services will continue to be broadcast from the building as livestreams via 'Zoom' and thereafter recordings of services will be available through the church Facebook page. Please see our website and Facebook page for updated information as and when we have it to publish. I plan to carry on offering a weekly 'Facebook Live' reflection on Saturday mornings from the Rectory.

In the meantime, please be assured of our prayers and intercessions, especially if COVID-19 has directly affected you and your family. We live in hope that this health emergency will be over speedily and affect as few people as possible.'

May the road rise up to meet you.

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face;

*the rains fall soft upon your fields and, until we meet again,
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Forthcoming services – all via Zoom and livestreamed

Thursdays @ 2pm

'Zoom' cuppa chat

(If you would like to join, please contact the Rector who will send you the login details every week.)

2 August: Pentecost 6 (Proper 14)

9.30am 'Virtual' Holy Communion

9 August: Pentecost 7 (Proper 15)

9.30am 'Virtual' Holy Communion

16 August: Pentecost 8 (Proper 16)

9.30am 'Virtual' Holy Communion

23 August: Pentecost 9 (Proper 17)

9.30am 'Virtual' Holy Communion

30 August: Pentecost 10 (Proper 18)

9.30am 'Virtual' Holy Communion

9.00am Service of Compline (*Facebook Live*)

St James' Catholic Church

5 High Street, Kinross, KY13 8AW

Parish Priest: Father Martin Pletts. Tel: 01577 863329

www.catholickinross.com

Email: Fr.MartinPletts@gmail.com

facebook.com/parishpriestkinross/

facebook.com/stjamesprayergroup/

Regular Services

Mon 7pm Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Prayer Group at 8pm in the church hall.

Tue 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am).

Wed 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am). Teas/Coffees after Mass, in the church hall.

Thu 10am Holy Mass preceded by Confessions and Morning Prayer (9.30-9.50am).

Fri 10am Holy Mass preceded by Morning Prayer & Confessions (9.30-9.50am)

3pm Divine Mercy Devotions.

Sat 10.30am Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions (first Saturday of every month Holy Mass at 10am).

6pm Vigil Mass.

Sun 9.30am Mass (teas/coffees after Mass in church hall).

Confessions also on request.

Prayer Group meets on a Monday, 8pm-10pm, in the church hall and is open to all.

Children's Catechism class meets every Monday during term time, 3.45pm-4.30pm in the church hall.

The weekly newsletter, Mass times, news and updates or changes can be found on our website.

Kinross Christian Fellowship

Jesus said, 'I am among you as one who serves.'

Sunday morning service at 10.30am (refreshments and blether at 10am), Millbridge Hall, Old Causeway, Kinross.

Lively praise (children participate), reverent worship open to the leading of the Holy Spirit, prayer, ministry and solid Bible-based preaching and teaching. An all-round family service for families, which includes Sunday School. Communion every second Sunday, as is our evening service at 6.30pm; a time for praise, worship, sharing and joy in The Lord Jesus. (Followed by light refreshments and more blether.)

Everyone is welcome to either service or to both, so please come and *taste and see that the LORD is good.*

Contact Peter on 01577 863509, for further information.

KCF also runs the Talking Donkey cafe – see separate notice in the Newsletter. Additionally, the Friday evening Youth Group at the Millbridge Hall (Space) is also the responsibility of our Fellowship, and we are pleased to accept this privilege.

Kinross Gospel Hall

Montgomery Street, Kinross www.kinrossgospelhall.info

**All services are suspended
for the duration of Covid-19**

Acknowledgements

ANDREW BALLANTINE

Sadly passed on 26 June.

Drew was very much a family man, loving husband to Maureen, wonderful Dad to Kelda, Erika and Hazel and proud grandfather to Ryan, Terry, Leon, Murray, Brodie, Anderson and Cameron.

Drew's family would like to thank their friends and neighbours for their kind cards and flowers since his passing and for all the love and support they have received over the last six months while he bravely battled his illness. Thank you also to the Rev. Alan Reid of Kinross Parish Church for his comforting, personal service held at Perth crematorium.

The family are very grateful to all who have generously donated to the funeral collection. It will be gifted to Macmillan Cornhill who were a support to Drew and Maureen. The family take comfort that this donation will help them continue the great work they do.

TICK TOCK CLOCK & WATCH REPAIRS

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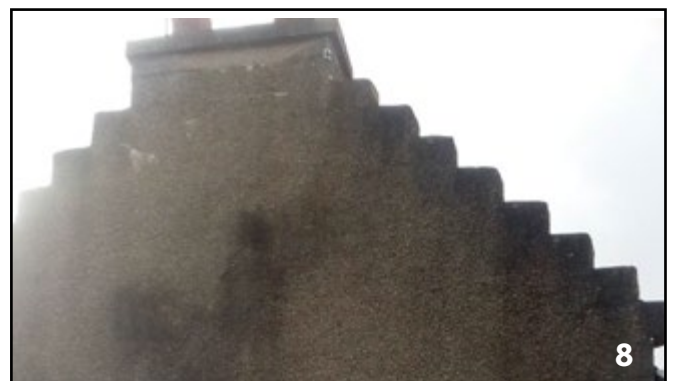
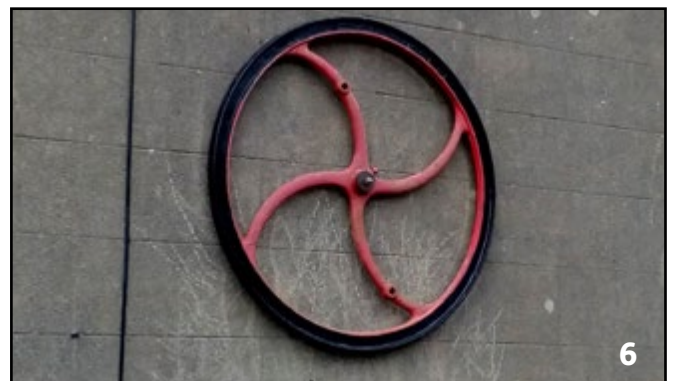


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Where Am I?

How well do *you* know Kinross? You might think you do – but can you identify these Kinross-shire images on this page from memory alone? Our recent picture quiz was so popular that we created another one. We hope you have fun trying to work out where they all are.



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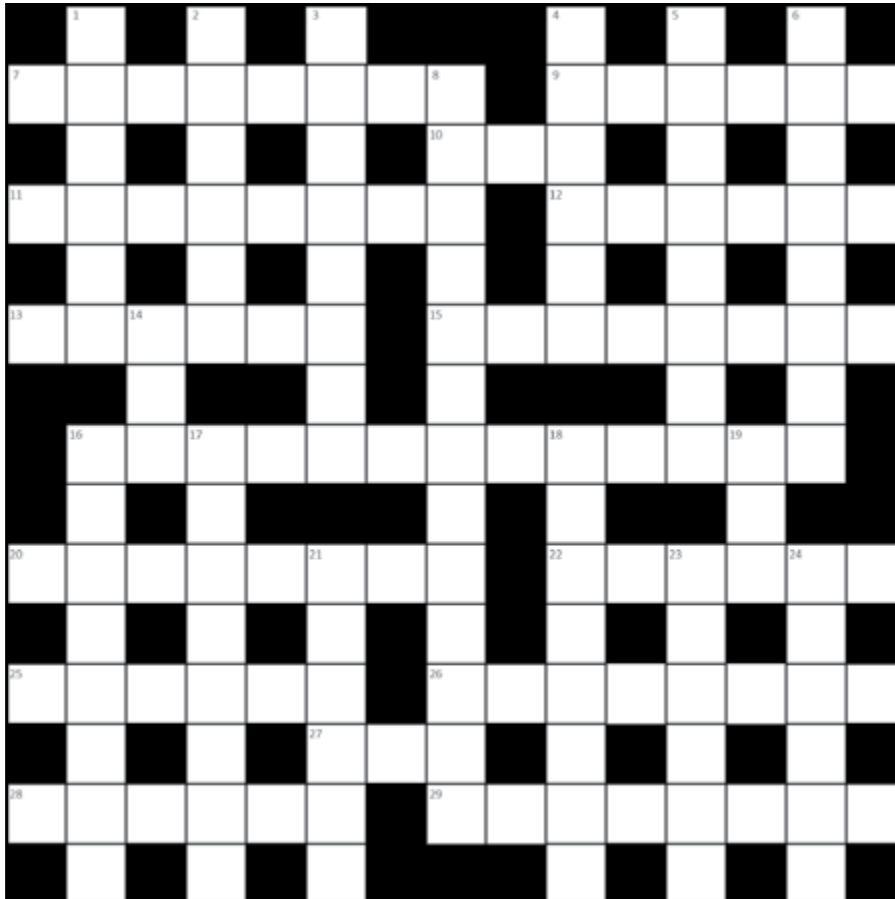
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Puzzles

Welcome to our not-so-fiendishly-difficult puzzles page – enough to test your brain, not so much that it will explode from the strain. A moderately difficult sudoku and a Kinross-themed crossword should be enough to accompany your mid-afternoon cup of tea and shortbread.

KINROSSWORD

Test your local knowledge with our crossword, where a number of the clues relate to Kinross and the surrounding area. No prizes – just bragging rights for getting it right. Answers on page 64.



ACROSS

- 7 Greatly surprise (8)
- 9 New type of pavement system for Kinross High Street (3,3)
- 10 French yes (3)
- 11 Necessary gesture when passing people on the pavement (8)
- 12 Sudden pain in the side (6)
- 13 Road where you will find the Potager Garden (6)
- 15 Place on Loch Leven trail (8)
- 16 Ancient Egyptian writing (13)
- 20 Good-looking (8)
- 22 Cooks (6)
- 25 The fish hawk (6)
- 26 Some part-timers (8)
- 27 Half a horse. Wow! (3)
- 28 Local slang name for a Kinross Park, The _____ (6)
- 29 Carrion feeders do this (8)

DOWN

- 1 Arctic resident (6)
- 2 Somewhere to explore at Blairadam (6)
- 3 1980s computer console (8)
- 4 Toxic substance (6)
- 5 Sticky Japanese sauce (8)
- 6 Newly re-opened in Kinross (6)
- 8 Optimisms (13)
- 14 Old name for the SWI (3)
- 16 Executioners (8)
- 17 Kinross spirit throughout pandemic (8)
- 18 A Kinross-shire Community Council (8)
- 19 Lettuce (3)
- 21 Essential air (6)
- 23 These have their own day in Portmoak (6)
- 24 Low point (6)

S U D O K U

				8	4			6
	9						5	
			7		9			1
3					1			
				2				
5			4					8
			1					5
7	1	9	2				3	
		2					6	



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31 March and 30 September

More information is available on the kinross.cc website. Applications may be downloaded from the website or obtained from the Applications Administrator, Barry Davies, Tel 01577 865004 or email barrydavies57@btinternet.com

Befriending Kinross



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Someone to have a coffee with?
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HEDGES, BUSHES OR TREES CAUSING OBSTRUCTION

Property owners are reminded that it is their responsibility to cut back hedges, branches, bushes etc to ensure that pavements and public footpaths are not obstructed.

Property owners may be liable if injury is caused to others and may be charged costs if Perth & Kinross Council is forced to take action.

When undertaking work on hedges, check that there are no birds nesting. It is an offence under the Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 to damage or destroy the nest of any wild bird while it is in use or being built. The bird nesting season is usually considered to run from March to August.

Perth Citizens Advice Bureau

Perth CAB can help you. Our advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent.

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Appointment line 01738 450581.



Benefits Advice in Libraries (BAIL)

People who need help to identify and claim the right benefits or advice to help them to negotiate the benefits system in any way can access assistance from Perth Citizens Advice Bureau's 'Benefits Advice In Libraries' project in Kinross at Loch Leven Library. The service is available on Tuesdays by appointment only. Telephone the bureau on 01738 450581 to make an appointment.

Debt and Money Advice Service

Perth CAB has a team of specialist debt advisers. Advice is free, confidential, impartial and independent. To talk to a specialist debt adviser call 01738 450590 or email David Ogston (senior debt adviser) using the following email address: David.Ogston@Perthcab.casonline.org.uk

Newsletter Deadlines

More deadlines for the months ahead can be found on our website.

In very rare circumstances it may be necessary to change a deadline at short notice. Check the *Newsletter* website for latest information: www.kinrossnewsletter.org

Issue	Deadline	Publication Date
September	Friday 14 August	Saturday 29 August
October	Friday 18 September	Saturday 3 October

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?

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Local Correspondent

for Perthshire Advertiser
and Fife Herald newspapers

Linda Freeman

Tel 01577 865045.

Email: linda.freeman_64@btinternet.com

Notices

Community Councils

Kinross: Chair: Bill Freeman, 01577 865045
Email: kinrosscommunitycouncil@gmail.com

Milnathort & Orwell: Chair: Craig Williams, 07885 722125
Email: craig@stovestuff.scot
Sec: Elizabeth Rougvie
Email: communitycouncilmilnathort@gmail.com

Portmoak: Chair: Graham Cox
Email: portmoakcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Fossoway & District: Chair: Trudy Duffy-Wigman, 01577 840669
Email: fossoway.cc@gmail.com

Cleish & Blairadam: Sec: Patty Fraser, 01577 850253
Email: cleishcommunitycouncil@pkc.gov.uk

Kinross Community Councillors

Margaret Blyth	6 Muir Grove	
David Colliar	10 Rannoch Place	01577 864037
Bill Freeman (Chair)	64 Muirs	01577 865045
Lynne McKay	5 Springfield Road	01577 531076
Thomas Stewart	Gellybank Farm	01577 864603
Malcolm McFarlane		

Portmoak Community Councillors

S McGregor	(Secretary)	
A Cragoe	(Treasurer)	
Susan Forde		01592 840128
Graham Cox	(Chairman)	
Dave Morris		01592 840500

Have a look at our website: www.portmoak.org

Perth and Kinross Councillors Kinross-shire Ward

Cllr MIKE BARNACLE (Independent)
Tel/Fax (home): 01577 840516.
Email: michaelabarnacle@gmail.com
Website: mikebarnacle.co.uk
Moorend, Waulkmill Road, Crook of Devon, Kinross, KY13 0UZ

Cllr CALLUM PURVES (Scottish Conservative & Unionist)
Tel (office): 01738 475092. Mobile: 07557 812570.
Email: cpurves@pkc.gov.uk
54 Lathro Park, Kinross, KY13 8RU

Cllr WILLIE ROBERTSON (Scottish Liberal Democrats)
Tel (home): 01577 865178. Mobile: 07909 884042.
Email: wrobertson@pkc.gov.uk
85 South Street, Milnathort, Kinross, KY13 9XA

Cllr RICHARD WATTERS (SNP)
Mobile: 07557 812513.
Email: rwatters@pkc.gov.uk
Applegarth, Sunnypark, Kinross, KY13 8BX

John Nicolson MP

Member of Parliament for Ochil and South Perthshire

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Member of the Scottish Parliament for Perthshire South & Kinross-shire

Roseanna Cunningham MSP

Constituency office: 63 Glasgow Road, Perth, PH2 0PE
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Email: roseanna.cunningham.msp@parliament.scot

Members of the Scottish Parliament for Mid Scotland and Fife Region

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The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Claire Baker MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6769
Email: claire.baker.msp@parliament.scot

Murdo Fraser MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5293
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Dean Lockhart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 5993
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Alex Rowley MSP (Labour) Tel: 0131 348 6826
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Alexander Stewart MSP (Conservative) Tel: 0131 348 6134
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Mobile Library Service

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Enquire is funded by the Scottish Government and managed by Children in Scotland.