

## KIRKHILL SWRI

This year will end in May with a visit to the Invergordon Lifeboat Station.

In March members enjoyed a cookery demonstration from Frances Grant and then in April we had the AGM together with the usual Pot Luck Supper.

During the summer months the Committee

will be busy organising the programme for the new session which will recommence in September.

It has been most encouraging to see how the membership has increased and we hope this will continue in the 2013/2014 session



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# Crannog

Summer 2013

Read it first online at [www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](http://www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)

## KIRKHILL GALA WEEK - 18th - 25th May

Fashion, racing, stilt walkers and international stars – and that's just a normal Friday afternoon in St. Mary's Road! Book your tickets now and clear your diary. There's lots going on in this year's Gala Week!

New for 2013 – Race Night on Saturday 18th May from 7.00pm in Kirkhill Community Centre. Free entry, but don't be late. This will fill up fast so don't end up in the photo finish.

Back by popular demand is the Fashion Show at Achnagairn House on Thursday 23rd May from 7.30pm. Fashion by In Stitches with shoe and jewellery showcases and local entertainment. Tickets £12.50 including a glass of bubbly. Tickets from Lorraine MacLeod on 831465. Top of the bill for Gala Day on Saturday 25th May, compered by Davie Robertson, is the official opening of the newly refurbished Community Centre by local musician Duncan Chisholm and the crowning of the Gala Queen by singer and multi-instrumentalist Julie Fowles – most recently known for her work on Disney Pixar's Brave. Julie, her part-

ner Eamonn Doorley and Duncan will also collaborate to lead off the afternoon's music. There won't be a seat on a bale to be had, so get there early.

And in the main arena, there will be circus skills and stilt walkers from Fly Agaric, terrier racing and a display from the Territorial Army as well as dancing, Shinty, fancy dress footie and tug o' war. Money raised during Gala Week supports our newly refurbished Community Centre and keeps running costs down. Goto the centrepages of this Crannog for your pull out Gala Week programme and Gala Day information.

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# READERS' LETTERS

It is really depressing to see that the vandalism to the trees in the park which occurred last year is starting again, presumably a youth or youths (whoever it is is quite strong) trying to break or uproot trees by pushing and pulling them.

Last summer I had to dig out two young fruit trees which were still standing but dead, broken at the base of their trunks.

Already someone has been breaking branches of blossom off one of the miniature fruit trees. Many of the miniature trees were broken off at the top of their trunk last year, stunting their growth.

Broken branches grow back on the willow, but not on other trees. I have left cut branches lying about for children to play with as I have seen children breaking branches off to play games.

Whether youths or children, if parents could have a word with their children to look after the trees

in the park I would be very grateful as volunteers have put a lot of time and effort into looking after and maintaining the trees, bushes and willow in the park for everyone's enjoyment.

Please report any deliberate acts of vandalism you see happening around Kirkhill to the police.  
Lindsey Stout (original Park Group Member)

## DISTRIBUTORS WANTED

You would not be reading this valuable community publication if it were not for the hard work and commitment of a few unsung heroes who volunteer their time to distribute and post the Crannog through everyone's letter boxes. This is a job for the community that is definitely best shared amongst as many as possible. If you want to be involved and could spare some time to help distribute Crannog, please contact Ken or Irene McColl on 831617. Thank You!

### Community Councillors

#### Chairman

**Cameron Kemp**, West Altnaceardaich ☎831552

#### Treasurer

**Fred Geddes**, Newtonhill ☎831324

#### Secretary

**Jim Ogilvie**, 22 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831316

**Ian Weir**, Groam Farm, Kirkhill ☎831750

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**Karen Young**, Glen Rowan, Bunchrew ☎234128

**Iain Urquhart**, 58 Newton Park, Kirkhill ☎831278

**Ian Cowan**, Tigh-na-Belthe, Kirkhill ☎831344

**Caroline Crawford**, Gardener's Cottage, Kirkhill  
☎831503

**Judith Rumbold**, Fearnna, Birchwood, Bunchrew ☎225073

**Nikki Maclean**, Eileantulloch House,  
Moniack, Kirkhill ☎831041

**Crannog** is published four times a year by Kirkhill & Bunchrew Community Council. All meetings of the community council are usually held in the Old North Inn on a Tuesday evening at 7.30<sub>pm</sub> and are open to members of the public. If you have any concerns you would like raised please come along or alternatively speak to one of the councillors.

### Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community website and facebook page

If you want to know what's going on in the community or want to share things with others then the community WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE is the place to go. Send your news and events to [editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk) and "Like" us at [www.facebook.com/kirkhillbunchrew](https://www.facebook.com/kirkhillbunchrew) (yes that is how it's spelt). And if you'd like to promote your club or activity we can set up a page on the site for you at [www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](http://www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)

### Crannog contact information

Get in touch with the Crannog for the next edition at the following email address as appropriate:

**[advertising@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:advertising@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)**

**[editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:editorial@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)**

If you do not have email then please send your comments to: Crannog, 4 Newton Place, Kirkhill, IV5 7QE, or by phone to 01463 831546.

### Crannog Newsletter publication Information

**Print period: Quarterly**

**Circulation: 800 copies**

Circulated to households in the Kirkhill and Bunchrew Community Council area and selected local businesses including some in the Inverness and Beauly areas

Next issue of the Crannog: Autumn 2013

Contribution deadline: 16th August 2013

**\*no late submissions will be accepted**



# WARDLAW CHURCH NEWS

and progress of the church during 2012. One somewhat unexpected activity has arisen in the last year – we have been getting a few enquiries from people researching family history. The latest enquiry has been from a gentleman in Quebec, researching a family member believed to have been married in Kirkhill in 1745, but who joined the 78th Fraser Highlanders, and later settled in Quebec. Older church records are largely held at the Highland Archive Centre in Inverness nowadays, and provide much information.

On 6th April, over a dozen members of the church congregation and friends gathered to have a “Tidy Up Day” for the church grounds and adjacent house plot. Progress was helped by the good number of volunteers, who were rewarded with tea, sandwiches and cream meringues afterwards – we were able to sit outside in the sun that day, the next day brought snow once again! Volunteers were able to try out the new wooden bench that is now located

at the church door. Thanks to Kenny McColl for making the bench secure. The purchase of the bench was made possible by donations made at the very popular Tuesday coffee mornings – since starting, the coffee mornings have also funded

pots of shrubs and spring bulbs at the church doors, the painting of the church doors, and a substantial contribution towards a new microphone and stand.

April 27th brought a much enjoyed coffee morning held at Kirkhill School, hosted by the “Open the Book” team. This team visit the pupils of P1 through to P3 each week during term time, to act out costumed presentations of Bible stories. The

team’s aim was to raise funds to present each child in P3 with a copy of the Lion Storyteller’s Bible, to mark their participation in three years of these special assemblies. The team also wish to offer their thanks to Cris Ford and her teaching staff at Kirkhill Primary.

The church is delighted to once again be holding a special family Sunday service on 19th May to mark the start of Gala Week in Kirkhill. All Kirkhill folk are warmly invited to this service, which will be led by Rev. Bill Freel, who is a retired, but very much in demand, Baptist Minister from Inverness. Bill and his wife Betty have become frequent members of the Wardlaw congregation whenever Bill’s continuing preaching commitments allow. Please do come and join in this celebration of the Kirkhill community and its church.

Sunday, 2nd June is the date for our “Sandwich Sunday” service. This service is conducted by a range of church elders and members of the congregation, and centres on the work of the Church

of Scotland’s HIV project. After the service, everyone is invited to stay on for a lunch of sandwiches and home baking with tea and coffee – there is no charge for this, but donations towards the work of the HIV project will be welcome.

All Sunday morning services start at 10:30 a.m., but

don’t forget our Third Sunday Praise event which is held every third Sunday evening each month. The May Praise event will be held on Sunday, 19th May at 6:00 p.m., when the more modern songs are a highlight of the evening, and there is a chance to meet friends and neighbours over tea and home baking afterwards. So there’s plenty going on – please come along and join us, you will be made very welcome!



*L to R: Margaret Birkbeck, Flora Morrison, Alisdair Morrison, Mary McLelland, Eileen Morrison, Ellenor Thomas (Photo: Avril Marr)*

# KIRK HILL INDOOR BOWLING CLUB



The indoor bowls had to find a new venue last autumn when we started our winter session as the hall was out of commission due to the refurbishment. We are grateful

to Kirkhill Primary school for allowing us to use their hall last autumn. This allowed us to continue with the normal bowling season. However we had to play some of our home games away and as a result the club finished 8th in the Inverness league this year. We were knocked out in the quarter-finals of the league cup. We won the Jim Sutherland trophy against Beaulay but have still to play for the Jen Sutherland trophy.

The winter season finished with the Annual Prize Giving on Friday 12th April in the Bogroy Inn. We have a new club champion this year with Neil Maclean beating Billy Horne in the final. The following club trophies were presented at the prize giving:

**FERNLEA TROPHY (Club Champion) Winner** – Neil Maclean

Runner up – Billy Horne

**MACGILLIVRAY TROPHY (Triples) Winners** –

Norma Scrimgeour, Ann Lyle, Ken MacColl

Runners up – Catherine Sawicki, Mary Don-

aldson, Neil Maclean

**J & J TROPHY (Gents Singles)**

**Winner**

– Neil Maclean,

Runner up – Danny MacGillivray

**MALDUN TROPHY (Ladies Singles) Winner** –

Mary Donaldson,

Runner up – Helen Stuart

**DRUMCHARDINE TROPHY (Pairs) Winners** –

Helen Stuart & Willie Maclean

Runners up – Duncan Gray & Mary Donaldson

**STRATHNAIRN CUP (Two bowl singles)**

**Winner** – Catherine Sawicki

Runner-up – Billy Horne

Spoon Winner – Willie Maclean

The season will start again in late September 2013 in the community hall on Monday nights – we are always looking for new members to keep up our numbers up so watch out for a notice about the start of our new season in the Crannog this autumn.

David Scrimgeour



## WARDLAW CHURCH NEWS

Since the last issue of Crannog, we have “lost” one Interim Moderator and gained another! Since we have been without a Minister, we have been looked after by Rev. Edgar Ogston who was based in Beaulay, and who was Minister for the area known as Kilmorack and Erchless. Edgar and Jean have now safely arrived at their new home in Mallaig, where Edgar is now Minister for North West Lochaber. Our new Interim Moderator is Rev. Peter Donald, who is the Minister from Crown Church in Inverness. Peter has already taken both a wedding and funeral service at Wardlaw Church, and cleared his schedule to take a much appreciated Sunday service for us on 7th April. Peter will be organising a schedule of Ministers to take our Sunday services. He also has links with the Nominating Committee for Kirkhill and Kiltarlity, who are charged with finding a new Minister for

us. The post has been advertised, and is listed on the Church of Scotland website. In the meantime, numbers attending church have not reduced at all – but we will always welcome new folk !

In March, the church was full for the funeral of Bob McNab, a much respected member of the Kirkhill community and well known in farming circles. Later that same month, we saw the wedding of Elaine Stuart and Bruce Buntain from Bridge of Don, who chose Wardlaw Church for their wedding, with surrounding celebrations being hosted at Achnagairn House.

The Guild A.G.M. in early March was enlivened by members bringing in old photographs, with all the pictures provoking happy memories, and several causing much raucous laughter as well. Late March saw the A.G.M. for the church as a whole, with members reporting on the activities

# KIRKHILL DISTRICT AMENITIES ASSOCIATION

Kirkhill District Amenities Association held its AGM in the new Williamson Room at the community centre in February. It certainly beat squeezing onto the stage. There was a good turnout to hear about the enormous amount of work that has gone into progressing the Kirkhill Centre Forward project. Chairman Ken MacDonald thanked all involved in particular Alasdair Morrison who's been managing the build on a daily basis and Sandra Hogg for managing the finances. The challenge now is to make best use of the new facilities and grow the number of activities and events held. A committee was elected but there were no new faces so the committee would be delighted to hear from anyone who would like to help out.

## Community Centre opening and Gala Week 2013

We will be celebrating the new facilities with an official opening ceremony at this year's Gala Day.

We're delighted to announce that local musician Duncan Chisholm will be opening the hall and invite you all along to share in the community's achievement.

Thank you for your support for past Gala Weeks which have enabled us to carry out the recent work. Now more than ever we need your support to enable us to continue to offer our fantastic facilities at such reasonable rates and develop new activities and events. This year's Gala is shaping up to being the best ever. You can find out more about Gala 2013 elsewhere in Crannog.

## Fitting out and film showings

The KDAA were delighted to get funding from Awards for All to help fit out the new facilities. The kitchen equipment is in place and new blinds and new chairs and tables for the Williamson Room have been ordered.

During our consultation one of things that the community wished to see in the new centre was films. The grant has enabled us to purchase a projector and large screen which should allow us to show films in the main hall or Williamson Room. If you'd got a passion for cinema or don't like the trek to VUE and would like to help take this idea forward please let us know. Young people are welcome too, perhaps you could organise your own showings. Email [kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk) or phone Sandra Hogg on 831674.

## Tennis membership

Annual tennis membership of the MUGA is now open. At only £25 per year for the family this must be the best value ever. Renew your membership or join now. Forms are available on the website, Email [kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk) or phone Sandra Hogg on 831674.

## Contact

If you'd like to make a booking for the centre or find out more about what we can offer please contact Wilma Williamson on 831737 or email [kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk) and more details at [www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](http://www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk). We'd be happy to arrange to show you round the facilities and discuss your needs.

## Kirkhill Community Centre

### Kirkhill Post Office

At Kirkhill Community Centre from 10am to 1pm every Tuesday and Friday

### Community Centre

Fully equipped and recently renovated, Kirkhill Community Centre is suitable for a wide range of groups, clubs, meetings, drama, music, sports, fitness, parties, celebrations, sales, fundraising events and more. The new Williamson Room is ideal for smaller groups or to give additional space for larger events.

Contact Wilma Williamson 01463 831737 or email [kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)



### Kirkhill MUGA

Kirkhill multi use games area (MUGA) has a floodlit all weather surface and is suitable for a range of sports including football, tennis, shinty and basketball.

Contact Ken MacDonald on 01463 831479 or [kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](mailto:kdaa@kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)

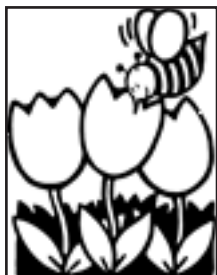
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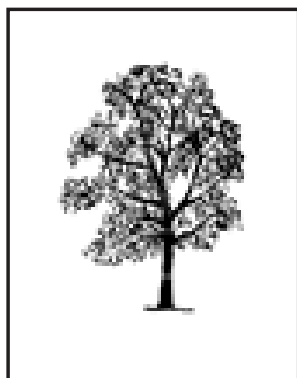
# KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY TRUST

## Spring Volunteering Day – Saturday 20th April

By the time you read this we will have had our Litter Pick around the village. Thank you to all who took part. We will also have helped the KDAA to cut back the whins around the MUGA – making it easier to find balls that find their way over the fence! Hopefully both activities will have helped support attendance at the Village Market in Kirkhill Primary School.



Plans are now in place for the Cycling Event in the school grounds alongside the market on Saturday 18th May. Children and parents will be invited to bring their bikes for a free maintenance check from local cycling group Velocity and take part in an obstacle race around the playing field. Just what you need to loosen up for a summer of cycling! There will also be a stand from New Start Highland where you can find out about buying a refurbished bike or donate one that has been gathering dust in your garden shed.



## Woodland Group

The spring session of Woodland group workdays is drawing to a close at the end of April. We have had a successful year – with further habitat enhancement and management of the tree resource – as well as improving the amenity aspects of the wood. Further to the First Aid training course held in the wood in September we also ran a successful Wood-carving course in February led by Henry Fosbrooke. Nine attendees spent an enjoyable weekend developing their practical artistic skills. Some wonderful carvings were crafted and there is an aspiration to produce a Community Totem Pole! We would like to thank the FCS Community Seedcorn Fund for the funding which supported these activities. We also have worked with Moniak Mhor Writer's Centre in supplying timber for their roundwood structured eco-building and look forward to following its construction with interest. We have just heard that the BBC's Beechgrove Garden will be filming the creation of a Community Garden at Moniak Mhor in the summer. If you

would like to help, contact Rachel on 741675. Away from the wood we have also had a development workshop to provide a vision for the future work of the group – thanks to Archie Prentice and Aileen Armstrong for their facilitation of the event. We are always keen to involve more of the local community in our activities and will highlight these in Crannog, on the website and via Facebook. If you're interested in any of the activities do get in touch with our co-ordinator Anne Griffiths 01463 831600 or [craggach@doctors.org.uk](mailto:craggach@doctors.org.uk)

## Cycle Path

An application for funding of the construction of a cycle path from Lovat Bridge to the Kirkhill junction is still being considered – fingers crossed! If successful, work could start this year.



**[www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk](http://www.kirkhillandbunchrew.org.uk)**

The Community web site continues to provide a source of up to the minute news and information. It

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# KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

car park for the Reelig Glen walk. The Community Council was prepared to pay for the bins if they could be emptied on a regular basis.

The Secretary had been in touch with the waste disposal people and the difficulty was not in having extra bins but in the emptying of them as the people employed were working at full stretch.

An idea was proposed that standard black wheelie bins be deployed and emptied when the bin lorry in on its regular trips round the area. This idea was to be discussed with the head of department and they promised to come back with a decision. At the time of writing no further word has been heard of this idea.

7).Achnagairn House.

The Secretary reported that several of the empty houses in the Achnagairn estate had been purchased by the proprietors of Achnagairn House. Planning application for the alteration and completion of five properties has been lodged with the planning department. Change of Use of 5No existing, partially built houses at Achnagairn to create additional en-suite accommodation. Original Planning Reference 05/01316/FULIN Ref. No: 13/01127/FUL

8).Traffic through Inchmore.

Again members of the public complained about the speed of vehicles going through the village and ignoring the speed limit. A white Mercedes was seen to overtake dangerously while driving very fast through the speed limit. This incident was reported to the local police and enquires are continuing into this incident. The speed strips have been down for some time so we should get results from these shortly.

9). Traffic Lights.

Questions were asked at a recent meeting about the sequence of lights at the Junction of Young Street , Kenneth Street and Tomnahurich Street, The Secretary reported that the light's sequence was biased towards keeping the through traffic up Tomnahurich Street moving.

Light sequence is Tomnahurich Street and Young Street, then Kenneth Street and Young Street then Tomnahurich Street and Young Street for a shorter time, then left Kenneth Street and Young Street and finally Young Street into Kenneth Street. The lights are programmed to change in this fashion when traffic is heavy and during night hours they change pretty well to demand.

The lights on the Clachnaharry rail bridge now change quickly on demand.

10).A.O.B.

a). SSEB survey. The electricity board were asking for views on their service. The one sticking point was about the complexity of their bills with one or two members saying that their metered usage was excessive and that they thought the bills could more accurately

show what was causing the high usage. One solution would be to supply energy meters that show when most electricity is being used. The Secretary said he would show this request in the survey reply.

b). The Secretary reported that Inverness Leisure had vacancies for trustees to be made up from the local community if anyone was interested he had all the information about these vacancies.

11). Planning applications.

The Secretary drew the Community Council's attention to a planning application for a new furniture workshop and residence adjacent to Moniach Castle, Application number 13/00102/FUL. This application has attracted 12 objections from local residents due to its style which looks a bit like a castle made from Lego and its size which would dwarf surrounding properties.

After discussion it was agreed to object to this application on the grounds of the design and size of the building which if built would not be in keeping with the surrounding area.

The meeting was then closed. The date of the next meeting 30th April.

## GARDEN TREE SURGERY

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# KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

This item had been circulated to members prior to the meeting for their consideration. This was a really routine felling and replanting operation. Considerable damage had been done to the existing trees by Sika deer. The plan is to clear all apart from existing NBL and restock with NBL. This work being necessary was passed without any adverse comments.

## 8). Fireworks at Achnagairn

I received through George Hogg an email from the new manager at Achnagairn House and I have replied to him suggesting if he sends dates when fireworks will be used we can publish them on the website and in Crannog. Copy of email below.

"I have recently taken up the post of manager at Achnagairn House and I am aware that in the past there have been issues with us letting off fireworks at the house for weddings. Both the owners and I would very much like to be able to inform the community of plans to let fireworks off as widely as possible and wondered if there was any way of us doing this via the community council? If you could perhaps let me know if you can help us I would be grateful.

Kind regards

Robert "

## 9). Traffic through Inchmore when Kessock Bridge is closed.

Police will monitor the speed of traffic through the village although the last survey showed very little speeding. It was suggested that the 40 mile speed limit could be cut to 30mph.

## 10) Community Council Scheme Evaluation.

This survey is to establish if there are any problems or difficulties with the new rules and operational guide lines for Community Councils. This survey was aimed at office bearers but the discussion was opened to the floor for any comments either adverse or good.

It was agreed that we had no difficulty with any amendments to the original scheme or in operating the guide lines so the Secretary was left to reply to the survey.

## 11. Planning Issues

Only one issue and that was another attempt at the seven plots on and near to the old smiddy at Inchmore. The last time this development was submitted for planning approval the Community Council objected to this development and after discussing this application again it was decided to continue the objection on the grounds of overcrowding and that the largest part of the development is on ground not earmarked on the local plan for housing.

## 12). A.O.B.

a). Provision of street lighting at Lentran.

b). Lack of dog waste bins at Reelig Glen and on the road from Kirkhill to Inchmore.

The Community Council is willing to pay for the bins but would the council site and then empty the bins we

provide?

c).The performance of the traffic lights at the Clachnaharry railway bridge and the ones at the Tomnahurich and Kenneth Street junction were raised. The Secretary reported that the program on the lights at the railway bridge had again been tweaked and were once again changing on demand at low peak traffic flow.

d).A member brought up the question of sheep rustling after finding the body of a dismembered sheep. The police said they were always on the lookout for this activity but nothing had been reported so far.

Meeting was then closed. Date of next meeting 12th March.

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Minutes of the meeting held in the Bogroy Inn  
On Tuesday 12th March 2013 at 7.30pm.

Chairperson Mr Cameron Kemp

Present.

C.C. Judith Rumbold, Nikki Maclean, Cameron Kemp, Karen Young, Ian Cowan and Jim Ogilvie (Secretary)

1). Apologies. Fred Geddes, Ally MacNeill, Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Ian Weir and Caroline Crawford.

2).Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 29th January was read and approved. Judith Rumbold proposed and Nikki Maclean seconded .

3).Matters arising from the minutes.

The matter of advertising on the documents giving planning approval for a project was omitted from the minutes and the secretary reported that adverts could also be carried on the planning website. The adverts are just a way of making a little extra money for the council.

4). West link road and the Community Council Forum

The two members who attended this meeting were absent but it appears that no progress was made in changing the Highland Council's mind on the preferred option 6. It is claimed by objectors to the scheme that a bridge could be built for very little more money and that a tunnel could work out cheaper in the long run. A public exhibition of the plans will take place on Wednesday 17th April and on Thursday 18th April in Kinmylies Church and the Culduthel Christian Centre respectively.

5). Reelig Glen.

The Secretary reported that the decking on a bridge was now repaired and that the circuit walk could now be undertaken safely

6). Provision of extra dog waste bins.

At a previous meeting it had been agreed to ask the council to provide dog waste bins on the road from the village down to Inchmore a suitable site being on the railings at the sewage treatment plant and at the

# KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY TRUST

is a great way to create awareness of a project or up and coming event. The web site can also be used to help promote a local business, reaching customers between the quarterly Crannog publications. If you would like more information or to have your material uploaded to the web site, contact Archie Prentice on 831638.

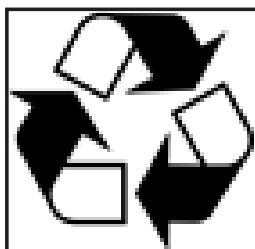
## Playpark

The fence is now finished and the willows have been trimmed. They will grow over the summer and hopefully be ready for weaving into new roofs over the play spaces in the autumn. Thanks to Tree Surgeon Rob Kinghorn and the other helpers who carried out the work. All we need is a few parents to come forward and help keep it in good shape.

The willows in the park have been pruned and the dogwoods cut right back so that they bush out and retain their vivid colours. The cut branches have been left for children to play with to discourage breaking branches off the miniature fruit trees. Trimmings from the bushes cut during the fence repairs also provide a home for wildlife. Thank you to the parents who regularly tidy up the litter and pop broken branches in the bin.

## Environmental Group

The Recycling Point in the Community Centre Car Park has bins for clear, brown and green glass, steel/aluminium cans and textiles. It is well used and a great facility. Please put any bags/boxes in the wheelie bin next to the glass bins and do not



leave any other items next to the bin as someone else will have to remove them. Should any glass get broken please clean it up or inform the staff in the Community Centre.

## Kirkhill Primary School Eco-School Committee

On 27th February the group organised a dance performance on the theme of 'renewable energy'. Eden Court Theatre helped with the choreography. The group is also providing art work for a display at Highland Liliums – look out for it when you are buying your bedding plants! The group is also experimenting with different varieties of carrots in the raised beds this year, after they have been dug over by a group from Scottish Hydro.

## Bats in the Community Hall

Local Bat Consultant Richard Koczy gave a fascinating talk about the 5 species of bats that can be found in our area at the AGM of the Trust on 25th March. I now know which ones are likely to be flying around my head as I walk the dog around Wardlaw Mausoleum and Graveyard.

I am a keyholder for the mausoleum so if you ever want a look around this fascinating historic building, give me a call.

If you have any queries or would like to get involved with Trust activities, call Erik Lundberg on 831742 or email [erik.lundberg@btinternet.com](mailto:erik.lundberg@btinternet.com).



## FIRST CHOICE DECORATIONS

PAINTING  
DECORATING  
WALLPAPERING  
TILING  
PLASTERING

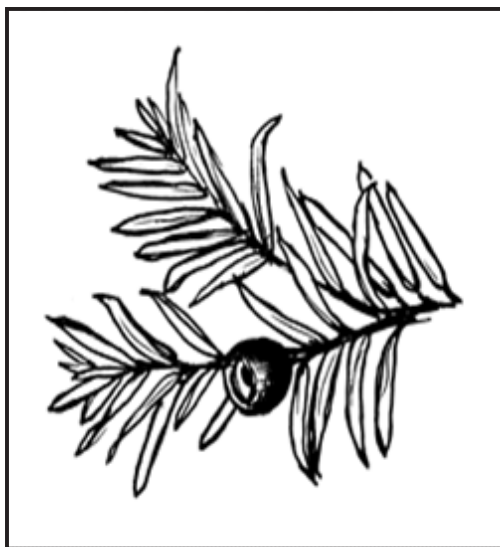


Contact  
**JIM GOODMAN**  
tel  
**01463 831301**  
mob  
**07922 038868**

3-8 MILLIFEACH  
KIRKHILL, INVERNESS IV5 7PH

# WARDLAW MAUSOLEUM CHURCHYARD

In the old Graveyard there are several Yew trees. The yew tree is one of our native trees which were held sacred by the Druids in pre-Christian



times. They no doubt observed the tree's qualities of longevity and regeneration (drooping branches of old yew trees can root and form new trunks where they

touch the ground), and the yew came to symbolise death and resurrection in Celtic culture. They will also have been familiar with the toxicity of the tree's needles in particular, which can prove fatal, and which may have further contributed to its connections with death. Shakespeare too was familiar with these qualities when he had Macbeth concoct a poisonous brew which included "slips of yew, silvered in the moon's eclipse".

The themes of death and resurrection continued into the Christian era, with the custom of yew shoots being buried with the deceased, and boughs of yew being used as 'Palms' in church at Easter. Yew trees have in fact established a popular association with old churches in Britain, to the extent that very old specimens of yew trees are now relatively rare outside of church grounds. The two yew trees at the west end of the graveyard have taken a pronounced lean with the prevailing wind and encroach on some graves and grave markers. A member of the public with relatives buried there has asked for the trees to be removed. These trees are very old and can be traced back nearly two centuries.

It is possible that there were Yew trees on the site of the old Wardlaw prior to the graveyard although the trees were likely to be planted as the graveyard was extended. Clan Fraser adopted a sprig of yew as their clan badge and the best long bows

were made of wood from the Yew tree.

Fred Geddes from the Community Council and some other interested parties had a meeting with Robert Patton the Forestry Officer for the Highland Council and some alternatives were discussed. It is the unanimous view of the Community Council that these trees should be retained as they are part of our heritage.

## DRAINAGE DOCTORS

SEPTIC TANKS & SOAKAWAYS  
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# KIRKHILL & BUNCHREW COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Bog Roy Inn  
On Tuesday 29th January 2013 at 7.30pm.

Chairperson Mr Cameron Kemp

Present. C.C. Chris Heaton-Armstrong, Judith Rumbold,  
Nikki Maclean, Ally MacNeill, Cameron Kemp,

Fred Geddes, Ian Cowan and Jim Ogilvie (Secretary).  
Police Constables Billy Macdonald and Gary Ross  
attended as did Highland Councillor Helen Carmichael.

1). Apologies: Caroline Crawford, Karen Young and  
Margaret Davidson.

2). Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 12th December  
were read and approved. Chris Heaton Armstrong pro-  
posed and Nikki MacLean seconded

3). Policing in the Highlands.

The two police constables gave an interesting talk on  
the revamp of the Scottish Police Service  
which is coming into effect this year. The main message  
is that although because of cost cutting some smaller  
police stations have had to close community policing is  
the main priority. Local police can now be found by dial-  
ling 101 throughout Scotland although for emergencies  
999 should be used.

The Force Review Programme has created two strategic  
territorial policing areas, Highlands and Islands to pro-  
vide clarity in terms of overall structure with the empha-  
sis remaining on local policing and in preparation to the  
single Scottish Police Force due in April 2013.

Territorial Policing has therefore been structured in the  
following way:

- Territories are Superintendent led and are prin-  
cipally coterminous with Highland and Island Council  
management areas, and provide strategic management  
and direction to Area Commands.

- Within these Territories are eight Area Com-  
mands policed by locally based Chief Inspector and  
Inspector teams. The Area Commands retain tactical  
and managerial oversight responsibility for delivery of  
local policing. Under the Area Commands are Local  
Policing Teams which are Inspector led and provide  
localised operational oversight, response coverage and  
accountability.

- Local Policing Teams correlate with the prin-  
cipal centres of population within each Area Command  
generally providing 24/7 policing capability. The Force  
covers an area of around 10,000 square miles and  
stretches from the village of Kilchoan in the South West  
and as far as Shetland in the North - the largest land  
mass covered by a UK Police Force. With most of the  
Highland's 300,000 residents populated within small  
villages, a community-based approach to policing is a  
primary aim of Northern Constabulary.

The City of Inverness is one of the fastest growing cities  
in Europe with a multi-cultural population of approxi-  
mately 80,000. Inverness City is the urban centre of  
Northern Constabulary's Force area.

The capital of the Highlands and Islands attracts many  
thousands of visitors each year. The area is also proving  
popular for large scale outdoor events such as musical  
festivals RockNess and Belladrum and attracting sub-  
stantial crowds during the football season to the Tulloch  
Caledonian Football Stadium.

Inverness is the main centre of the Highland and  
Islands area and has the heaviest demand for policing  
within the Northern Constabulary. The Area Command  
is responsible for not only the city, but many of the outly-  
ing areas such as Beauly, Culloden and Fort Augustus  
to name but a few, as well as the region's main airport  
at Dalcross.

To contact command headquarters in Inverness, tele-  
phone 0845 600 5703

The offices at Raigmore are where the senior officers  
work from and is the Regional Headquarters. The opera-  
tional side works out of Burnett Road which also has a  
24 hour service desk.

The two officers were then thanked for an interesting  
insight of the new structure.

4). Flooding Scoping Report.

This item was discussed at some length and Chris Swift  
was again thanked for the effort he has put in to getting  
the project this far. A list of options are now available  
that will carry the work forward and hopefully prevent  
further incidents like the one depicted below but money  
will now have to be found to carry out the preferred  
option. There is still a feeling that the money spent on  
the report could have been better spent on a machine  
to clear the main channels and ditches.

5). Inverness West Link Road and Inverness Area Com-  
munity Forum.

The next meeting of the above forum will take place  
on the 19th February and part of the agenda will be  
the west link road proposal. Alternatives to the proposal  
favoured by the Highland Council have been put for-  
ward. Each alternative will cheapen the proposed plans.  
The proposals are for 6A, 7A and 8A. Discussion then  
took place on the need for a west link bypass at all and  
was it the road to nowhere. It was agreed to try and get  
a copy of the original traffic census that showed the  
volume of traffic through Tomnahurich Street heading  
down the A82. It had been stated before that on traffic  
volume alone the new link road expenditure could not  
be justified. Two members said they would try to attend  
the meeting on the 19th February.

6). Scottish Water Consultation.

This consultation to help shape the future of water and  
waste services in Scotland was left over from the last  
meeting. The main thrust was to be on charges and  
future investment to improve services. The Community  
Council felt that it had nothing to offer on these matters  
and this item was let drop.

7). Forestry Commission Craggach Woods Consultation.

# KIRKHILL

Saturday 25th

A Great Day Out for all the Family

Gates Open

## CRAFT STALLS



Lush Soaps

Caz's Cupcake  
Heaven

Temple Spa

Inverness  
Gift Box

For the  
Love of Jewellery

and lots more

**GRAND PRIZE  
DRAW**  
1st prize  
2 Belladrum Tickets

Official Opening of Gala Day and newly refurbished  
and crowning of Gala Queen and

Laser Quest - Pony Trekking - Bungy  
Bouncy Castle - Archery - Face Painting

## MINI MUSIC FESTIVAL

COLLABORATION BY DUNCAN CHISHOLM

Also - "The Caspians"

## REFRESHMENTS

Champagne & Strawberries

Burgers

Beer Tent

Ice Cream

Martin Retro Sweeties

Candy Boutique

Candy Floss

## MAIN ARENA

Fly Aerial  
Stilt Walkers &

Terrier

TA Dancers

Kids Show

Highland

Tug 'o' War

Fancy Dress

COMPETITIONS - SEE BANNER

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Please note we have a limited number of disabled

We regret we are unable to allow any movement of vehicles within the gated

# GALA DAY

th May 2013

with Davie Robertson as Compere

12.00 noon

ished Community Centre by Duncan Chisholm  
and Attendants by Julie Fowlis

ee Trampolines—Merry-Go-Round  
Painting and Much, Much, More

## FESTIVAL FEATURING

LM, JULIE FOWLIS & EAMONN DOORLEY

and other local bands



## ATTRACTIONS

Inverness Mini  
Owners Group

Bottle Stall

Book Stall

Tombola

Kids Quad Bikes

Coastguard

Vintage Tractor Display



## NA EVENTS

garic  
& Circus Skills

Racing

splay

hinty

Dancing

' War

ess Footy

## COMMUNITY CENTRE

Teas by WRI

Mad for Bags

Rowan Hill Crafts

Angel Card Readings

Pixi Soaps

Jewellery Stall

Competition Entries

CK COVER FOR DETAILS

NTRE BY 10.30AM ON GALA DAY FOR JUDGING

ed parking spaces available on St Mary's Road.

area of the Community Centre for Health and Safety reasons after 11.00am.



# GALA DAY COMPETITION TIME



HOW MANY  
DIFFERENT ITEMS  
CAN YOU FIT IN A  
SMALL SIZE  
MATCHBOX?

(OPEN TO PRIMARY SCHOOL PUPILS)

AND

BEST  
CHOCOLATE  
SPONGE CAKE



(OPEN TO EVERYONE)

ALL ENTRIES MUST BE AT THE  
COMMUNITY CENTRE  
BY 10.30AM ON GALA DAY

# KIRKHILL GALA SCARECROW COMPETITION

A FUN EVENT FOR ALL THE FAMILY—  
GET YOUR THINKING CAPS ON!!



CREATE A SCARECROW  
WITH A  
**DISNEY**  
THEME

(open to residents in Kirkhill & Bunchrew area only)

TO REGISTER YOUR SCARECROW  
CONTACT IZZY ON

01463 831554

OR E-MAIL

[calumskigersta@btinternet.com](mailto:calumskigersta@btinternet.com)

WITH YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS  
BY FRIDAY 11TH MAY 2013



SCARECROWS SHOULD BE  
ON DISPLAY IN YOUR GARDEN AND  
READY FOR JUDGING BY 18TH MAY 2013

# KIRKHILL GALA DANCE



featuring

**SHARP EXIT**

SATURDAY 25TH MAY 2013  
AT  
KIRKHILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

Doors open 8.00pm

STRICTLY OVER 18'S

TICKETS £10.00

ON SALE FROM 1ST MAY  
AVAILABLE FROM:  
LORRAINE MACLEOD — 01463 831465

B.Y.O.B



ALL RIGHTS OF ADMISSION RESERVED BY KIRKHILL GALA COMMITTEE

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

Duncan Chisholm, Julie Fowlis and  
Eamonn Doorley

"Dress for the Day" & "Scotkilt"  
for dressing  
the Gala Queen, Princesses & Princes

Achnagairn House

The Crannog Editorial Team  
& Allison Hay

Wilma Williamson

Joe Gibb

Bogroy Hotel

And all the dedicated members  
of the Community who make  
Gala Week the success that it is!

# KIRKHILL GALA WEEK

## PROGRAMME 2013



Saturday 18th May  
**RACE NIGHT**  
Kirkhill Community Centre  
From 7.00pm

Admission Free  
Over 18's only BYOB



Sunday 19th May

**Gala Golf** at Muir of Ord Golf Course  
9.00am  
(contact Colin MacMillan on  
01463 831656 to enter)

**Church Service** at Wardlaw Church  
10.30am  
with tea to follow

**Car Treasure Hunt & Family BBQ**  
Kirkhill Community Centre  
Starts at 4.00pm

Monday 20th May

Bingo Night  
By Kirkhill Bowling Club at  
Kirkhill Community Centre at 7.00pm

Tuesday 21st May

**MAMMA MIA!**  
**SING ALONG NIGHT**  
Kirkhill Community Centre 7.00pm  
Fancy Dress Optional  
Prize for best costume!  
Pay at the Door  
Adults - £3      Under 16's - £2

Wednesday 22nd May

Pets Parade 6.30pm  
Family BBQ - Dog Agility  
Fun Run at 7.00pm  
Kirkhill Community Centre  
Prize for best Home-made Pet

Thursday 23rd May

**Junior Shinty**  
Kirkhill Community Centre at 6.30pm

**FASHION SHOW**  
**at**  
**ACHNAGAIRN HOUSE**  
**By "In Stitches"**

7.30pm for 8.00pm start  
Tickets £12.50 (over 18's only)  
includes a glass of bubbly,  
shortbread and tablet

Performances include  
Alison Pacey  
Imogen Hay  
and others

Raffle

Showcases by  
Shoe La La  
and others

Friday 24th May

Football Tournament  
Kirkhill Community Centre at 7.00pm  
Quiz Night at The Bogroy Hotel at 9.00pm £10  
per team of 4