

Blackie Banter

Issue 19

Autumn 2016

Hello everyone, welcome to our 19th issue. We hope you find this regular newsletter helps to keep you informed about what is happening in Blackburn. We are grateful to those groups who wish to contribute and also the local businesses who advertise which enables us to continue. Our band of delivery volunteers are very much appreciated too!

FINTRAY KINELLAR KEITHALL CHURCH

Good news from FKK Church! On Sunday 31st July our congregation unanimously voted to call Rev. Sean Swindells as our new Minister. It is hoped that an Induction Service for Rev. Swindells will be held in the early Autumn. Until then, Rev. Matthew Rodgers will continue as our Locum Minister. He can be contacted at 15 Meadowlands Drive, Westhill, AB32 6EJ, Tel. 01224 743184.

Following our Service in the Tea Tent at the Fintray Sheltie Stakes on Sunday 4th September at 10.00am, the Services for the remainder of September will be held at Keithhall Church at 11.00am. For the month of October the Services will be held in Fintray Church at 11.00 am.

Posters and fliers for our Creation Extravaganza are being circulated. Please bring your children along for a fun afternoon on Sunday 11th September in Kinellar Community Hall from 3.00-5.00pm. There will be crafts to try and refreshments for all.

We look forward to welcoming Rev. Swindells to the Parish. Please check for details of Church events on our notice board in Kinellar Community Hall and on the notice boards in the village.

Kind regards
Rosemary

Kinellar Guitar Studios

String Instrument Repairers, Sales & Tuition.

New Term..... Spaces Available.....

Keyboard, Guitar, Bass, Ukulele, Mandolin
lessons for fun or exams.

Marcus Crescent, Blackburn AB21 0SZ
01224 790738.

COUNCILLOR REPORT

I have asked Aberdeenshire Council to choose a route and build a cycle path between Blackburn and Kintore – as part of delivering a cycle route all the way from Inverurie to Aberdeen. Aberdeen City Council has just been awarded £30,000 by Sustrans towards the cost of route identification and preliminary design work for a cycle link between Blackburn and Aberdeen. Aberdeenshire Council is seeking to complete the partly built cycle path between Kintore and Port Elphinstone as soon as possible. So, in terms of an Inverurie to Aberdeen through cycle path, it is only the section between Blackburn and Kintore where no work is currently underway to at least establish the best route. Following my request to progress identifying a route between Blackburn and Kintore, officers in the Council's transportation section will be undertaking this work. Active travel (cycling and walking) is a priority for Aberdeenshire Council which can deliver health benefits, help reduce traffic congestion and cut greenhouse gas emissions from road transport. Working with my colleague Cllr Paul Johnston when the Council set its revenue budget last February, I was pleased to be able to secure an extra £250,000 per year for active travel in Aberdeenshire. I hope some of this money can be used to progress the delivery of a continuous cycle route from Inverurie to Aberdeen.

I expect the planning application for the new Kinellar School to be ready for a decision during September. The small number of objections means that the decision on whether to grant planning permission may be taken by planning officers without the need for referral to the Garioch Area Committee. This means a decision can be reached more quickly. Meanwhile, I got the opportunity to visit the new Kintore Midmill primary school in July to see progress with construction. At that date, the main structure of the building was largely complete. Internally, walls were in place and in some cases with their final finish. Externally, paths and landscaping were partly completed. The building is expected to be finished around mid-autumn. At the time I visited, it was already possible to get a very good idea of how the new school will look when finished – and to be confident the building is going to provide an excellent educational environment. Details of the arrangements for the proposed temporary move of Kinellar pupils to Midmill School will be communicated to parents once plans become definite.

Cllr Martin Ford
(790052; maf.cairnie@gmail.com)

GIRLGUIDING

WE NEED YOU to help run Girlguiding groups in Blackburn. Please register your interest at www.girlguiding.org.uk/interested or call 0800 169 5901

Thanks.

1st KINELLAR SCOUT GROUP

Beaver Scouts, Cub Scouts & Scouts will resume on Wed 24 August. All sections will be out an about as much as possible over the next few months.

Our Cub Scouts will be attending the regional Cub Camp in September and the Beaver Scouts will be holding a sleepover in October. The Scouts will have a new leader who will be planning lots of exciting activities leading up to Christmas and the whole group will be attending the Inverurie Panto in December

Lots of leader changes happening at the moment. We are losing many of our experienced leaders after many years of service but also we have some new leaders coming forward with fresh ideas, which is great.

Anyone interested in joining our team, please contact me for further info. Also parents wishing to add their child's name to our Beaver Scout Waiting List, please email (applepiemom31@gmail.com)

We should be in a position to start taking in Beaver Scouts again in January.
Lynne Spencer

20th Annual Fintray Sheltie Stakes Family Fun Day

Sun 4th September, 11am – 4pm
Kinaldie, Hatton of Fintray

Shetland Pony Racing, Face Painting, Bouncy Castle, Stalls, Puppet Show, BBQ, Beer Tent, Cream Teas

Free Entry & Parking

WESTHILL FENCING AND DECKING

Contact Roger Benton on:

01224 791646

07711 501795

thehandyman@hotmail.co.uk

Storm damage, fence replacement and repairs. Bespoke garden decking designed and built.

NEOS, North East open Studios: from 10th to 18th September visit local artists and craftspeople, often in their own studios. Many will welcome you in to share and discuss what they do, many give demonstrations. Visitors may have the opportunity to purchase work directly from the artist, which the artists would not otherwise sell. There are over 230 venues and artists participating from across the North East, some right on your doorstep. Watch out for the yellow signs appearing the first week of September. NEOS Directories showing the various opening times and demonstrations are available at Kinellar Post Office, Sports Hall, the local shop and Frameworks Gallery.



Kinellar 100 Club

It is time to register for the 100 club again.

The money raised will be used towards much needed Hall projects such as replacing the main doors, maintaining the water recycling system, new chairs etc.

What is the 100 Club? It is like a lottery for organisations to raise money. It cost £10 per person for 6 months. Half the money raised goes to the hall and the other half is paid out as prize money.

For example:

70 members @ £10 = £700

Hall funds £350

Prize Money £350

£350 divided by 7 (double payout on the last month each time) = £50 split between 3 prizes.

The next 6 month period starts again in October so applications close on 30th September. Forms are available from the hall reception or by email request on receptionkch@outlook.com. Please return forms and payments to the hall by the deadline. Please support us in our fund raising efforts.
Helen



Once again the Summer seems to have slipped away from us. Our schools set off on a new year. For some it's their last year in primary, for others their first year in an academy. We wish all of them a great start to their year!

We in Blackburn and District Rotary Club wish to continue all our efforts for both local and International projects (We are looking at one in Malawi, suffering again from severe drought). To do that, WE NEED YOU to help with our fundraising. The Gala Day was a great success and thanks to all who gave and helped in that success, even the weather was kind! That encourages everyone to make next year an even bigger success.

Up and coming!

Our 2nd Intoxicating Tea Party is on the 12th Nov at Hatton of Fintray Village Hall, last year was our first one and was a success, so don't let that date slip your notice.

Christmas Tree lights switch on, Christmas pies and mulled wine and a Burns night in January, so look out for posters and fliers for full details.

Once again we thank all in the village and beyond, who helped us make the first half of 2016 a great success, with that in mind we still fight for the eradication of Polio!

Interested in membership, helping, or being a friend of Rotary, we meet on Tuesday nights at The Craigmile from 6.30 pm.

With our grateful thanks,

Blackburn & District Rotary Club.

The following is an extract from a book written by the late Norman Gray, who lived in the village until his passing in 2003. He was the owner of a local merchants shop in the village, following in the footsteps of his father John Gray, who owned it for many years. Norman Gray was also a local historian and artist.

On reaching the crest of the Tyrebagger ridge one of the finest panoramic views in Scotland unfolds to the traveller. A vista of well - manicured farmlands, tidily managed woodlands, and in the background the sombre yet well - loved Mither Tap. The backdrop is further coloured, especially on a clear day, with views of Morven, Lochnagar and the south Deeside range stretching from west to east.

In days gone by the scene would have been just as beautiful yet entirely different. A countryside, wild and untamed, littered with boulders, the hollows full of peat bogs and a large casual loch filling the valley floor. The loch would have been diminished in drier seasons and at the present time large pools of water readily form after spells of heavy rain, despite the extensive drainage programme carried out during the eighteenth century.

The floor of the valley is circled by an intermediate range of high ground comprising the Backhill of Tertowie, the hill of Glasgoforest and the hill of Kinellar. On the outer rim the land rises to a height of 730 feet above Auchronie and at the high point of the Hill of Keir, further to the east. The neighbouring Souter Hill, immediately above Westhill, continues this outer ridge which then, after certain undulations, leads to the Brimmond Hill (852 feet), the southerly part of the Tyrebagger ridge, travelling north via the Elrick Hill, the Tyrebagger Hill (826 feet at the Tappie), the Marcus Hill and the Blue Hill, whence the land falls steeply to the River Don opposite to Hatton of Fintray.

This enclosing high ground forms the catchment area of the Black Burn and its feeder streams. The burn has two main arms, one having its source above Wynford near the Brimmond and the other tracing a path via the Auchronie crofts and Tertowie, forming a common stream at the meeting of the waters below Mill of Birsack.

The Black Burn has no fewer than four parishes on its flanks ere it reaches the Don at Kinaldie. Kinellar, Newhills, Skene and Dyce parishes all feature and in the following narrative I have endeavoured to give a general history of the district rather than merely Kinellar and Blackburn. In a historical context the district has seen little of bloody conflict, nevertheless there is much interest to be derived from its advancement to modern times, especially during the past two hundred and fifty years.

Reproduced by Steve Wright with the kind permission of Norman Gray's family.

KINELLAR PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

It has been a quick 6 weeks and the children returned to school on August 16th to start the new 2016/17 school year. In

particular we'd like to welcome the new Primary 1s who have joined the school and wish them all the best. The calendar is still being finalised for the rest of 2016 but one date for the diary is the Kinellar School Parent Council AGM which has been set for Wednesday September 14th. Please look out for further details on our Facebook page and remember to keep up to date with the School on their Twitter page.

S.W.I.

Kinellar branch of the SWI, affectionately known as the Rural, meets on the first Wednesday of the month in the Community Hall. Ladies - we would love for you to join us.

For more information, give me a call or check out our Facebook page - Kinellar W.I.

This session, as our usual room is not available, we will be meeting in the Kirkhill Suite for the first few months. Our thanks must go to the hall management, the exercise classes and the Scouts/Cubs for their help as we all make adjustments to accommodate the Nursery.

We are planning an open evening on **Wednesday 19th October** when we will welcome the Glee Club to entertain. The proceeds will be going to hall funds so we look forward to welcoming many of you. Cost, including tea/coffee and homebakes, will be £5 for adults and £2.50 for under 12s.

Irene Pace
01224 790735

KINTORE LIBRARY

The Witch of Kintore: brief highlights from Alison McCall
Bennachie: a talk by the Baillies
Both talks take place at the end October/beginning of November. Please ask at the library for exact dates and timings

Library Direct A fantastic free service for anyone who cannot get to the Library themselves – even for a short time. The RVS can deliver books including large print, audio books, CDs and DVDs, just contact the library for more details

Bra Bank We can take your new and gently worn bras, and new adults and children's pants. These are forwarded to charities which support adults and children in Africa. This is, for instance, a great way to help with the education of girls to ensure that they do not miss days at school.

Bookbug Stories and Rhymes for babies to 5 year olds is on the 2nd Friday and 4th Tuesday of the month from 2 – 2.30pm at the Library, there is no charge and no need to book, big brothers and sisters are more than welcome in the holidays. Stay behind afterwards for a chat with the other mums and carers and enjoy a cuppa.



Kinellar Stars is a 2's and preschool based in Kinellar Community Hall. We provide sessions for children aged between 2 and 5 years old. It is important to us to provide an environment where children can become confident individuals and successful learners; therefore we have an open plan setting with different "learning areas" for children to explore. We follow the Curriculum for Excellence; and accept Council funded places, as well as private places.

Our sessions run as follows:-

- 2's Group – Monday to Thursday – 9.15am to 11.15am
- Preschool – Monday to Friday – 9.15am to 12.15am

If you would like to find out more about Kinellar Stars you can email us or visit our website:

kinellar.preschool@hotmail.com / kinellarstars.weebly.com

We are presently recruiting an Early Years Practitioner, applicants must be qualified to a minimum of SVQ Level 3 Childcare. If you are interested, please e-mail us for more information: kinellarstarscommittee@outlook.com

Dates for your Diary:

Boozy Bingo Fundraiser – Sat 1st October

Annual Christmas Fair – Sat 3rd December

Kinellar Stars – Where your pre-schooler will shine!

Blackburn Taxis

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I am a fully qualified driving instructor, based in Blackburn, Aberdeenshire, and cover most of the shire, and the north of Aberdeen. I completed my driving instruction training 3 years ago with the AA, but I am now independent.

Prior to becoming a driving instructor, I was a Traffic Officer with Grampian Police, with 10 years' experience of advanced car and motorcycle training.

My tuition car is a brand new, Silver Ford Fiesta 1.0 petrol (eco-boost)

You can contact me by phone, email barrywilliams9288@btinternet.com or on my Facebook page: [Barry Williams Driving Instructor](#).



Daisy-Chains Childminding Service.

Spaces available for full-/part-time pre-school children aged 1+

A few before/after school spaces left

Contact: Nicola Davies 07758000940

daisychainschildminding@gmail.com

Registered, PVG checked, insured

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