



Issue 11

## **The Grapevine**

Winter 2014

*Blair Drummond Grapevine gratefully acknowledges United Auctions generosity in printing this and previous editions of this newsletter.*



### **Youth Club**

Blair Drummond Youth club runs every Tuesday night during term time from October until Easter, from 7 – 9pm. Children are welcome to come along from P7 upwards, to catch up with friends and enjoy a variety of activities including badminton, hockey and table tennis. Special evenings are organised for Halloween and Pancake Day and these always prove to be a big hit with the young people. A small tuck shop with juice and sweets is available.

Often trips and outings are organised, and last year for the final meeting before the Christmas break members enjoyed an evening at AMF Bowling in Stirling, where they had 2 games of bowling then were treated to a 'behind the scenes' look at the machines in action, a fun time was had by all who attended.

For one weekend before Christmas, B&Q plc kindly allowed the Youth Club to "shake cans", to collect money for their funds. B&Q are partnered with our Youth Club and have been for about 3 years, as part of their youth UK project. This worthwhile exercise raised in excess of £300, which the members can now use on trips and equipment. Many thanks to all who helped out on the days and to all who donated their loose change! One trip members have already decided on is a visit to Megazone in Falkirk and they are looking forward to this.

Membership to Youth Club costs £10 per year and £1 weekly to cover costs, tuck shop prices are very reasonable.

If you know anyone aged P7 and above who would like to join the Youth Club please contact the leaders: Lorna Fotheringham on 01786 860585 or Mary Inglis on 01786 841472 for more information.

**Mary Inglis**

## **Kincardine in Menteith School 100 Club**

The winners for the 100 Club from July to December 2013 were

### **July**

1<sup>st</sup> J Holl  
2<sup>nd</sup> K McDonald  
3<sup>rd</sup> M Cameron

### **August**

1<sup>st</sup> M McAllister  
2<sup>nd</sup> E Bryce  
3<sup>rd</sup> E Holl

### **September**

1<sup>st</sup> M Killen  
2<sup>nd</sup> C Murphy  
3<sup>rd</sup> J McDonald

### **October**

1<sup>st</sup> H Fordyce  
2<sup>nd</sup> A Burnett  
3<sup>rd</sup> S Rodger

### **November**

1<sup>st</sup> N Minter  
2<sup>nd</sup> C Murphy  
3<sup>rd</sup> J Inglis

### **December**

1<sup>st</sup> W Ferguson  
2<sup>nd</sup> J Inglis  
3<sup>rd</sup> A Inglis

**J Reynolds**

## **The Blair Drummond Social Group**



The BD Group began last spring and is now a firm fixture in a lot of people's diaries! Thirty-eight local people sat down to a Burns Lunch last month, and homemade soup and bread will be on offer at our February and March meetings. Everyone enjoys catching up with friends old and new.

The idea of the Group is that people over 50, who live in the scattered Blair Drummond, Gargunnock and Doune areas, are welcome to come along to Blair Drummond Community Hall, where they can enjoy a cup of tea/coffee, some delicious home baking and a chat with others.

From suggestions made by the folk who come along, we have planned a programme of events throughout the year – different kinds of things to appeal to a range of interests. Already we've enjoyed a presentation on garden plants, poetry recitations from our Primary School children, a talk from Catriona McBeath on the work of the forces in Afghanistan, and an informal Burns Supper. Between these programme items we have chat afternoons, doing just that!

There's a warm welcome for any new faces from our communities, when we meet on the last Monday of the month, and for 24<sup>th</sup> February and 31<sup>st</sup> March that's from 12.30 – 2pm. As the weather improves, we change the time, so from 28th

April onwards it's 2 – 4pm. Is there a charge? Just a donation – something like £2 - to cover the usual costs. Please come and join us this month, when the volunteers will be serving homemade soups and homemade breads, along with a smile and blether!

If transport is needed please contact Christine Bauer – Tel 01786 841191 or Fiona Campbell – Tel 01786 860678, for arrangements to be made.

**Christine Bauer**

### **Come Celebrate with us!**

On 14<sup>th</sup> June, here at Blair Drummond, we are going to celebrate the 2014 Commonwealth Games by holding a day of sport. Come and join us at the school!

8 community groups, including the Primary School, Blair Drummond Hall, the Youth Club, Blair Drummond Social Group, Camphill and the Church are each creating a banner to be displayed at the opening ceremony and these will depict which country they are representing. On the day 8 teams will each try 8 sporting activities, and to ensure the sports are suitable and challenging for all ages, coaches from Active Stirling will lead each activity. People will have the opportunity to take part in sports they have never tried before as part of this one-off event!

The day will end with a Commonwealth Picnic, with a range of foods from the Commonwealth countries represented on the day. Finally there will be the medal ceremony for the lucky winners.

In the evening the annual Blair Drummond Hall BBQ will be held at the Safari Park, for families and friends. Watch the website, local press, newsletters and all the usual local communications for more news on this fun day.

**Christine Bauer**



## Charity Donations 2013



Since the first Blair Drummond Hall Christmas Fayre was organised in 2009 the proceeds of the raffle on the night have been donated to charity. Over the years monies have been donated for example to Princess Royal Trust for Young Carers, Stirling District Mental Health and Scottish Paediatric Orthopaedic Club.

Camphill Blair Drummond was the chosen charity for 2013, and at the Christmas Fayre in November our chairman Tom Gilliland handed over a cheque for £500 to Ryan from Camphill. Included in that sum was money raised from the Whisky Tasting raffle earlier in the year. Once again we would like to thank everyone who kindly bought raffle tickets at our events.

This year the money collected at the Christmas Fayre raffle will be donated to the Eilidh Brown Memorial Fund.

**C Killen**

## **Glasgow 2014 Update**

You will have noticed that I have been blackmailed into writing a few words in recent editions about the Glasgow Commonwealth Games? If sport isn't your "thing" then you may already be bored of sport in 2014 – it's a busy year for a variety of sports in Scotland – obviously the Commonwealth Games, but add in the Ryder Cup, no doubt more "Murray mania", and of course the Blair Drummond Curling Club annual "Points" competition. The latter being of course one not to miss!

I am fortunate to work in sport, and therefore 2014 offers great opportunities. That starts for us in athletics this weekend – the first time that a Scottish Team has competed at the annual "Indoor Athletics International". This is a team competition – 4 teams competing across most indoor events – on the banked track at the new Emirates Arena, also with "field" events such as Long Jump, Pole Vault, and High Jump in the middle. A 5000 sell-out crowd sets the scene for what will also be a full Hampden park for the athletics at the Commonwealth Games this summer. This weekend also raises the spectre of sport, hinting at the battle that follows in the political world later this year (the Referendum) – we have a Scotland vs. Great Britain clash this Saturday. I promise the Scots will do their best (other teams are USA and the Commonwealth) but it'll be tough (I'm writing this before the event deliberately – I don't have to defend a losing performance that way!). Alex Salmon has been asked for a pre-match team talk ..... not sure if David Cameron will do the same for Team GB!

So what about the Commonwealth Games? Well, most of the facilities are ready – or at least built! There is always a significant amount of venues "dressing" for a major event – so even venues that have been open for some time (like the velodrome), will be dressed up for the Games and feel quite

different to usual. For athletics, Hampden Park is now closed to football, the pitch has been ~~ripped up~~ taken away and it looks like a building site in the stadium, as the “stage” is constructed. That “stage” is a platform raising the main pitch area by about 9 feet, on top of which goes hardcore, tarmac, and then a top quality track surface, with grass in the middle. It’s a world first – and has been tested on a small scale ..... best if I don't say anything else on that front right now – except fingers crossed it’ll be fine!!

We have selected (very early) about half of the team we expect to take to the ‘Commonwealths’. The remaining team members have until June 10<sup>th</sup> ..... then its name the final team and get them ready. We are running a holding / pre games camp in Kilmarnock – options such as Portugal were attractive and considered, but the allure of Kilmarnock was just too much! There are great facilities there and no time zones to adapt to when moving into the athlete village. We think the temperature and humidity will be similar to Glasgow as well!

Then for me, it’s about “media management”. Can we make sure, whatever the success of Scottish athletes at Hampden Park (or in the marathons), the media perceive that we have been successful? That won’t be easy – good news stories don't sell papers the same way as negativity but we will see if we can make sure there is at least a balance in the reporting. I expect the Grapevine to reflect fairly on the Scottish Team performance – balanced journalism as always from a quality broadsheet!

And then - well, sport carries on. There will be competitions the week after the Commonwealth Games have finished – we have a European Championships almost straight after the Games, and also Scottish national Championships to organise – they are more for the 11,000 or so members of athletics clubs across the length & breadth of Scotland, but are fiercely contested. So holiday ..... don't tell the family, but not very much and not really in July or August!

**Nigel Holl. CEO Scottish Athletics**



If you'd like to try curling for the first time, visit [www.trycurling.com](http://www.trycurling.com) for the latest 1 hour Taster Sessions (10 in February) and Beginner Classes (in March), taking place at the PEAK, through Active Stirling and the Royal Caledonian Curling Club. You'll find everything you need to get started, including the basics of the game and how to play. This will help you to understand the sport and enjoy watching UK's greatest chance of a medal at the Winter Olympics this month.

You'd be surprised just how many curlers there are in this area – farmers, professionals, summer golfers, kids at school, busy mums, not-so-lazy dads, and retired folks. There are 7 local clubs in this area, playing during the day or in the evening - 48 clubs regularly play at the PEAK.

You don't have to be fit to take part. 23 people attending Cardiac Rehabilitation came along to a Try Curling session in the autumn, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. There's even a Wheelchair Curling section!

If they can do it, why can't you give it a try? Be careful, you may get addicted, like me!

**Graeme Giles**

# **FARM PEST CONTROL**

**FERAL PIGEON – WOOD PIGEON – CROW – GOOSE – RABBIT**

**BASC MEMBER**

**FULLY INSURED**

**LOCAL FRIENDLY, RESPONSIBLE AND RELIABLE SERVICE**

**PLEASE CONTACT DEREK FOR FURTHER INFORMATION**

**01786 860 754**

**07928 811 269**

**derekblyth@yahoo.co.uk**



## Safari Park

Blair Drummond's four outstanding Californian sea lions who usually raise the roof with their fantastic demonstrations in the summer, are handing the responsibility over to local contractors tasked with replacing the roof and walls of the sea lion building this winter.

The much needed building works will replace the old roof and walls, improving the insulation and ventilation –

poor lights, leaks and dripping condensation on a chilly audience should be a thing of the past!

The renovation is just one of the building projects undertaken this winter and we have been very fortunate that the mild weather is allowing us to proceed quickly. The sea lions have been keeping an eye on the builders and have taken a keen interest in the operation.

**Dave Warren. Education Officer**



### **BLAIR DRUMMOND ESTATE**

Hardwood Logs	£170/ load
Hardwood Logs	£85/ half load
Softwood Logs	£120/ load
Softwood Logs	£60/ half load
Small bags	£4.40 for hardwood
Small bags	£3.40 for softwood

Contact: **Bob**

**Tel: 01786 841580**

**Mob: 07732 563106**

## Editorial

### **From one extreme to the other! Sunny and dry to rainy and boggy. The remorseless law of averages.**

After the three glorious months of June, July and August when we averaged only 1.9 inches of rain per month and had average day temperatures of around 20C, with a high of 29.2C on 7 July, one tends to forget that over the last 10 years the average annual rainfall in the Blair Drummond area has increased by just over 2 inches per annum. Certainly December's 8.3" was a soaking reminder, when over one fifth of 2013's rainfall fell. (The 100 years average annual rainfall in Blair Drummond is about 38.5 inches, with the average annual rainfall for the last 10 years being 40.7 – the lowest was in 2003 when only 30 inches fell – the highest in 2012 when we suffered 52 inches.) Was this summer the return of a welcome norm or a freak one off? Will the Carse now have at least 2 to 3 months each year when it is completely dry and firm, enabling today's heavier farm machinery onto the land without bogging? Let us hope this dry summer period will become a norm but if not it is worth thinking about how to ameliorate the flooding problems which have occurred over the last few years and are apparent at the present time.

Historically the solution to flooding problems was to dig deeper and straighter ditches and drains, or to build flood embankments to protect specific areas of land. Embankments can of course simply transfer the problem elsewhere, or if they are breached cause even more serious problems as occurred with the Tay above Dunkeld a few years ago. Also where land is nearly at sea level and seas may be rising, thus reducing run-off this approach cannot be a complete answer.

Flooding can also be reduced by a "rain catchment area approach". For example areas of upland peat and heather moorland can be left undrained (or existing drains blocked) so that run-off to lower productive ground is reduced. Obviously this could be to the detriment of upland grazing and game. Trees catch rain, increase evaporation and slow the remaining water entering burns and rivers. Also if possible clear felling

should be avoided and trees planted on higher ground and alongside burns and rivers. As a principle, if necessary, better productive land should be protected at the expense of poorer land. Really poor unproductive ground may be able to be turned into catchment ponds or wetlands preventing or slowing water build up on good land, or land on which there is housing and building. Maintaining ground cover during winter months also helps absorb water, encourage evaporation and avoid or reduce the risks of creating semi-permanent pools or fast run off and flooding elsewhere. Studies indicate how a combination of the foregoing measures might be used to manage the possibility or probability of increasing rainfall and higher seas affecting the water situation on the Carse. Solutions may require co-operation and understanding from all concerned.

**R Graham**



The Wine Society of Stirling is an informal group of fellow imbibers who like to meet on the last Tuesday of the month (except July, August, & December) at the Smith Art Gallery & Museum in Dumbarton Road, Stirling, below the castle at 7.30pm till about 10pm. No wine knowledge is required, just an interest in taking the mystery out of wine drinking!

The next meeting (25<sup>th</sup> Feb) is presented by Blair Drummond member Graeme Giles. He'll explore some of the best value supermarket wines from the Stirling area - 4 whites and 4 reds.

See our web site [www.stirlingwinesociety.com](http://www.stirlingwinesociety.com) for details.

£12 for non-members.

Do come along! You'll be very welcome.

## Blair Drummond Hall Committee

As we move into another year the Committee can reflect on a very successful 2013, with bookings coming from example - weddings, parties, Metafit and the Monday Social Group.

Events organised by the Committee included the annual summer BBQ at the Safari Park, the autumn Matter of Opinion Panel evening and the Christmas Fayre, all of which were very well supported. If you have any ideas for an event that the Committee could arrange, please just let our Secretary know.

The hall could not function without a band of willing helpers and, as always, we are looking for more people to join the Committee. If you are new to the community and would like to find out more about joining the Committee, or about the hall availability, please ask any of our Committee, or our Secretary Catherine Killen – Tel 01786 806242, or email **Catherine@grasslands.plus.com**

We look forward to seeing you at any of the local events over the next few months.

**Tom Gilliland. Chairman**

## Blair Drummond Community Hall Christmas Fayre

The Blair Drummond Hall Committee would like to thank everyone who came along on the night to support us.

£250 was raised from the raffle for Camphill Blair Drummond.

We would also like to thank the stallholders who attended and kindly donated the prizes for the raffle.

We hope you enjoyed the evening and that you will come along again to this years' Christmas Fayre, which will be held on **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November from 7pm.**

If you would like to take a stall please email me at:

[Catherine@grasslands.plus.com](mailto:Catherine@grasslands.plus.com)





Kincardine-in-Menteith Parish Church

Scottish Charity No 000802



**with Cheese & Wine**

and refreshments for the children

**in Blair Drummond Community Hall**

**7.30pm - Friday 28 February**

**Tickets from Mary Inglis**

**Tel. 01786 841 472**



**Adults £7.50 Children £3.50**

**Family Ticket (2 adults + 2 children) £20.00**



## The Rev's Rant



Define '**COMMUNITY**' !

If asked by the editor of a new Scottish Dictionary being published, to create a definition of 'Community', where would you begin?

One sociologist stated that there are 94 definitions, all inadequate. It seems that 'Community' is one of these God-type words which people use, but nobody defines, assuming that everybody else knows what they are talking about. Not so! I've a minister friend who often says to folk who tell him that they are atheists and don't believe in God: "Tell me about the god you don't believe in – I probably don't believe in her either!" For me real community is not defined by name or boundaries on a map, but rather by how people interact.

Community values difference, rather than ostracising folk because they are not the same as everybody else, and gives folk an opportunity to display, employ and encourage individual gifts and ideas.

Communities don't have members on a list somewhere that is fixed, and requires approval by other members; it's a permeable fuzzy-edged collection of participants, who feel they are part of an evolving set with a shared responsibility for the well-being and growth of others who happen to be there at the time. You don't have to agree with everyone else. You don't apply to a community, join it or have to stay in it for months, or sometimes decades, before you're accepted; instead you sense your belonging and that of others. Words like status, wealth or age have little weight in a community.

Thank God, Blair Drummond is a community in every sense of the word, but don't just thank God, for communities need to be tended and treasured.

Aye yours      **Rev Andy (Community Minister!)**

# **DOUNE the DELI**

*Fine Food & Fresh Coffee*

1 THE CROSS DOUNE STIRLING FK16 6BG TEL: 01786 842796

**Local delicatessen specialising in food and drink from  
around the world.**

**Sit In or Take Away**

**Freshly Prepared Food & Fresh Coffee**

**Breakfast Rolls, Paninis, Baguettes & Ciabattas**

**Homemade soup, Lunch, Tapas and Home baking**

**Daily Chefs Special including Stovies, Lasagne, Macaroni,  
Chilli con Carne and many more.**

**Come along and sample our delights and get your taste  
buds tingling!!**

**We have a selection of Scottish & Continental Cheeses &  
Meats.**

**Fine Wines including Cairn O Mohr and Ales from the  
William Bros Brewery, Alloa & Loch Ness Brewery,  
Inverness.**

**We also stock a variety of products including:  
Provence Direct French terrines, tapenades & meals  
El Olivio Spanish Olives, Vinegars and Oils  
Perthshire Preserves Jams & Chutneys  
Summer Harvest range of Rapeseed Oils  
Aberfeldy Oatmeal and many more products.**

**FRIDAY NIGHT THEME NIGHTS – CHECK OUT OUR  
FACEBOOK PAGE OR CALL 01786 842796 FOR MORE  
DETAILS**

## **MATTER OF OPINION EVENING**

After many months of planning by the Blair Drummond Community Hall Committee members the Matter of Opinion took place on the evening of Friday 25<sup>th</sup> October 2013. As an admission free event it was difficult to know exactly how many people would eventually turn up on the evening, even though tickets were issued to the people who wanted to attend. The Committee Members were delighted and relieved when nearly 100 people piled into the hall with questions in hand.

The event was based on a format similar to the TV programme Question Time with the panel consisting of Dr Robert Graham of Graham's Dairies, Andrew Burnett of Spittalton Limousins, John Logan of the Coffee Bothy and Katie Rogers from Fintry. The event was chaired by the Hall Chairman Tom Gilliland, who successfully kept the questions flowing and the crowd in order throughout the evening.

Questions to the panel were varied, ranging from some serious political type questions to other humorous questions. This resulted in a great evening of very interesting and sometimes very funny topics being discussed. All of the panel members did a great job replying to and giving their own personal views to the questions asked. John Logan particularly kept everyone amused with his funny life stories and jokes throughout the evening.

The evening concluded with tea, coffee and cakes prepared and served by the lady members of the Hall Committee.

**Derek Blyth**



## **Shopping that makes a difference!**

We all love getting shiny new things, whether it be a new gadget, jewellery, or some new clothes. It's just thrilling! It can make us feel good about ourselves and it's great therapy for when we need to give ourselves that little bit of a lift. But all this shopping can be bad too. It's not good for the bank

balance, when we need to save the pennies and buying new stuff and then throwing it away creates a real environmental problem.

So here at Camphill Blair Drummond, we've thought we would get in on the recent craze that's been sweeping the country and hold our own Swishing party. Swishing parties are now one of the most popular ways of getting new clothes; they are great for saving money and saving the planet, and in our case also a great opportunity to raise a little bit of money for our charity.

The night was a lot of fun! We all got to take away some fabulous new items, and feel great about it too! It wasn't an expensive night, each only paid £5 to come along. We were being environmentally friendly by recycling our old stuff and best of all, we knew that it was contributing to our charities future and would make a difference!

Swishing parties aren't like the old jumble sales we used to hold. We all bring along really good quality things, presents that we don't have a use for, clothes that are hiding unloved in our wardrobe or jewellery that just doesn't suit us. So someone new can find their perfect present or ideal dress. So we'd like to

encourage everyone to join in the fun and hold your very own Swishing party. Even if you haven't tried it before! Swishing parties are so simple and easy to organise. Just invite your friends over, ask them to make a donation of £5 for charity to attend and bring 5 items for swapping.



*"I loved the Swishing party, there were so many lovely things to choose from, and we could choose any five items that we wanted. Just imagine, only £5 to attend, and I went away with a box of chocolates, some new jewellery, a DVD, a Jamie Oliver cookbook and some German gingerbread. All this, and I was supporting the Camphill Blair Drummond Appeal".* Swishing party participant

We guarantee you'll have a great time and it's such a simple way to make a difference to the future of our community. A place that changes lives for the adults with severe learning disabilities whom we support.

If you would like to hold your own 'Swish' for Camphill Blair Drummond, please contact Elsie Riley on 01786 843047 or e-mail [elsie@camphillblairdrummond.org.uk](mailto:elsie@camphillblairdrummond.org.uk). We can give you help and advice on organizing your event.



## **People's Millions Winner!**

**We are excited to announce that Camphill Blair Drummond  
have won the People's Millions Vote!  
£48,000 for our 'Animaltastic' project**

The £48,000 will enable us to introduce facilities to keep animals, which will provide therapeutic support for our residents and day students. Caring for the animals in this new workshop will be a really important activity for everyone in our community and we are very excited that winning the vote means our project can go ahead.

If you saw our short film on STV East, on Monday 25th November at 6.30pm, we hope you enjoyed watching it. All the residents and staff who were involved in the film were a real credit to Camphill Blair Drummond and we are very proud of them all.

### **A Big Thank you**

We just want to say a massive 'thank you' to you for really getting behind our campaign and voting for us, we couldn't have done it without your support. We were only successful because so many people took the time to vote for us and to ask their friends to vote too. We won and it's all thanks to you!!!

**THANK YOU SO MUCH**

## **Fab Fundraisers for Camphill Blair Drummond!**

Camphill Blair Drummond held their annual Autumn Fair for the second time ever on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2013. This year, over 400 visitors attended and received a very warm welcome, enjoying wandering around the stalls provided by traders from Stirling and other nearby places. We are absolutely delighted that this year the fair raised over £9,000 in just two days.

Our Advent sale was also a fantastic success, with more people than ever before coming along to see what we had on offer. We raised £8,326, we had lots of great gifts, which our residents and day students had been hard at work making in the run up to the sale.

Elsie Riley, Regional Fundraising Manager, said, *“I just wanted to say a really heartfelt thank you to everyone who came along, we were absolutely thrilled with the turnout and the funds raised from both events. What an amazing success for Camphill Blair Drummond. Every penny raised at our fairs will go to towards building new houses and workshops, so that we can secure our future and improve the quality of life for existing residents, as well as welcoming new residents.”* A big Thank You to everyone!

## **Thornhill & Blair Drummond Community Council**

**Elections** – In October 2013 Community Council elections were held. Seven local people put their names forward and were duly elected. They are Kate Anderson, Fred Bauer, Brian Devlin, James Maxwell, Isabel MacAlpine, Ann Petrie and Peter Rickard. At our inaugural meeting chaired by a member of Stirling Council, we were informed of our duties, James Maxwell and Brian Devlin were elected as Chairman and Treasurer respectively and we proceeded to business. Peter Rickard is continuing as Secretary on a temporary basis but we are hoping to appoint a new Secretary in the next month or so.

**Waste & recycling collections** – We were pleased to have the chance to discuss bin collections with David Hopper of Stirling Council, at our December meeting. He apologised for the disruptions we all experienced in the autumn but defended the Council's position to cut brown bin collections early. He was supplied with many examples of what appears to us as a very

inefficient service, where bins are not collected on the day they should be, not collected at all for several weeks, collected the day before they are due to be, and others. He spoke of the budget proposals to only collect bins 4-weekly, rather than fortnightly and even a possible future where we may be asked to pay to have our brown bins collected. The meeting left him in little doubt about concerns over the service.

**Broadband** – We are being told that Thornhill will be included in a faster broadband service that should be available in 2015. How this will affect outlying properties is unclear.

**Stirling Council Budgeting** – Community Councillors have attended sessions run by the Council to explain and discuss this budgeting process for the next 5 years. They need to save £29 million over that period, from a current budget of about £200 million. While efficiencies will be pursued, a lot of the savings are proposed to come from reduced and even removed services. We have been assured that there are no plans to close any schools but rural transport may be at risk, as well as reduced bin collections, road end bin collections, reduced or curtailed library services, reduced grass cutting, reduced path maintenance, closure of public conveniences etc.

**Kirk Lane Traffic Signs** – We have previously asked Stirling Council to consider a barrier being erected at the south end of Kirk Lane, where the road bends right and cars have been known to leave the road. We were concerned over vehicles hitting the trees there or even plunging into the river. The Council has now erected warning chevrons at this point on the road.

**Next meeting** – We meet every 6 weeks, on Tuesdays, and our next meeting will be 11<sup>th</sup> March in Thornhill Primary School. All are welcome.

**Peter Rickard. Secretary**

## **Blair Drummond Hall Diary Dates**

### **Weekly Classes**

**Monday:** Metafit – 6.30pm to 7.30pm

**Tuesday:** Youth Club – from October to April – 7.00pm to 9.00pm

**Thursday:** Metafit – 7.00pm to 8.00pm

**Last Monday of the month:** Blair Drummond Social Group – 12.30pm – 2.30pm in February and thereafter 2.00pm to 4.00pm. Drop in any time.

### **Other Events**

**Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> February** – Doune & Dunblane Show Ceilidh. 7.00pm for 7.30pm. Jack Delaney Band. Light buffet, bar & raffle. Tickets £12.50 from Catriona Turner – Tel 01786 470702.

**Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February** – Scottish Carriage Drivers Association. 9.30am – 3.30pm

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February** – Blair Drummond Social group. Soup & sandwiches. 12.30pm to 2.30pm

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February** - Kincardine in Menteith Church Quiz & Cheese & Wine. Refreshments for children. 7.30pm. Adults £7.50. Children £3.50. Family (2 adults + 2 Children) £20. Tickets from Mary Inglis - Tel 01786 841472.

**Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March** – Blair Drummond Social Group. Soup & sandwiches. 12.30pm to 2.30pm

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April** – Blair Drummond Social Group. Tea & cakes. 2pm till 4pm

**Badminton:** Anyone wishing to hire the Hall please contact the Booking Secretary.

As always, the Hall is regularly used for meetings, kids parties, ceilidhs, wedding receptions, to name but a few. For more information visit our website: [www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk](http://www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk) or contact Louise (Booking Secretary) on 01786 841352.

**Your Local & National Electricians**



# **STIRLING ELECTRICAL**

## **SERVICES LTD**

*Established 1996*

**Installations - Faults - Maintenance - Testing**

**Professional Efficient Service  
from enquiry to job completion**

**Stirling Electrical Services Ltd are a local company with  
national coverage carrying out Domestic, Commercial and  
Industrial work throughout Scotland**

Our friendly experienced job booking  
team look forward to working with you

**01786 813916**

email: [info@stirlingelectrical.co.uk](mailto:info@stirlingelectrical.co.uk)  
[www.stirlingelectrical.co.uk](http://www.stirlingelectrical.co.uk)



**Enquire and book online at [www.stirlingelectrical.co.uk](http://www.stirlingelectrical.co.uk)**



If you know someone who would be interested in advertising in the Blair Drummond Grapevine, our rates are listed below -

¼ page £7.50

½ page £10

Full page £20

Do you have any pictures, stories or letters you would like included, if so please email them to:

[christinebauer@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:christinebauer@tiscali.co.uk) or  
[catherine@grasslands.plus.com](mailto:catherine@grasslands.plus.com)

Items for Issue No 12 should be submitted by **30<sup>th</sup> April 2014**.

If you wish your copy to be sent via email please get in touch, with your email address and we will add you to the developing mailing list.

Thank you.

*The Blair Drummond Grapevine is a community newsletter produced and distributed by volunteers, free of charge, to approximately 250 households within the Blair Drummond area. Letters and articles published in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views, beliefs or opinions of the Grapevine Team, who also reserve the right to shorten, edit or refuse the insertion of any particular letter or article.*

*Contributions will only be published if accompanied by a valid contact name and address; these will be withheld at the author's request. Articles and adverts are accepted and printed in good faith.*

*The Blair Drummond Grapevine is published by the Blair Drummond Community Hall Committee.*

Website: **www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk**

Facebook: **Blair Drummond Community Hall**