

Issue 30

The Grapevine

November 2018

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

Births



Suzanne Kenny (daughter of Helen & Robin Kenny, Robertson Lane Farm) and Matthew Houcke are delighted to announce the birth of their daughter Eliana Iris Houcke on 22nd July, weighing in at 7lb 4 oz. Mother and baby both doing well.

Proud parents Laura Killen, Mid Rossburn Farm and Joe Malcolm, Wester Coilechat Farm, Callander are happy to announce the safe arrival of Ross Hamilton Malcolm who was born on 9th August 2018 weighing 9lb 5oz.



Thornhill and Blair Drummond Community Council

Road Traffic Issues

At long last, the A873 on the stretch from Blair Drummond Smiddy to Boghall has been re-surfaced. Minor roads elsewhere in our area (in particular Kirk Lane) sit lower on the Council's priority list and are still in a poorly patched condition.

Speeding in the Blair Drummond area remains a concern for the CC, particularly the danger this poses to children having to cross roads or waiting at the roadside for school buses. An action sits with the Stirling Councillors for our ward, to investigate what can be done in the way of traffic calming measures and to ensure children's safety. The CC will seek to work with the schools' Parent Councils to file for action under Stirling Council's "Safe Routes to School" initiative.

Proposals to introduce a 20mph speed limit in Thornhill are being supported by both Stirling Council and the CC.

Police Matters

Residents are reminded that at this time of year there is a tendency for doorstep crime (bogus callers and rogue traders) to increase. Should anyone feel threatened, unsafe or suspicious of the caller, contact the Police on 999 immediately. If you see something suspicious in the area, take a note of descriptions and vehicle registration numbers and call 101. You can also contact Crimestoppers on 0800 555111.

Planning

Planning application procedures have recently changed. Councillors in the affected wards now only have 25 days to raise any objections they or the CCs may have. Time runs from the date of inclusion on the "live schedule".

As usual, planning applications are routinely reviewed by the CC. No concerns have been identified in the recent period.

Stirling Council Update

The policy for road end domestic waste collection points is changing and notification letters will/have been sent to those affected. Anyone with concerns about the changes should alert a CC member. The CC will then contact Waste Services to follow these up.

The Stirling Council Broadband Delivery Group is being disbanded. Many local residents are contracting with non-BT suppliers for their internet services. The slow pace of BT roll out of fibre optic cables across the whole area is still a source of great frustration to many.

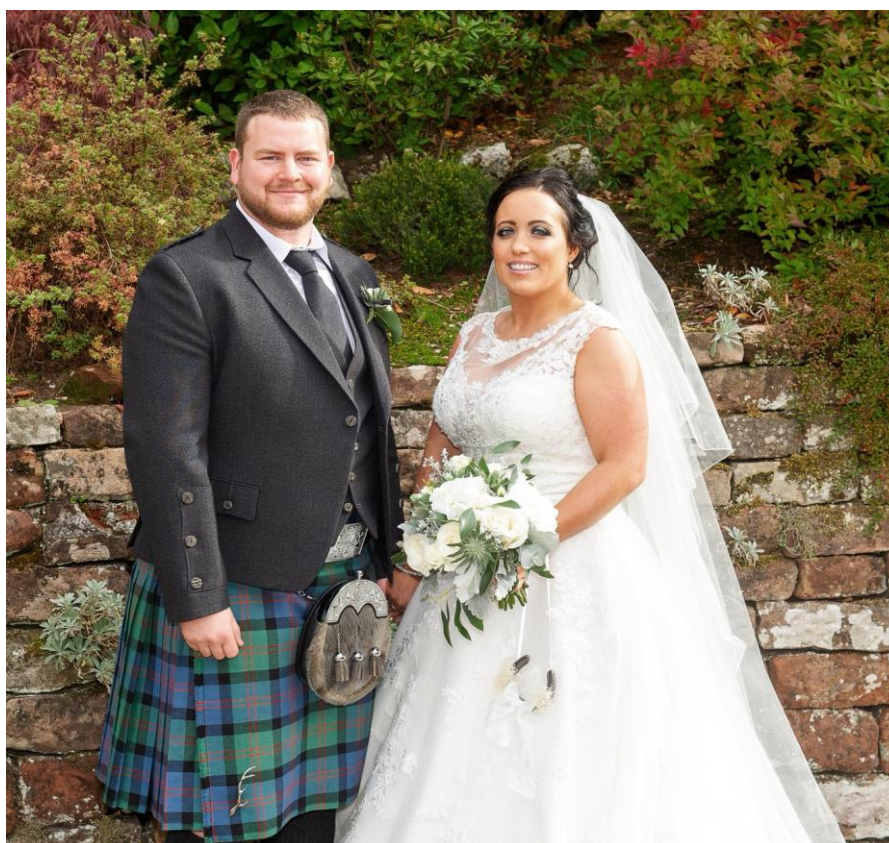
Please note, food waste bags are no longer delivered to individual

residents. Bags can be collected from local libraries and Council offices. Wrapping food waste in paper has been suggested as an alternative option.

Following the recent changes to the governance structure within Stirling Council and the re-election process in October, unfortunately there are not enough Community Councillors to form a viable Council. Thornhill and Blair Drummond Community Council is therefore no longer running at the present time (November 2018)

Ken Ingle

Marriages



Congratulations to Blair Craig & Debbie Wilson who were married on Friday 28th September at Kippen Parish Church and afterwards celebrated at Dunblane Hydro. The happy couple are now living at Milton House, Blair Drummond.

Kincardine in Menteith Church

Our interim Moderator is Val Rose and she is responsible for the administration of the charge, which includes arranging Pulpit supply, so that a service can take place every Sunday in our church. She also gives guidance on the steps that we have to follow, as we go through the various stages of the current vacancy.

Rev Lynne Mack our Ordained Local Minister, who has been with us for the last four years, is continuing in office and she will lead worship most Sundays as well as addressing all Pastoral matters.

Therefore with the help of the two ladies and various guest preachers, the Church is OPEN for worship on a Sunday.

Dates for your Diary:

25th November Joint Service in Gargunnock Parish Church, at 10.30a.m

16th December Family Service suitable for all ages, at 9.30a.m

23rd December Joint service in Kincardine in Menteith, at 10.00a.m

24th December Family Service in Kilmadock, at 6.30p.m

24th December Watch night Service in Gargunnock, at 11.15p.m

There will be No services on Christmas Day.

ALL WELCOME at Sunday Morning Worship at 9.30am.

Janette Gilliland Session Clerk

BLAIR DRUMMOND ESTATE

Hardwood Logs	£190/ load
Hardwood Logs	£95/ half load
Hardwood Limbs	£100/load
Softwood Logs	£140/ load
Softwood Logs	£70 half load
Softwood Limbs	£80/load
Small bags	£6 for hardwood
Small bags	£5 for softwood

Contact: **Michael McKinstry**

Tel: 01786 841728 Mob: 07955 124057

Kincardine In Menteith Primary School Parent Council

Who we are and what we do:

Chair – Clinton Main
Secretary – Jillian Reynolds
Treasurer – Lorna Duff
Members – Steph Kunz, Lisa Main, Liz Muir, Georgie Petrie
Auditor – Helen Graham
Community Members – Alison Coates & Louisa Jenkins

As the parent council team our role is to support the school in various ways. We raise money through different fundraising events throughout the year and then when the school need help with anything they will ask for a contribution. We meet once a term to discuss ideas for fundraising, the Head teacher joins us with a report on how the school is doing and any future plans to keep the school moving forward.

Fundraising

Last year we held a variety of fundraising events. We had a family fun day in May, it had a great turnout with a tombola and a lot of fun activities for the kids, we even got a visit from the Safari Park mascots. (We will be doing it again next year)



We had a Chocolate Tombola stall at the Blair Drummond Hall Christmas Fayre to raise funds. We will be there again this year, come and visit us on the **30th November**.

We also run a Raffle called the 100 Club where parents, family & community members and anyone who wants to have a ticket, can! Once a month a number is drawn, and the winner receives £25 and then in December (Christmas Draw) there is a larger prize of £100!!! Please

contact us through the school if you would like to purchase a number. It is only a £1 a month. Thanks.

Supporting the school

Last year we paid for the buses to take the pupils on their school trips the P1's & P2's went to the Kelpies, the rest of the pupils went to Amazonia.

The school has just asked us to get a couple of large outdoor toy boxes, the wooden one they have is old and has a very heavy lid that in the wind can be dangerous for the children.

On Halloween the Parent Council put on a Halloween party for the kids, as many of them live in a rural setting and can't go out trick or treating.

Thanks

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our parents and the community around Blair Drummond for the ongoing support of our fantastic school.

Clinton Main

Kincardine in Menteith Primary School News

Written by the KIM Press Gang

We have had a super start to this session. Time flies when you're having fun. We are proud to announce that we were awarded our GOLD sports award for the second time from Sports Scotland. This is a national, Lottery funded initiative, designed to encourage school to continuously improve physical education and school sport opportunities.

September saw us going to North Berwick, to take part in the Great British Beach Clean. We also went to the Scottish Seabird Centre where we experienced rock pooling at different parts of the beach. We found all sorts of sea animals including crabs, star fish and sea anemones. In the afternoon we cleaned the beach, we found all sorts of rubbish, including plastic bottles and wrappers.

P1 and P2 have been learning about enterprise this term which culminated in their art gallery. This was open to parents who were able to view a variety of art created by the classes. There was also a cafe selling home baking made by the children. They raised a grand total of £53 and enjoyed spending this on a hot wheels set and some unicorns!

P3 to P7 have been learning about natural disasters. We have enjoyed finding out all about earthquakes, tsunamis, tornadoes and hurricanes. We even made our own papier mache volcanoes and exploded them

using vinegar, food colouring and bicarbonate of soda! One of our favourite activities was creating a tornado in a jar. All we needed was water, glitter and a tiny bit of washing up liquid. We also enjoyed having our parents in to show them around the classroom.

We would like to say a huge THANK YOU to Jamie Muir and his team from the Safari Park, who have created a fantastic play area in the woodland for us.

Dates for your diary :

We will be taking a stall at the **Blair Drummond Christmas Fayre on 30th November at 7pm**. We look forward to seeing you there.

Our **Nativity Performance** will be on the **14th December, at 2pm**, in the Community Hall.



Blair Drummond Christmas Fayre

Friday 30th November, 7pm till 9pm

We have over 20 stalls coming along, including -

The Wee Cake Shop; Judes Jewels; Neals Yard Remedies; Vedauwoo Spices; Art by the Loch; Flamingo Paperie; Arbonne; Riverside Reflexology; Kincardine in Menteith Primary School & Parent Council; Blair Drummond Youth Club as well as many of the regular stallholders who have been coming along every year.

Again we will have a Charity Raffle which will be drawn on the night – the prizes being donated by the stallholders.

We hope you will be able to come along and support us, as well as buying some unique Christmas gifts.

Admission is - £1 for adults; Children 50p; this includes tea/juice and mince pie/shortbread.

For more details email [**bdgrapevine@gmail.com**](mailto:bdgrapevine@gmail.com)

Blair Drummond Smiddy

How quickly time flies! That's The Smiddy's second summer over already and autumn is upon us. It was a very busy and hot summer and we welcomed all our regulars, as well as lots of delightful visitors from abroad. I think we could say that The Smiddy is well and truly on the map!

Here's what is happening in each department. In the **shop** we are doing our best to keep it stocked with new, interesting and favourite products. One of our new products, china from Richard Bramble, has been a big success. He is an artist and potter and uses nature as his inspiration. He also makes sure that all his stockists sell his products at the same prices. The shop has also had some really nice cookware so if you need to spruce up your kitchen or buy a special gift, pop along and see if we have what you need! Our new vegetable display unit at the front door has been a huge success. Our vegetables and fruit look much more appetising and are keeping fresher for longer.

Dare I mention the 'C' word?? Christmas is fast-approaching and we have planned to host a **Christmassy day** with several of our suppliers on **8th December**. There's a great selection of gift ideas as well as book signings, alcohol sampling, choir singing and much more! Each department will also be offering a tasty selection of what we sell, for you to try. It is also a good day to reserve your turkey etc. from the butchers and also your cheese platters from the deli. The event will be on all day, during our usual working hours. We will be offering our **wreath making workshops** on 5th and 9th December with Fiona from Bramble & Thyme Flowers. Book early! [**info@brambleandthymeflowers.com**](mailto:info@brambleandthymeflowers.com)

In the **Butchery**, we have the usual fabulous selection of meats and pies as well as meals that are just ready to pop in the oven if you don't have time to prepare something yourself. The boys recently won 3 Silver Awards for their delicious sausages! The **Deli** is still going from strength to strength, under the tender care of Sally-Ann and Gail. The girls keep the cheese selection new and exciting, as well as keeping the favourites that our customers love.

The **Café** and kitchen have had a very, very busy summer especially with all that good weather. Our outside umbrellas helped make the seating area very popular. Carrie, our fabulous baker, could hardly keep up with the demand! Both kitchen and café are now getting ready for the menu change and also the build-up to Christmas.

Linda

Blair Drummond Youth Club

The Youth Club meets every Tuesday between October and Easter, from 7 - 9pm in the hall and is open to anyone aged 10 and over.

The Club is a great way for youngsters to catch up with friends, in a relaxed environment, while taking part in group activities. Sometimes visiting guests come along to teach new skills or trips and outings are organised. Youth club membership is £10 per year, with a £1 charge per night. The tuck shop is reasonably priced.



Some of the members receiving their Youth Achievement Awards

Numbers are low this year, so if anyone would like to join, please come along. We have recently had a pumpkin carving evening and pyjama party, which everyone really enjoyed. We are planning trips outwith the hall this year, to keep the children busy. And we are also keen to have people who would like to talk about any hobbies or special skills they may have and think would be interesting!

Every year the Youth Club holds a bottle stall at the Blair Drummond Christmas Fayre, in order to raise funds, and we plan on doing so again this year. Any donations of bottles would be greatly appreciated and can be handed in either to Youth Club on a Tuesday evening, or given to Karen or Lorna before the 20th November. Thank you in advance!

If you would like more information on Youth Club please contact Lorna on 07851364227 or Karen on 07540301272.

3F

3F is a friendly, informal group of women living in the Carse Area. With 3F meaning Friends, Faith and Fun, we manage a good balance of all three! This Autumn/Winter sees Season 5 of the group and we hope to welcome more new members from Gargunnock, Blair Drummond and Doune. The group meets on the last Tuesday of the month, from September to May (no meeting in December), at the comfortable church at 43 Balkerach Street – the main street through Doune. Each month there is a speaker or activity, followed by time to chat over a cup of tea or coffee. All meetings cost £3.

This session we had a very interesting illustrated talk on Underwater Photography from Elaine Whiteford and a Griddle Baking Demonstration from Christine Taylor. As we look forward to Advent and Christmas our meeting on 27th November will be a Pot Luck supper and Carol Singing.

Going into 2019 we will have talks from Carolyn Goss a local Registrar, Bonnie McDowell on Dementia, Mark Drury about Silver Jewellery, Lynn McLeish will tell us about Alternatives to Plastic and we finish the session off with a visit to Stirling Tea, followed by supper at the Woodhouse.

If you would like to information on the 3F group please contact Morag Ferrier (Doune) or myself, Janette Gilliland.

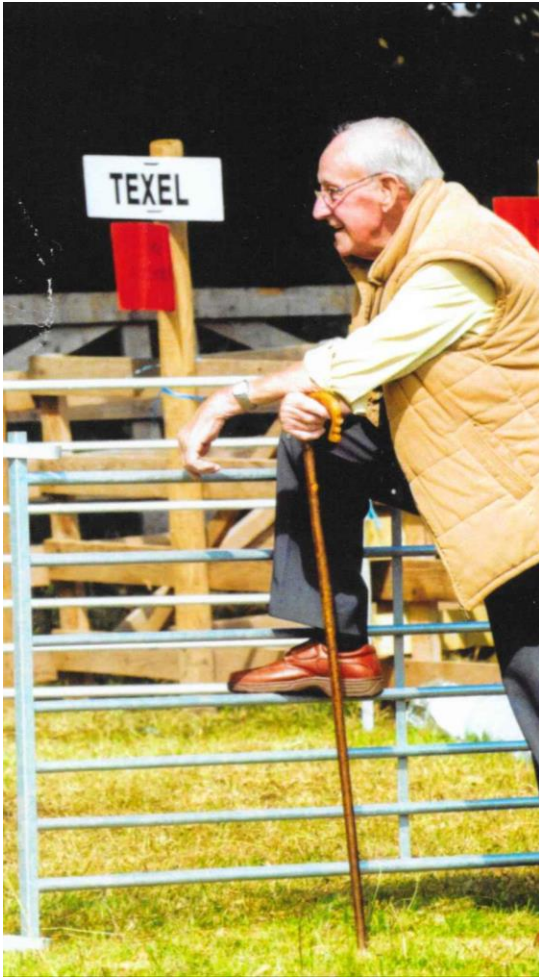
Obituary

Thomas (Tommy) K Bryce
27th December 1935 - 20th August 2018

Tommy Bryce was born at Westwood Farmhouse, the firstborn son of Robert and Cathy, and beloved brother of Betty, who was born 3 years later. He was educated at Kincardine in Menteith school, then Dollar Academy, where he boarded. His mother became ill with cancer and sadly died when Tommy was 15 years old.

At Dollar Tommy's prowess proved to be in the arena of sportsmanship and he gained colours in boxing and also enjoyed rugby and cricket. Tommy left school at 16 years and went to work on the family farm.

He enjoyed participating in the dances held in local halls under the auspices of the Young Farmers Clubs, where he met Marjorie Young, from Powbridge Farm, Airth. In 1962 Tommy and Marjorie married and made Chalmerston Farm their home. In due course Lorna was born, followed by Robert.



Alongside running Chalmerston, Tommy was proud to breed and show shorthorn cattle, UK wide. He won awards under the auspices of the Scottish Fat Stock Club, including three reserves and one Supreme Female Champion. He trained younger farmers who went on to distinguish themselves in stock judging at the Royal Highland Show and was always keen to impart his skills. Over the years Tommy was seen at agricultural shows all around the country.

In due course Lorna and Robert each married, Lorna to Marcus, living in Orkney and Robert to Lynne, settling at Chalmerston. Tommy was a proud grandfather to Michael and Paul on Shapinsay and Rebecca and Amy at Chalmerston. Despite his health declining, Tommy loved their stays up north. Tommy

maintained many friendships across the agricultural community, which he had forged throughout his life. He continued to attend shows, and to check out sheep, going out on his quad bike in all weathers.

As his life's journey reached the final years, Tommy had to contend with health challenges. In all this he was loyally and lovingly supported by Marjorie and the younger generations of his family. On 29th August, hundreds of people gathered in Kincardine in Menteith church to salute his achievements and to stand with those who have been close to him through his long life.

Stuart Coates

Camphill Blair Drummond

We have been shortlisted to 1 of 3 community projects for the Tesco Bags of Help initiative. Voting is open throughout November & December and it would be greatly appreciated if you would vote for Camphill.

Advent Sale on Saturday 1st December from 1pm till 4pm

www.camphillblairdrummond.org.uk

Our Adventures so far!

It is now early October in the beautiful province of British Columbia (BC), Canada. My husband Gordon and I have settled into life at Salmon Arm, BC. Time seems to have passed so quickly; we have been here in BC for four years. With our continuing renovations outside, our small farm is taking shape slowly, although our to-do list keeps growing! It seems a never ending job, but as we both enjoy the challenge and being busy, it suits us fine!

The weather seems to be the main topic of conversation as always. During the winter of 2017/2018 our snowfall was ridiculous. We reckon we had 9ft of cumulative snowfall in total. Gordon had a constant struggle to keep our farm road and yard cleared. Fortunately he has a snow blower for the tractor and a small one for the paths, which makes life easier. Since coming to Canada it has always amazed me how life continues as normal during the winter months. During our time in Manitoba, when temperatures got to the -30C range, folks would go about their daily lives as normal! Here in BC the roads are more prone to icing, as it is milder than Manitoba and the temperature fluctuates more. Our spring weather was wetter than normal and was pretty mixed in May and June. However, as we expected, the weather took up in July and that was it for weeks. Very hot and dry! Unfortunately it was also a bad year for wildfires. We were fortunate not to have any too close to us but the effect of the fires raging around us was felt for most of the summer. It was extremely smoky over most of the interior of BC. Some days we couldn't see our neighbours who live less than 400 yards away! Lots of summer events were cancelled and children, on occasion, were not allowed out. Now we are well into autumn and the fires are out. This is the second year of wildfires and the cost to the province is still being counted. We just hope that this is not going to be a yearly occurrence!

We had 2 cuts of hay this year and finished the 2nd cut in mid-August, and this was our first year of doing round bales. All seemed to go smoothly. We had grass hay and also alfalfa, which is a forage crop. As it was so dry when doing the alfalfa there was a risk of leaf shatter when it was ready to be baled, which in turn would lead to a reduced feed value. This was why Gordon could be found baling late in the evening, in the dark, when there was a slight dampness to the hay. He never did that while farming at Blair Drummond! However, he got it all done, baled and in the shed. The decision to go to round bales this year was a good one, as it seems much more efficient and easier for Gordon! He has no difficulty in

selling the bigger bales and there seems to be quite the demand for them, as there is a much reduced hay crop in the Prairie Provinces, due to the very dry weather in May and June.



Gordon building his new shed

over 600! Just ridiculous! It seems to be an ongoing task and keeps him busy!

Another thing that keeps him busy during spring and summer is catching pocket gophers. The definition of them is 'burrowing rodents'. They leave molehills similar to moles back home and are a pest! When we first took over the farm the fields were polluted with them, so Gordon got organised and began setting traps. The traps are also different from those back home so that was a learning curve for him.

To date, and since he began catching them, he has caught

I know I have previously mentioned the prolific wildlife we have around us, so I wanted to share with you what we did in the autumn last year. In the garden we have apples and pear trees which produce lots of delicious fruit. I made the decision that I did not want the bears coming up to the garden to forage on the fallen or spoiled fruit. Way too close to the house.... Gordon brought up the tractor and loader and I put all the ruined fruit into the loader. He then took it to a spot below the hay shed and dumped it, close to the edge of the trees. After tea we would quietly walk down and position ourselves in the hay shed and watch the bears come out of the wood to feed on the fruit. This happened on numerous occasions and it was an amazing sight to see them so close! We were perfectly safe in the shed and the bears happily ate the fallen fruit – but not in my garden! We did this again in September this year and lots of bear came to feed and it was amazing to watch them chomp their way through the fruit. The bears are still around, so walking alone is, for me, out of the question. I need Gordon, bear spray and a big stick when I go out!

We've been noticing recently birds called Turkey Vultures. We had them in Manitoba but this is the first year we've noticed them here. They are also known as Turkey Buzzards, have a huge wingspan and look like turkeys, but no, they are not edible!

We decided last year, after a summer of drought, to invest in a drip irrigation system for our vegetable garden. This involved rows of black hose being run up and down, alongside the vegetables. It wasn't much effort to install and attach a timer to the garden tap. For the most part, it has worked very well, with us having a long, hot, dry spell. It was more of an issue early in June when the weather was mixed. Then the taps had to be manually turned off and on, depending on the rainfall. On the whole we are happy with our investment, as we don't have to stand for hours watering the garden! We have been using the potatoes out of the garden for a while now. Last year Gordon planted purple potatoes, which I was not keen on. They tasted delicious but some things should not be purple and potatoes are one of them!

A new experience for me was dealing with gooseberries. We planted two bushes a couple of years ago and this year they produced enough for one gooseberry pie! Those of you who have topped and tailed these tiny berries will know what a painstaking job it is! We had our gooseberry pie, which was delicious but I'm not sure it was worth it! We are so spoiled in this area with Farmers Markets, selling all kinds of fresh fruits and vegetables. Every small town and village has one! I sometimes wonder if its worth growing our own. We even have a neighbour who comes into our woods and picks mushrooms. Some of them are a bit bizarre looking and I have to say we are nervous about trying them but he assures us they are perfectly safe to eat.

I have been busy working at improving the garden. I have enjoyed getting rid of the occasional bush but sometimes need Gordon to come to my rescue with the chainsaw and tractor! I'm not done yet and think there are so many lovely bushes and ornamental trees around, so I want to go tree shopping sometime soon! Our garden seems to have increased in size but I'm making sure its easily kept and not too much work. Gordon watches what I'm up to with trepidation and is good at coming to my aid if needed! Nothing like a man with a tractor at your beck and call.....!

This year has been busy, with a trip home, visitors from Manitoba, continuing renovations and a successful hay time. I wonder what the next six months will bring? Until the next time!

Lesley Gentles (nee Matthew)

Blair Drummond Tigers Football Club



Blair Drummond Tigers in their distinctive orange and black strip

In early September the BD Tigers 2010 football team got an invitation from professional outfit Stenhousemuir FC, to play a friendly match with their 2010 team, at half-time of their league match against Dumbarton.

The children were able to train in the 5-a-side pods, next to the big pitch, as a warm-up for their big experience of playing during half time in front of over 600 people. After the pod matches, two of the Tigers got to be mascots and went with Stenhousemuir's Head of Community Football, Will Hoggan, for a tour of Ochilview Park and to meet the players, coaching staff, referees and their friendly Chief Executive, Jamie Swinney. Before the match, two children from each team got to escort the captains onto the field, leading out the teams and hearing the roar of the crowd from the pitch.

After the mascots joined their friends in the stands, all of the children from both teams enjoyed a great first half of football, and were the loudest Stenhousemuir supporters in attendance.

Shortly before half time, Coach Chris took the players over to get them ready to play in front of an actual crowd, on an actual pitch. Stenhousemuir very sportingly put some of their finest players on the Tigers team (who didn't have quite enough players), so the children could play on the pitch simultaneously. The children played some wonderful football, clearly being inspired by those watching. One of the Tigers teams won their match 2-1, with the other drawing 1-1.

After the cameo, the children from both teams mixed together really nicely and shared sweets, drinks and stories with each other (when they weren't coming up with another chant for the match!) and all of them had a

thoroughly amazing time and a memorable experience.

Thanks again are due to Jamie and Hector Muir and John Edgar, for their continued support.

Chris Thompson, BD Tigers Coach

Blair Drummond Curling Club

Curling season is well underway with Club and Province games. We had a very successful night at our "Try Curling" session on Wednesday 3rd October, when we were pleased to welcome new people who wanted to have a go. A very enjoyable fun evening was had by all, under the expert coaching of Derek Young. Local residents Graeme and Alaina Walker took part and hopefully we will have new members for next season.

RCCC run Try Curling classes and beginner's coaching classes at the Peak on a regular basis. If you have difficulty bending, you can now use a delivery stick which allows stones to be delivered from a standing position for those with mobility issues. Fred and myself are giving this a go this season for a bit of fun, in anticipation of extending our shelf life!!

If anyone is interested in finding out about curling and joining Blair Drummond Curling Club please contact myself, Anne Christie tel 07977441108 or Secretary Steve Walker on 07971616135 for further details.

May I wish you all a Happy Christmas and a Healthy New Year.

Anne Christie, Chair, Blair Drummond Curling Club

RHET

There are still a few tickets available for the RHET Forth Valley Ball, Friday 30th November at Airth Castle, the evening starts at 7pm with a welcome drink followed by a 3 course dinner with wine. This will be followed by an auction, raffle and dancing. Tickets are £50 each and can be ordered by emailing rhetforthvalley@gmail.com.

The "RHET Factor" choir has regrouped for another fun season of festive singing. Come along for an evening of singing and chat 7-9pm at Briarlands Farm £5 per week (includes coffee and a biscuit) We meet alternate Tuesday/Wednesday pop along Wednesday 7th Nov or email forthvalley@rhet.org.uk for session dates.

Blair Drummond Hall Diary Dates

Weekly Classes

Monday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm
Tuesday:	Blair Drummond Youth Club 7pm -9pm
Wednesday:	Fitness Classes 10.30 – 2.30pm
Thursday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm

Events

Friday 16th November	Charity ceilidh in aid of Scottish Dementia Research. Music by Tommy Duncan. BYOB. Tickets £5 from Mandy McLeod 07919151981
Monday 26th November	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. KinM School children and chat.
Friday 30th November	Blair Drummond Christmas Fayre. 7pm
Monday 17th December	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Chat afternoon
Wednesday 9th January	Blair Drummond Hall Committee meeting. 7.30pm. All welcome
Monday 28th January	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12- 2pm. Soup & sandwiches.
Friday 8th February	Beetle Drive 7pm. Entry £1. Children must be accompanied.
Friday 22nd February	Local history Talk by Dr Murray Cook.

Anyone wishing to hire the Hall please contact the Booking Secretary. As always, the Hall is regularly used for meetings, kids parties, ceilidhs and wedding receptions, to name but a few. For more information, visit our website: www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk or contact Louise (Booking Secretary) on 01786841352, or info@blairdrummondhall.co.uk

HANDYMAIN

- General household repairs
- Garden maintenance
- Decorating
- Flat pack furniture building

No job too small

Contact: **Clinton Main**

Tel: 01786 842927

Mob: 07909967819

Email: Clinton.main@btinternet.com

Active in Retirement (AiR) is a new health and well being programme for older adults. The programme has been built around research on ageing and a range of classes are offered to cater for adults who are both used to exercising and those who are new to it. The National Institute for Health and Clinical Excellence (1999) reported that as little as one session of physical activity each week could produce health benefits for older adults. The AiR programme aims to capture these improvements and physical health benefits will be monitored on a regular basis throughout the block of classes.

The Chief Medical Officers set recommendations on the type of activity best suited for older adults and these guidelines help structure the content of the classes. The main focus is to help older adults maintain independence and exercises which support everyday activity are selected and integrated into all of the classes.

The social element of AiR is just as important as the physical component. The after class tea and coffee provides a great opportunity to catch up with friends, meet new people and have a chance to chat to Judith about the classes.

AiR activities are designed and delivered by Judith Graham. Judith is a physical educationalist who completed her Masters in Education while delivering activity classes to older adults at the University of Stirling. Judith enhanced her academic qualifications with vocational qualifications in exercise to music, Pilates, personal training and working with older adults. Judith managed and led the older adults' activity programme introducing a variety of classes and activities during her time at the University.

Classes are running on a Wednesday at Blair Drummond Hall and on a Thursday at the Braeport Centre in Dunblane. To find out more details about the classes please contact Judith by email Judith@activeinretirement.co.uk or call 07734849257.

Blair Drummond Classes: 31st October - 12th December

Seated Strength and Stretch: 9.30 – 11.00am £42 for the block

Aerobic Tone: 11.30 – 1.00pm £35 for the block

Pilates: 1.30 – 3.15pm £49 for the block

Blair Drummond Blethers

Now we can truly say that autumn is here, the daylight hours have shortened and winter is fast approaching! But we can't complain, given the lovely summer we had. No matter what the weather, we have a good number of folks coming along to the Blethers, to catch up with friends, make new friends and enjoy the activities and speakers we occasionally have join us.

August was certainly a Chat afternoon, with the membership deciding which charity they wished to support this year. September saw folks choosing and planting their favourite bulbs into their favourite bulb bowls and, hopefully, having them flower and providing a little colour in time for the dreariest part of winter.

October was our annual Bring a Pal lunch and musical entertainment was provided by the Mondalays ladies group. Such was the numbers and kindness of those who attended, we were able to donate £220 to Stirling Princess Carers, to help continue their good work in the Stirling/shire area.

Come and join us at our monthly get together (last Monday of the month, 12 – 2pm, at Blair Drummond Community Hall), you will be very welcome.

Briarlands



Briarlands Farm held its first ever 'Show and Tractor Day' on Sunday 7th October and whilst the weather did not help out on the day, it was a great success, with children thoroughly enjoying the freedom to be able to play on the tractors, under the watchful eye of Farmer Robin!

Katie was busy with our animals all day and even had the RHET cow on show, with a competition held to find the fastest milker! Pictured are just a few of the tractors that were on show – here's hoping for better weather for the 2019 event – date to be confirmed.

We will soon be launching our 'Early Bird' promotion, for our 2019/2020 Season Passes, so keep an eye on our website www.briarlandsfarm.co.uk and Facebook posts for more information.

Police Scotland

Theft

Between 27/08 and 29/08 18 at business premises in Rosburn Lane, Blair Drummond, several items of IT equipment were stolen from within tractors which were stored in a compound, within the business premises. A positive line of enquiry is being made into this crime.

Overnight on 03/09/18 at the Stirling Trailer Centre, The Paddock, Stirling, an attempted theft occurred.

Thefts have occurred at commercial premises in nearby community areas. Again we would ask local residents to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity to Police on 101, or 999 where appropriate.

Fraudulent Scheme

Fraudulent activity continues to occur in the Trossachs and Teith area. The most recent incident involved a member of the public receiving a text message on their phone, suggesting that their Paypal account had been locked and that they needed to confirm their account information within 36 hours, to prevent the account being closed. This took the victim to a link on the internet which was followed, and details were thereafter given resulting in the loss of a substantial amount of money. We would remind locals not to engage with unsolicited Text Messages/Phone Calls/Emails etc. requesting personal information. If you receive such communications, contact your Bank or Account Holder in the normal fashion to confirm, NOT THROUGH THE LINK IN THE UNSOLICITED MESSAGE. You can then report the matter to your Bank or Account Holder.

Community Engagement and Reassurance

We will be in the mobile Police Office in Main Street, Thornhill between 12.30pm and 1.30pm on the following dates- 19th November & 17th December.

This is an opportunity for locals to come and speak with us and for us to provide information on subjects such as Rural Crime, Doorstep Crime and Road Safety.

Should anyone have any policing issues they wish to discuss or raise, please contact us at Callander Police office on 101, or via email at : TrossachsTeithCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk

PCs Lorna Deans and Colin Mckerracher, Trossachs & Teith Community Officers

Bye Bye and Thank you

For the past ten years I've had the fun of helping produce this newsletter. It's been a great pleasure and lots of fun!

But it's time for change and for new 'blood' to come along and so I'd like to ask the local membership of the Grapevine, please do come and join the editorial team (you don't have to be a Blair Drummond Hall Committee member). We produce, as you know, our newsletter 4 times a year and by dividing up the different aspects, it means no one feels the work is all on their shoulders. If it's something you'd like to get involved with, please get in touch with Catherine (*her details are on the back page*).

Meantime, my thanks for your articles, comments, suggestions and friendship and no doubt I'll see you around.

Bye for now,

Christine

Forth Valley Vets



On Wednesday the 26th September we ran an Equine Castration, Health & Education Clinic, to help control indiscriminate breeding and improve the welfare of horses, where owners lack the funds for procedures such as castration.

It was the first such Clinic in Scotland (there have been numerous across England) and was a big success, with 22 horses attending and around 20 castrations! It was entirely charity funded and organised, including collaboration from vets, the British Horse Society, Blue Cross, Redwings Horse Sanctuary, Bransby, Donkey Sanctuary, RSPCA and World Horse Welfare.

James Risk

Doune Health Centre

Flu Vaccines

The flu vaccine season is well underway for anyone 65 years and over, or in an 'at risk' group.

At the present time we have exhausted our stock supply for the enhanced flu vaccine (Fluad), which was especially prescribed for patients who will be 75 years and over by 31.03.2019. This has occurred due to a mistake in the Scottish NHS procurement process. We are expecting a new batch for this particular group of patients in November. Therefore we plan to have an extra flu clinic on Thursday 15th November, from 1.30 – 4pm, in order to catch up. This clinic will be available for any adults requiring their seasonal flu injection. Please note this shortage does not affect any patient under 75 years. If you missed our drop-in clinics or cannot come along on the 15th November, then please make an appointment with one of the nurses, at a time that suits you.

If you would like a flu injection and are under 65 years, or not in an 'at risk' group, then you should obtain an injection privately, from a local pharmacy. Ask at the Woodside Pharmacy. A vaccine costs approx £10 – 12.

Child nasal flu Vaccine

Please make an appointment if your child requires a nasal flu vaccine with Nurse Lynne Bryce. Children's' Nasal Flu Vaccination will be continuing this year for ALL pre-school children, who are aged 2 – 5 years by 1st September 2018. Children in 'at risk' groups aged from 6 months – 2 years will be eligible for a traditional flu injection. Children should not attend if they have a fever. Please make an appointment for a nasal flu vaccination, at Doune Health Centre. The pre-school group are not invited to the Drop In Adult Clinics, due to the high numbers expected and staff availability. Primary school children will be invited to receive their nasal flu vaccination at school, during the day, from the school nurses.

Pneumococcal Vaccines

Patients are entitled to a one-off pneumococcal vaccine, from the age of 65 years, or in an 'at risk' group. If you wish more information, or are unsure if you have received it already, phone the Health Centre.

Shingles Vaccine

We have been offering the shingles vaccine for several years now.

Patients who reached the age of 70years by 01.09.18 are entitled. If you think you missed the opportunity to have this vaccine, then we can check if you are eligible and whether your present health is suitable for this particular injection.

If you are 80years or over, you will not be offered the vaccine. There is a useful web site with information on shingles. Search: Immunisation Scotland shingles 2018. Look for the easy-to-use eligibility calculator tool, which can tell you immediately if you can have the vaccine or not, when you insert you date of birth. This is a one-off live vaccine. Please phone the Health Centre to enquire.

Wednesday Evening Clinics

A reminder that we now have appointments on Wednesday evenings. This Clinic is for patients who cannot manage to visit us during daytime hours. Appointments start at 6pm. Dr Julie Reid is the doctor on duty.

Christmas & New Year Holidays

We will be closed on 25th & 26th December 2018, and 1st & 2nd January 2019. Please remember to order your prescriptions in advance, and telephone NHS on 111 if you are unwell, or need to speak with a health professional.

Linda Keay, Practice Nurse

Struthers & Scott Client Evening

Wednesday 14th November at 7.15pm for a 7.30pm start.

Clare Kerr, our qualified Animal Behaviourist, will be giving advice on 'Canine Enrichment' and 'How to have a Happy Vet Visit'.

Tickets must be purchased in advance and the cost is **£5 per ticket, with the money going to charity**. Please contact our Reception team for more information or to book your place.

Struthers & Scott



Innes Park
Station Wynd
Doune
Perthshire
FK16 6EH

Tel: 01786 841304.

www.struthers-scott.co.uk

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

¼ page £10

½ page £15

Full page £20

Do you have any photos, ads, articles or letters you would like to contribute, if so please email them to:

bdgrapevine@gmail.com

Items for Edition 31 should be submitted by **31st January 2019**, sent by email, in **Word or Open Office**, and as a **separate attachment**.

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

Thank you

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) 2018

Reflecting the change in legislation, the Blair Drummond Community Hall Committee Grapevine newsletter editorial team wish to highlight the following to its readers –

The information we hold, regarding email addresses, is held in a secure setting and not shared with other organisations, companies or individuals. The information is used to send out copies of the Grapevine to our readers electronically.

The Blair Drummond Grapevine is a community newsletter produced and distributed by volunteers, free of charge, to approximately 400 households within the Blair Drummond area and beyond. Letters and articles published in the newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views, beliefs or opinions of the Grapevine Editorial Team, who also reserve the right to shorten, edit or refuse the insertion of any contribution.

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. All contributions should permit publication in both print and digital format.

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

Website: www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk

Facebook: **Blair Drummond Community Hall**

Glass & clothing recycling

If using the recycling bins at the hall and you find they are full, please take your glass/clothes away with you to recycle elsewhere. **Thank you**