

Issue 31

The Grapevine

February 2019

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

School News

Written by The Press Gang - Clem Stevenson and Toli Hammond

Christmas 2018 saw Kincardine in Menteith Primary School put on their annual Nativity event. This year it was "It's a Party". It was all about the angels preparing a party to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. Some of the characters were Mary and Joseph (played by our youngest pupils), a snowy white dove, three sleepy and snoring shepherds, three cheeky wise men, a very weary Donkey, annoying innkeepers, talkative narrators and a host of elegant, graceful and noisy angels. We really enjoyed all of the songs and it was a lot of fun to perform.



The cast of "It's a Party"

We also had a Christmas party which the p5-7s organised for the younger class. They played a variety of games including Christmas Corners, Pin the Nose on Rudolph then there was a very special visitor complete with velvet red suit and black sack. The general feedback was that it was the best party they had ever had and it was a good experience for the older children to host the party! The older class went to Thornhill Primary and joined with their P5-7s for a party and played lots of interesting and different games including a Brussel Sprout Race, finding strawberry laces in cream with your mouth, balancing a cookie on your forehead and trying to wiggle it down to eat it without touching it and lots of other fun games. We spent a lot of time giggling and laughing.

The pupils and teachers of Kincardine in Menteith Primary School would like to wish everyone a very happy new year and we look forward to sharing more of adventures with you this year.

Doune Health Centre

A happy and healthy New a Year to all our patients for 2019.

Flu vaccines

It is not too late to have a flu injection. Please book an appointment with one of our Practice nurses as soon as you can.

Pharmacy First Scheme

This is a government funded initiative which enables all ages of patients to access treatments at the Pharmacy.

This scheme gives you quick and local access to advice and treatment from the Pharmacist about common illnesses and is called Pharmacy First.

When appointments are at a premium there is a lot of help available at the local Pharmacy, where Pharmacy First can deal with a host of minor ailments with no appointment required.

This includes: uncomplicated urinary tract infections in women, impetigo in children, skin infections, rashes, stings, eye infections, coughs and cold including exacerbations of COPD.

Of course, if the Pharmacist thinks you require to see a GP for your illness, they will advise you to do that.

Linda Keay, Practice Nurse



One of the sketches from "Callander Can"

Callander Young Farmers Annual Variety Concert "Callander Can!"

Since September, members of Callander Young Farmers club have been practising their singing skills, dance moves and acting all in preparation for their 3 nights concert on 17th–19th January 2019 in Thornhill Community Hall. There was a whole variety of acts, including musical recitals, dance routines and comedy sketches (all written by members). This was a big comeback for the club as they had unfortunately been unable to put on a concert the previous year. Many friends and family turned up to support the club – Saturday night's performance was sold out! The dance following Saturday's performance was a success also. We also welcomed the RHET choir during the interval on the Friday night and they gave a superb performance. The Callander YF Drama trophy was awarded to Callum Fotheringham, for showing commitment and improvement throughout the concert. Big thanks must go to Chairman Gregor Black for organising the practises and getting people along, Rosalind Bennie for producing and keeping everyone in line, David Bennie and his talent for writing sketches and Luke Macdonald for choreographing. Now that the concert is over for another year, the club is turning its attention to the up and coming Clyde and Central Talent Spot competition and the Calf and Lamb rally. Keep an eye on our Facebook page for more events coming up and if you're aged 14-26 and like the sound of what we do, please don't hesitate to get in touch via Facebook or on 07564 828416.

Eilidh Graham

Blair Drummond Hall Diary Dates

Weekly Classes

Monday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm alldance@costep.co
Tuesday:	Blair Drummond Youth Club 7pm -9pm
Wednesday:	Fitness Classes 10 am – 12.30pm
Thursday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm

Events

Wednesday 20th Feb	Blair Drummond Hall committee meeting. 7.30pm. All welcome
Friday 22nd Feb	Local History Talk by Dr Murray Cook. 7pm for 7.30pm. Tickets £5. (<i>See page 19 for details</i>)
Monday 25th Feb	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Judith Graham. Gentle Exercises.
Monday 25th March	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Beetle Drive.
Monday 29th April	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12- 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Chat afternoon.

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

Councillors for our area

Martin Earl

Tel: 01786 233114 / 07881 310922

earlm@stirling.gov.uk

Jeremy McDonald

Tel: 01786 233113

mcdonaldjr@stirling.gov.uk

Evelyn Tweed

Tel: 01786 233121

tweede@stirling.gov.uk

Blair Drummond Blethers

Monday 28th January saw the Blethers celebrating the start of this year's programme and the National Bard's day, with a Burns lunch enjoyed by 50 people!

Willie Ralston began the afternoon with the Selkirk Grace and then everyone enjoyed haggis with whisky sauce, neeps and tatties, followed by trifle, cheese and biscuits.

The local primary schoolchildren came along and provided excellent entertainment with a wide range of Scottish based poems and recitations. Their work was hugely appreciated by everyone.



The Blethers with the primary school children

On 25th February we will be joined by Judith Graham, who will lead us through a range of gentle exercises to keep us fit, which can be done easily at home too!

And on 25th March it will be our annual Beetle Drive, when some cheating and a lot of laughs are guaranteed!

April 29th, we plan to have a Chat Afternoon, dedicated to one and all catching up with each other, while enjoying lunch.

So, if you are over 50 years, and live in Blair Drummond or surrounding areas, come and join us on the above dates, 12 o'clock till 2pm, at Blair Drummond Community Hall, you will be very welcome.

Christine Bauer

Community Police Report

Bogus Workmen – we have had calls in other areas of the Trossachs and Teith Ward regarding possible Bogus Callers. We would like to remind local residents of the three basic actions to avoid Bogus Callers.

THINK – Expecting someone? Only let callers in if they have an appointment.

SECURE – Use your door chain / spy hole before opening the door.

QUESTION – Ask for callers I.D. Verify by phone. If in doubt, keep them out.

PC Deans and PC McKerracher will be in Main Street, Thornhill in the Mobile Police Office, between 12.30 – 13.30 hours to offer information or advice on local Policing matters:

20th February, 20th March, 17th April and 15th May.

Your Community Officers are: Constables Colin McKerracher and Lorna Deans, based at Callander Police Office.

The Community Policing Sergeant is Grant MacDonald based between Dunblane and Callander Police office.

They can be contacted via the email address

TrossachsTeithCPT@scotland.pnn.police.uk or by phoning 101

We regularly publish information on the 'Forth Valley Police' Facebook page and tweet using @StirlingPol

Thank you

PC 237 Colin Mckerracher

Trossachs and Teith Community Officer

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

Marriages



Congratulations to Karine Duffy and Chris McLeod, formerly of East Coldoch Cottage, Blair Drummond who were married at The Vu, Bathgate on Friday 28th December. The happy couple are now living in Alloa.

'Roman Around Blair Drummond: Coldoch Broch and Scotland's First Female Archaeologist'

A talk will be given by Stirling Council's archaeologist Dr Murray Cook in the Blair Drummond Community Hall on Friday 22nd February at 7.30pm. Entrance £5 per person payable at the door. Cheese and wine included. Dr Cook will talk about the ancient history of the local area of Blair Drummond, which will cover among other things - the broch, the torcs, the Romans and last but not least the intriguing first female archaeologist. Last year the local Blethers group was delighted when Murray gave a very interesting talk on a variety of subjects and some of us joined another group for a guided walk around Gargunnock, with Murray as our expert guide. He is a knowledgeable and entertaining speaker and this promises to be an exceptionally good evening. Dr Murray Cook is a graduate of Edinburgh University and also an Honorary Research Fellow at Stirling University.

Kate Ingle, Chair of Blair Drummond Community Hall Committee

RHET

RHET is looking for supporters to help fund raise by trying a personal challenge. This involves entering an event then raising funds for RHET, so if you fancy trying Couch to 5K how about entering RHET Run 2019 on Saturday 15th June 6-9pm. The route is unique and flat, from Briarlands Farm round Blair Drummond Safari Park. So great if it is your first 5k or if you want to aim for a personal best time. Enter via Facebook or www.eventbrite.co.uk search RHET run 2019.

If running is not your thing how about a Kilt Walk - there is a choice of dates and venues, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen, you can walk either 13 or 26 miles. For more info and training advice visit www.thekiltwalk.co.uk. Walking is good for your heart, head and health so get your boots dusted off and join in the fun. If you do fancy this please email forthvalley@rhet.org.uk and we will help set up your sponsorship page and provide a T shirt for the walk.



The RHET Factor choir meets weekly at Briarlands Farm for singing, chats and a cup of tea, £5 per session all welcome.

RHET has organised "Sing for your Supper" concert on Sunday 14th April 2019 6.30pm-8.30pm at Briarlands Farm. Come and enjoy

a delicious 2 course meal and be entertained by The RHET Factor choir, there will a raffle and lots of laughs too. For tickets please email: forthvalley@rhet.org.uk

Katie Brisbane, Project Co-ordinator, RHET Forth Valley

Can you take your next edition of The Grapevine by Email?

The paper copies of The Grapevine are delivered by a small group of volunteers. We understand that not everyone has access to a computer so we are very happy to hand deliver a paper copy to them. However if you could receive your copy by email please help us by sending us your contact details and a note of your address (so we know where to stop delivering a paper copy to). See back page for details. Thank you.

Blair Drummond Community Hall Association Committee

The first committee meeting of the New Year was held on 9th January. Matters under discussion included the Hall events calendar for 2019.



Beetle Drive Competitors

Friday 1st February saw the first Beetle Drive of the year – this popular family event was well attended and great fun was had by all. Well done to Luke, Archie, Ian & Cameron for winning.

On Friday 22nd February, Murray Cook (Stirling Council's Archaeologist) will give a talk on the local area of Blair Drummond. If you have never heard Murray speak on our local history then I would strongly recommend this event. Murray is both very interesting and entertaining and this promises to be a thoroughly good evening, with the added bonus of cheese and wine. All this for £5 a ticket!

Our annual Family BBQ will be held on Saturday 1st June at the Safari Park.

Those of you who attended the highly enjoyable 'Gin Tasting' last November will be pleased to know that due to popular demand, Alison and her team will be returning to introduce us to a few more of the many craft gins that are out there, just waiting to be sampled. The proposed date is Saturday 2nd November and as places are strictly limited to 30 gin tasters (no limit to non-tasters) you might like to make a note in your diaries now. There will be more details about all of these events in The Grapevine nearer the time. Any changes to the proposed dates and times will be advised.

We are very fortunate to have many talented and socially-minded people living in our community but there are many of you still out there perhaps

feeling a little shy of putting yourself forward. Don't be shy – your community needs you and you might be amazed at what you have to offer. The hall committee is always on the lookout for new members to keep our average age down and the number of fresh ideas up! We would especially like to do more for the younger members of our community, so we would welcome input from parents of young families in the area. If you have any thoughts you would like to share please feel free to contact us via email : bdgrapevine@gmail.com – or even better come along and share them at one of our meetings.

Our next committee meeting will be held in the community hall on **Wednesday 22nd February at 7.30 pm.** Meetings last just over an hour. Please come along and see for yourselves what goes on. ALL WELCOME.

Kate Ingle, Chair of Blair Drummond Community Hall Committee

Community Hall Christmas Fayre



Committee member Alison Coates presenting the cheque to the Town Break representative

A big Thank You to everyone who supported our annual Christmas Fayre last November. A cheque for £350 (which was the proceeds from the raffle) was handed over to Town Break Stirling, a local dementia charity based in and around Stirling. It was a great night with lots of stalls including the Youth Club who raised £145.50 from their bottle stall and the Parent Council who raised £115 from their chocolate tombola. This year's Fayre is on Friday 29th November.

Safari Park



Pantomime at Blair Drummond Safari Park

Two performances of family pantomime Aladdin took place at Blair Drummond Safari Park on Saturday 1st December.

The show, which was staged by touring theatre company M&M Productions, received positive feedback from audiences. Visitors were also able to take the opportunity to visit some of the animals at the Safari Park and find out more about how they're cared for in the winter.

Park Manager Gary Gilmour commented: "We usually close for visitors through the winter, but this year had decided to reopen for a special festive event. Tickets for the pantomime went on sale in October and sold out in a matter of days. The event was well received and we're very pleased that our visitors enjoyed their day."

Safari Park Opening

Blair Drummond Safari and Adventure Park will open from Saturday 23rd March 2019. The Safari Park will be open seven days a week from 10:00am until 5:30pm, and visitors can keep up-to-date with special events, news and photographs by following the park on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram.



Locals are reminded that the most cost effective way to visit the Safari Park is with a seasonal membership. Membership can be purchased now online and the price remains unchanged from previous years, at £45 for children and £55 for adults. Membership allows unlimited entry, and discounts in the shop and restaurant.

McLaren Community Café Project

We were delighted to launch a new Community Café project for 2018/19 as part of our Developing the Young Workforce initiative. S5/6 pupils have been given the opportunity to participate in the project and will spend 4 periods each week working on this. 15 pupils will participate in the project during 2018/19.

The café runs every other Friday within the school campus from 9.30 to 11.30am. Pupils participating in the project will develop many of the employability skills that we strive to nurture at McLaren High through:

- helping to look after young children who attend with their parent(s)
- ordering food on a fortnightly basis
- preparing (baking/cooking) food to be served
- advertising the Café through social media/posters/word of mouth
- setting up the designated area
- meeting the public and using communication skills
- taking orders and serving customers
- tidying up
- managing money

We were delighted to welcome Deirdre Wood and her son Stewart to officially open Chilli's Community Café on Friday 26 October. Deirdre is the widow of Chilli Wood, our much loved janitor who passed away earlier this year, and who the café is named after. Mollie Craig S5, the café manager, welcomed the guests and thanked everyone for coming along and for their continued support of the café. Special thanks was given to the Steamship Sir Walter Scott at Loch Katrine who sponsored the café uniform.

The café is open to all members of our community (e.g. elderly people, parents with children, friends of the school). We suggest a donation of £1.50 per person for unlimited teas, coffees and a choice of homemade cakes.

The café has been a roaring success since it started and all members of the public are welcome.

Thanks!

Yvonne Webster
Administration Assistant
McLaren High School, Callander



Chilli's

Community Café

At McLaren High School, Callander
every other Friday
from 9.30am until 11.30am.

Come along and join the
McLaren Community Café
for unlimited tea or coffee
with homebaking
for a suggested donation of £1.50

Dates until Easter are:

25 January 2019

8 February 2019

22 February 2019

8 March 2019

22 March 2019

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

Stephen Kerr MP

26-30 RAILCARD

Stirling's MP this morning welcomed the introduction of the new 26-30 railcard, created to offer 26-30 year olds cheaper rail travel throughout Great Britain on the National Rail network. This card will mean 4.5 million people can access reduced price rates on all routes from Wick to Truro. The card will cut the given price by 1/3, a considerable saving.

This introduction comes on top of the announcement that a 16-17 railcard will be released in September 2019, extending cheaper child fares to 16 and 17 year olds. This will be a 50% discount for 1.2 million young people.

Stephen Kerr MP said: "These announcements will make a significant difference to millions of young commuters and rail users across the country, including many in Stirling. 3.3 million trips are made to and from Stirling stations every year. I encourage all regular rail users in this age range to take full advantage and sign up for the new card. You can apply here: <https://www.26-30railcard.co.uk/>"

STAY SAFE THIS WINTER

Stephen Kerr MP has joined with Electrical Safety First to become a "Safe and Warm Ambassador", keeping pensioners safe from electrical fires and accidents over winter.

In winter months, many older people use electric heaters and blankets to stay warm. However, in 2016 over 3700 fires were started in Scotland from an electrical source, and for older people this is a serious threat.

Electrical Safety First is a charity dedicated to reducing deaths and injuries caused by electrical accidents. Their main aim is to make sure everyone in the UK can use electricity safely.

To this end, the charity has created a 3-point checklist aimed at keeping people safe from electrically-ignited house fires this winter:

- Keep portable heaters away from clothes, furniture, and newspapers
- Never place an electric fire into a 4-socket adaptor
- Replace electric blankets that are more than 10 years old

<https://www.electricalsafetyfirst.org.uk/>

Stephen Kerr MP said:

"These three tips are simple and easy ways to reduce the risk of household fires. If you have elderly neighbours and friends, please do let them know these points and together we'll keep people safe this winter. The charity has a very useful website packed full of good advice and tips to help you reduce the risk of a household fire."

Briarlands Farm

Briarlands Farm will be re-opening on 8th February for another season of fun.

For this year we've added, the much requested swings and a couple of 'springers' for our young visitors – a strawberry and a tractor; plus some fancy new go-karts!

The addition of our Play Fort, part of the film set for Netflix 'The Outlaw King' has proved great fun, with the addition of whizzy slides and scramble net to keep all your budding warriors busy; along with a Connect 4 game and wibbly wobbly mirrors.

Season passes are on sale and offer unlimited access and therefore great value, so don't forget to pick up yours.

Spring is just round the corner and there will be eggs to hatch, lambs to feed, calves to count and piglets squealing; plus our ever popular Animal Handling sessions, where you can meet the new guinea pigs who've joined the gang.



Jump on a tractor ride to see the animals up at the farm; hear about the farming activities and see if the strawberries are ready to pick – PYO available June and July time, weather depending – please call if making a special visit for strawberry picking, to check availability.

Briarlands is home to our Farmer's Den Tearoom serving snacks and light lunches, all cooked to order. Along with delicious home baking, it even has free soft play for the wee ones!

Briarlands is a fantastic venue for birthday parties, offering an all-encompassing package – fun, food and games, plus a tractor ride. Just bring the cake itself and party bags, if you wish, not forgetting the special birthday person!!

We can accommodate school visits and offer an educational experience mixed with a great day out.

We also offer evening visits for a minimum group of 25 children, so bring along your Brownie pack, Beaver group or Club for your summer outing with exclusive use from 6-8pm. Don't forget our football golf course for an alternative works' night out!

This year, Briarlands will be hosting the RHET run on 15th June; planning is in hand for our Tractor Weekend and Show Day, 7th and 8th September; some spooky nights around Halloween and of course our Big Bonfire at the beginning of November.

Briarlands is an excellent venue for functions with catering covered in-house and also for outside functions – contact Mary's Kitchen on 01786 841309.

Our season runs to 5th January 2020 (closed Christmas and Boxing Day; 1st and 2nd January), so come along and have some 'Family Fun in the Fresh Air'.

Jill Nixon, Centre Manager

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***

Blair Drummond Smiddy

Spring is in the air! Well, sort of, but the sun is shining and I can see the daffodils coming up amongst the snow out of my office window. We've had a pretty good January at the Smiddy, although comparing it to last year when we had a 'proper' winter, isn't too realistic. Christmas already feels like a distant memory, but we were very pleased with how things went and are delighted that more and more people are ordering their turkey (or the equivalent) plus all the trimmings from us. The highlight for me was Hamish, the 10th Reindeer, who came along to charm us all and make reindeer food with our younger customers. We do hope he'll put in an appearance again this year.

So, now that the dust has settled we've got into a good system of going to the Glasgow Fruit and Vegetable Market twice a week. This is an early

run for Jamie or his son, Will, and they come back for a coffee and a bacon roll, with a van laden with produce that is fresher and better priced. We're now really proud of our shop fruit and veg offering and hope that it's becoming a place for people to pick up all the essentials.

Speaking of which, one of our top selling items in the shop is our Wee Isle milk from the Isle of Gigha, which comes in every week in glass bottles, which they take back, so please return your empties. A nice contribution to using less packaging. The milk is pasteurised at a lower temperature, has a lovely layer of cream on top and tastes the way milk should. It's worth making a trip here just for that. We think you'll be converted!



You may not have noticed (we hope they're not too obtrusive) but we installed acoustic panels in our café a couple of months ago. The sound is now better in there and it's much less noisy on busy days. Our other big plan is to install a proper ventilation system so that the building doesn't get so hot. It's wonderful to have such spectacular views, but it does make the Smiddy a bit of a greenhouse. We're doing this in the next month or so, which no doubt means it will rain all summer!

If you're having an event at Blair Drummond Community Hall do get in touch as we'd be happy to discuss your catering needs and provide lunch or baking.

Hope to see you at the Smiddy soon.

Daisy Peach and the team

Blair Drummond Curling Club

Happy New Year to you all. Here's to a Happy and Healthy new year. We have had a busy few months with the Club matches and Provence games with a few bonspiels thrown in too.

The 23rd January 2019 saw our 3rd annual Graeme Giles Bonspiel.



The bonspiel was contested by all the clubs Graeme was involved in – Blair Drummond Curling Club, Stirling and Borestone, Airthrey as well as being a member of the Stirling Curling Group and active in the encouragement of younger, new and existing members.

Coaching was another of Graeme's interests, assisting with sessions for Stirling Young Curlers, who were also represented at the bonspiel. The Young Curlers won the first bonspiel and then Blair Drummond took the trophy last year. This year the winners were Stirling Young Curlers, with Graeme's wife Clare donating the trophy and presenting it to the worthy winners.

The next block of Try Curling is on at the Peak on a Monday night. Active Stirling offer blocks of 4 lessons at the Peak then you progress to the Virtual Club where you get expert regular coaching sessions, also on a Monday night. Young curlers hold their sessions on a Saturday morning at the Peak.

If you think you will struggle with bending down to throw a curling stone we now have an alternative called stick curling. This is a method of delivering the stone by remaining upright. Fred Bauer and I have decided to have a go this season, to take up stick curling too!! Our Secretary Steve Walker is an accomplished stick curler taking it up after having two new knees, so there is hope for us all.

I'm pleased to say that the Try Curling in October generated some new recruits so hopefully we will have some new members for next season. Please call me, Anne Christie, on 07977441108 or Stephen Walker on 07971616135 if you would like further information on curling.

Anne Christie, Chair, Blair Drummond Curling Club

Blair Drummond Community Hall Association

“Roman Around Blair Drummond: Coldoch Broch and Scotland’s First Female Archaeologist”

By Dr Murray Cook



In Blair Drummond Community Hall

On Friday 22nd February

7pm for 7.30pm



**Tickets £5
(Includes Cheese & Wine)**

For tickets please contact:

Louise – 01786 841352

Christine – 01786 841191

Catherine – 01786 860246

Or any committee member

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 32 should be submitted by **30th April 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**

Community Council Elections

In November 2018, 30 out of 42 Community Councils successfully formed across the local authority area, however, there were 12 areas including Thornhill & Blair Drummond where sufficient numbers were not achieved to form a Community Council. Those villages and areas have now been given a second chance to gain representation, by submitting nominations no later than **Friday 8 February at 4pm**.

Further information, including boundary maps and nomination forms, can be found online <https://www.stirling.gov.uk/communitycouncilelections/>