

Issue 32

The Grapevine

May 2019

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

Births

Alice and Andrew Duff (formerly of Carsedyke, Sommers Lane) are overjoyed to announce the arrival of Matilda Rose Duff (Tilly). Tilly was born on Thursday 31st January 2019 weighing 6lb 8oz.



Congratulations to proud parents Laura McVean & Mark Killen, Mid Rossburn Farm, on the birth of their son Murray Colin Killen who was born on 15th February weighing 6lb 8oz. A little brother for Aaron, James & Finley.

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

Sunday 12th May	Kincardine In Menteith Primary School Funday 1pm (<i>See page 5 for details</i>)
Tuesday 14th May	Blair Drummond Hall committee meeting. 7.30pm. All welcome
Monday 27th May	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Quiz afternoon.
Saturday 1st June	Blair Drummond Hall Annual Family BBQ In Blair Drummond Safari Park from 6.30pm – 9.30pm (<i>See page 7 for details</i>)
Tuesday 11th June	Blair Drummond Hall AGM & committee meeting. 7.30pm. All welcome
Monday 24th June	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12- 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Talk by Gargunnock House Head Gardener.
Monday 29th July	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12 – 2pm. Soup & sandwiches. Chat afternoon.
Saturday 2nd Nov.	Gin Tasting – details in next issue.

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 01786 841352, or bdhallinfo@gmail.com

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

Births



On the 28th February, Gareth and Lisanne Killen from The Old Barn, South Kirklane Farm were delighted that Cameron John Alwyn Killen was born, weighing a healthy 7lb 7oz. Lisanne and Gareth would like to thank the amazing staff at Forth Valley Royal Hospital.

Jennifer Kuchmeister & Robbie Kenny, Robertson Lane Farm, are pleased to announce the birth of their son Fergus Kuchmeister Kenny who was born on 22nd April weighing 6lb 13oz.



KINCARDINE IN MENTEITH CHURCH

The last Sunday of the month we now have joint services with our linked charge churches of Kilmadock, Doune and Gargunnock. These are on a rota basis; we have just had our April service in Doune, which this year because of the Marathon was an evening service. The next service is in Gargunnock on 26th May, followed by Kincardine on 30th June. All of the joint morning services will start at 10.00a.m. All are welcome at these services.

Date for your diary - we will be having Faith in Farming on Sunday 29th September, again at Briarlands - more details to follow.

Vacancy – Where are we?

Due to staffing situations within the Church of Scotland the presbytery of Stirling is in consultation with the Office Bearers of the Churches on the Carse of Stirling, to consider the way forward, with fewer ministers of word and sacrament to serve the present number of charges. Slow progress is being made with the vacancy.

We are very grateful to our interim Moderator Mrs Valerie Rose who has been guiding us and preparing a worship programme, which allows all three churches within the linkage to have a weekly service. Rev Lynne Mack continues to provide Pastoral Care including Hospital Visits, Home Visits, Weddings and Baptisms. We thank Rev Lynne and Mr Ian Roy for conducting our weekly service at 9.30am. All are WELCOME at these services.

Janette Gilliland (Session Clerk)

<u>BLAIR DRUMMOND ESTATE</u>	
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



12th May 2019

1pm

Kincardine in Menteith Primary

Tickets £5 (under 5s free) BBQ included

Soft drinks will be on sale

All Welcome

Bouncy Castle

Games Stalls

Tom-bola

Lots of fun and activities

Winners of Parent Council Raffle will be announced

Tickets can be purchased from the school by Tuesday 9 May

All proceeds to KIM Parent Council Funds

DOUNE HEALTH CENTRE

New Trainee GP

Dr Alex Fullbrook (ST1) has joined us for six months until August. An ST1 doctor is the old term for a junior doctor in the first two years of speciality training.

Text appointment reminders

We have recently introduced text reminder appointments to your mobile phones.


This service allows you to get automated reminder messages, including your appointment details which also enables you to cancel an appointment you no longer need, quickly and easily.

If we have details of a mobile number on your medical records a text message will be sent 24 hours before your appointment.

Please inform the clinic of your mobile number, or change in number, so that you can receive reminder texts from now on.

Clinic closure.

Doone Health Centre will be closed on Monday 6th May and Monday 10th June.

Please remember to order your prescriptions before the Holiday weekend. 

NHS 24 will be dealing with emergencies during the above closures.

Tel : 111 if you are unwell or need to talk to someone before the clinic reopens.

New Doone Health Centre

Work is well up to schedule. The roof is in place, so internal work can proceed. The building is due to open in the Autumn.

Linda Keay, Practice nurse.

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

Annual Family BBQ

On Saturday 1st June 6.30pm – 9.30pm

In Blair Drummond Safari Park

Tickets £5 (under 5s free)

BYOB & Snacks

Ticket by admission only

Contact Louise on 01786 841352

or Helen 01786 860578

or Catherine 01786 860246

or any committee member



Parents are responsible for the safety of their own children

Countryside Courtesy

This winter has been one of the sunniest on record, January being the driest month with less than 20mm of rainfall. Summer is just around the corner and many of you will be heading out to get most of the summer sun.

We are extremely fortunate where we live in Blair Drummond with acres of countryside and fields to explore; here are some tips to keep you in the Farmers good graces:

- Avoid walking/riding/cycling/driving across farmland unless you have the permission of the farmer.
- When walking your dog near any livestock (sheep, cows etc) please keep them on a lead, they may not cause any harm to the animals, but it is always better to be safe than sorry.
- If your dog stops for a number two on a public path or in someone's garden then please clear it away, no one wants to be standing in that...
- If you are cycling and see horses ahead, please ring your bell or say something to warn the rider that you are going to overtake.
- When overtaking horses please pass wide and slowly to avoid an accident.
- If there are tractors on the road, please be patient they will pull over and let you pass as soon as they can.
- If you are passing cars, please use farm entrances and laybys as the verges are soft.
- Please keep any bins/cones into the side as most farm machinery is wider than the road and could wipe them out.

I hope everyone has a great summer holiday, let's hope this sunny weather is here to stay!

Katie Brisbane

Glass, paper & clothing recycling

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

Royal Highland Education Trust

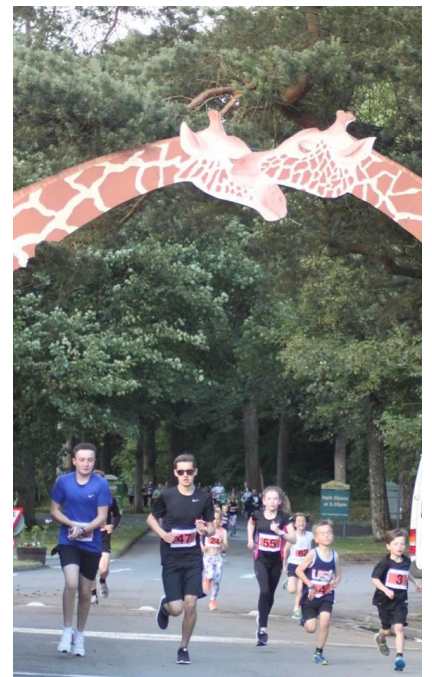


Well done all,
Great singing, fantastic food,
loads of chat and fun .
Thank you for your support
We raised £684
Fantastic
Hope to see you in September.

Pictures from the recent "Sing For your Supper" fundraiser

On Saturday the 15th of June, the annual RHET Fun Run will be happening. It is an easy, flat and fast 5k family run from Briarlands Farm around Blair Drummond Safari Park. The first runners go at 6.30pm with the last lot arriving back at 9pm. Great opportunity to put those New Year's resolutions into action and to get in shape for the summer holidays! To enter head over to www.eventbrite.co.uk and search "RHET Run 2019". Hope to see you all there!

All proceeds from the run go to RHET Forth Valley. Their aim is to take the classroom to the countryside by offering all school children free farm visits, classroom talks and resources on food farming and the countryside.



Katie Brisbane, Project Co-ordinator, RHET Forth Valley

STEPHEN KERR MP

Stephen Kerr, MP for Stirling met with volunteers from 'Cats Protection' and staff at the Bruceview vets practice to raise awareness of the campaign being run by the organisation in conjunction with local vets, that allows people to get their cats 'snipped and chipped' for £5.

Cats Protection has recently launched a £5 Snip & Chip campaign across Forth Valley for all eligible cat owners. This allows cat owners that are on a low income, benefits, pensioners, or students to get their cats snipped & chipped from only £5. Getting your cat neutered has lots of health and welfare benefits. As well as preventing unplanned litters it helps protect them from nasty diseases and some cancers. If your cat's chipped this increases the chances of a happy reunion should they go missing.

There are a number of vets across Forth Valley who are supporting the campaign and eligible cat owners simply find their nearest participating vet by going to www.cats.org.uk/forth-valley-campaign and make an appointment. Cats Protection is also on the prowl for cat loving volunteers to help them help more cats across Forth Valley. For more information on our volunteer roles please contact Sarah Reid on 0797 6432709

Stephen Kerr said:-

"This is a really good campaign and a great opportunity for those that may find the costs involved difficult to manage. This helps with your pets health and means that your much loved moggy can easily be identified should it go missing."



Stephen Kerr MP with Lorna Campbell (Bruceview vets staff) Leigh Johnston and Sarah Reid (Cats Protection)

You can contact Cat Protections **Sarah Reid** on 07976432709 E: Sarah.Reid@cats.org.uk W: www.cats.org.uk

OBITUARY



Thomas McNab Miller
1937 – 2018

Born on 11th March 1937 at Westwood Cottages, the first child to Isa and Jimmy Miller. Tom was brought up there briefly and then for many years at neighbouring Chalmerston Farm, the family was completed with the addition of sister Greta.

Chalmerston would always be 'home' for Tom, a place that gave him the happiest of childhoods. He worked on the farm from a very early age, giving him the foundations to understand and respect farm life, animals and the land. Tom's love at that time was learning to plough the land, "Proper Ploughing" with Clydesdales, winning the Junior Cup in both 1955 and 1956. To date both Cup and Plough still proudly on display at home. In his later years he would always look back at this period with the fondest memories.

In 1942 Tom began his education at Blair Drummond Primary School at Robertson Lane, then subsequently moving on in 1949 to McLaren High School, Callander, with the latter of these being less appealing to Tom. Every day he would cycle from Chalmerston to catch the School Bus at the Nyadd, more often than not hiding until the bus passed and returning to Chalmerston to get on with the real work of the day.

The Blair Drummond Youth Club was the centre of entertainment for the young Tom Miller, along with Tom Bryce, Davie Fotheringham and John McBeath to name a few. Later the socialising highlight was the Friday night dances in the hall at the Old Manse. One night Tom asked a certain young lady to dance, of course she accepted and still maintains to this day, he was the best dancer in the hall.

The two became a couple, and at a service led by Rev Turner at Kincardine in Menteith Church on 3rd June 1961 Tom married Marilyn McAra. A marriage that was to last 57 years, blessed with children Sharon, Mandy and the twins Jim and Iain.

Tom moved away from farming life and started work with Wards of Stirling and most recently until his retirement in 2002 with Carntyne Transport. Some may remember his 'Malt for Tennents Lager' lorry parked outside the cottage at Burnside.

Tom's love of the land remained with him, passionate about his gardens at both Burnside and Woodside, evidenced by the display of prize leeks, onions and a vast array of flowers, which created great rivalry in the local cottage garden competition. He was a 'well kent face' in most horticultural societies throughout the area, as Chairman of the Thornhill Gardening Club, also judging at many of the local gardening and flower shows.

Tom and Marilyn retired to their new home in Broomridge, Stirling in 2008. Shortly after Tom started suffering from Dementia, as his health deteriorated he relived his memories of a familiar time and place at his beloved Chalmerston. Sadly Tom died on 23rd November 2018. His funeral service was held at Kincardine in Menteith Church on 4th December 2018.

Jim Miller

DEATH

It is with regret and sadness that we announce that Dr Philip Rose passed away on Monday 22nd April.

Doune Health Centre

Blair Drummond Blethers

As we head towards our birthday, we ask ourselves, where does the time go?! In May, we will be into our 7th year of fun and friendships.

February's session of gentle exercises led by Judith Graham was a success with everyone, and demonstrated how easy it is to keep moving, without climbing mountains.

March was the usual riot of competitiveness and laughs, whilst we all tried our best to be the one to call "Beetle" for each round! But at least everyone went home with an Easter egg, even if they did not win the day.



The prize winners at the recent beetle drive

April was a Chat Afternoon, with 47 people enjoying their soup and sandwiches while catching up with friends and neighbours.

For our May meeting we are having a Quiz Afternoon. Not at the Mastermind level for sure, but time for us to check our memory bank of facts, useful or otherwise.

In June we will have Wendy Pizey, Head Gardener for Gargunnock House, giving a talk about the house and garden.

And July's meeting will be another Chat Afternoon. We need time for chat, always!

So please come and join us at Blair Drummond Hall, if you are over 50 years and live in Blair Drummond or surrounding areas. We meet on the last Monday of the month, between 12 o'clock and 2pm. You will be very welcome.

Christine Bauer

COMMUNITY POLICE REPORT

Road Safety

On 26/03/19 there was a road collision involving 3 vehicles on the A84 with the junction of A873. The road was closed for a couple of hours. 1 driver has been reported to the Procurator Fiscal.

On 27/03/19 there was a road collision on the A84 near to Meldrum Farm involving 1 vehicle.

On 30/03/19 there was a road collision involving a car and motorbike on the A84 near to Blair Drummond Safari Park. The road was closed for a short period of time.

On 15/04/19 there was a road collision involving 3 vehicles on the A84 just south of Blair Drummond Safari Park.

It is noted that the dip/defect in the road on A84 near to Blair Drummond Safari Park has been repaired.

Community Engagement and Reassurance

Operation Monarda

On 17th and 18th April PC McKerracher and PC Deans were out in the Trossachs and Teith area in relation to Operation Monarda. This was an operation regarding Door Step Crime and bogus worker type crimes. We were handing out leaflets and offering advice in relation to these types of crimes. We also carried out pro-active patrols paying attention to Commercial Vehicles travelling in the local area. These types of crimes continue to occur throughout the Forth Valley area and we would ask local residents to remain vigilant and to report any suspicious activity.

Livestock worrying

Recently police have received calls in relation to dogs worrying/attacking sheep in the Trossachs and Teith area.

- Never let your dog worry or attack farm animals;
- Don't take your dog into fields where there are lambs, calves or other young farm animals;
- If you go into a field of farm animals, keep your dog(s) on a short lead or close at heel and keep as far as possible from the animals;
- If cattle react aggressively and move towards you, keep calm and take the shortest, safest route out of the field.

MOBILE POLICE OFFICE

We will be in the mobile Police Office in Main Street, Thornhill between 12.30 and 1.30pm on Wednesday 15th May 2019. 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

PC 237 Colin McKerracher

KINCARDINE IN MENTEITH PRIMARY SCHOOL



P1/2 have been learning all about castles. We learned about what happens when people attacked castles. We found out that they launched dead animals into the castles to spread diseases. We made our own swords and shields. We worked in groups to design and make our own castles. We made them out of cardboard and painted them. We also made our own catapults that actually worked, these were known as trebuchets. We went on a trip to Stirling Castle, we found a golden unicorn that could make your wishes come true. King Alexander who used to live in the castle had a pet lion, we saw where it used to live and we could see scratches on the walls! We visited the kitchens and in the kitchens there was lots of food and the characters moved and talked. We

visited the jail and lay down on the beds – they were very uncomfortable. To finish our topic we planned a medieval feast. We created a menu and decided what we were going to eat. We made the sandwiches all by ourselves and chopped up the fruit. The plates were made out of bread so we were able to eat the plates too!

P3-7 have been learning about the Scottish Wars of Independence. First we learnt about King Alexander who fell off a cliff on his way home to see his wife Yolanda. Next in line for the throne was the maid of Norway who was only 3 years old. She set sail to Scotland age 10, but sadly died on her way near Orkney. There were then 13 men who could have been king. But the King of England, Edward the First came up to Scotland to decide the right king. He chose John Balliol who was later known as the Puppet King because he did everything King Edward wanted him to do until he signed a treaty with France. Edward stripped Balliol of his crown and sent him away, he was then known as The Toon Tabard – which meant the empty coat! King Edward made all the Scottish nobles sign the Ragman Rolls which meant they had to be loyal to England and the King of England.



Then William Wallace, who was not a noble, teamed up with Andrew Moray and started to fight against the English. His biggest battle was at Stirling Bridge which he won. He then lost a battle at Falkirk. Edward wanted Wallace dead. He was caught and tried for treason which Wallace said he couldn't be since he didn't sign the Ragman Rolls. He was still found guilty and was hung, drawn and quartered. His head was sent to London Bridge on a spike and his arm sent to Stirling to warn others not to disobey the English. We then learnt all about Robert the Bruce and the part he played in the Wars of Independence. We went on a trip to The Bannockburn Heritage Museum. It was brilliant. We enjoy the 3D part and taking part in the interactive battle. We had a great time trying on different types of armour. The chain mail was very heavy.

Written by The Press Gang

SCHOOL FUNDRAISERS

Well done to the 6 competitors who took on the Stirling Marathon or Half Marathon on Sunday 28th April to raise funds for Kincardine In Menteith Primary and also the 1 runner, Alice Struthers, who was raising funds for Port of Menteith Primary. Their times were as follows:

Marathon

Clinton Main 4:54:30

Half Marathon

Elizabeth Muir 2:16:10

Natalie Hammond 1:58:06

Alison Rowsell 2:10.51 (Natalie's mum)

Sarah Peddle 1:53:57 (Natalie's sister in law)

Katharine Armstrong 2:01:20 (Natalie's sister)

Alice Struthers 2:14:02 - running for Port Of Menteith.

The team in yellow had a collective fundraising page all going to Kincardine in Menteith. Liz and Clinton had their own fundraising pages also for Kincardine In Menteith.



Sarah, Clinton, Natalie, Alice and Elizabeth

No final number for funds raised yet, but based on what we know they raised over £6000 for the 2 local rural schools.

Lisa Main

DANCE LESSONS

When you're watching Strictly Come Dancing and thinking I would like to be able to dance like that - **well you can!** Come along to Blair Drummond Hall on a Monday and Thursday evening and join Mary in her fun dance class and in no time you will be gliding round the hall with a Viennese Waltz or strutting across the dance floor with a Tango!

Contact alldance@costep.co or phone Mary 07513046016.

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 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.

Classes are running on a Wednesday morning at Blair Drummond Hall. To find out more details about the classes please contact Judith at Judith@activeinretirement.co.uk or call 07734849257.

CAMPBILL BLAIR DRUMMOND



Edrington Volunteer Event

It was a privilege to welcome 60 employees from Edrington to Camphill Blair Drummond on 20th March. The team volunteered to help with four major projects on our estate including planting 100 trees, building a fruit cage and painting our garden workshops.

Our community will benefit enormously from the support received from all at Edrington. The improvements to our gardens will provide new opportunities for the people involved in the life and work of our community, helping all to realise their full potential.

Edrington is a privately owned international spirits company based in Scotland. It produces single malts The Macallan, Highland Park and The Glenrothes, and The Famous Grouse blended Scotch whisky.

Not only did Edrington work with us on the projects they also helped to fund them.

Kristi Ferguson, Administrator

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 33 should be submitted by **31st July 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**