

Issue 37

## The Grapevine

August 2020

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

### RHET News



Katie Brisbane and her team of Kiltwalkers raised a brilliant £1250 for RHET Forth Valley. Everyone really enjoyed the 1000 miles in 3 days challenge, for the Dundee virtual Kiltwalk.

The challenge involved 10 team leaders each walking 100 miles, they co-opted friends and family to donate not only funds but also miles to achieve the aim. The Hunter Foundation then doubled the money raised

for each charity. All in all the girls accumulated an incredible 2260 miles and raised over £18,000 for 5 Scottish charities.



RHET has continued to offer amazing on line resources, teacher training and support, for the schools starting back in August. Visit [www.rhet.org.uk](http://www.rhet.org.uk) to find out more.

If you have been inspired to raise funds for a charity, how about doing your own virtual Kiltwalk weekend challenge in September 11<sup>th</sup> -13<sup>th</sup>. Go to [www.thekiltwalk.co.uk](http://www.thekiltwalk.co.uk) for more info.

**Katie Brisbane**  
**Project Co-ordinator, RHET Forth Valley**

## **Youth Club**

Like so many groups that use our local hall for our meetings, we had to close Youth Club earlier than expected back in March. Usually we would be thinking of starting up again for the 2020/2021 session in October but at the moment this is on hold til we get further guidance from the Scottish Government and Youth Scotland.

We hope all our members and future members are well and we hope to resume “normal service” as soon as we are able.



## Life at Briarlands



We may have been closed to the public for 3 months but we certainly were not idle during this time. We made the most of not having any customers and painted everything that could be painted, renewed fences, built new animal enclosures....the list goes on! One major piece of construction was our new climbing monster "Bessie".

Bessie started life as 2 giant wheels which were used on the set of the Netflix film 'Outlaw King' as a huge trebuchet. Colin 'our handyman' has worked his magic and transformed them into our version of the Loch Ness Monster, for the kids to play on.



We re-opened our doors to the public on the 6<sup>th</sup> July. We have worked hard to ensure the safety of both our staff and customers and have introduced new hand washing and sanitising facilities, as well as a one-way system within the building. The main difference now, is that everyone has to have pre-booked, so we have contact details for them to track and trace if necessary and we can limit our daily number of visitors. After a few initial teething problems, this has been going well and we have been sold out most days. We are looking forward to being able to get the inside café area open and we plan to do this after the schools return in mid-August, and hopefully we will be able to re-open the soft play frame in mid-September, all being well.

During lockdown we operated a Strawberry stall from outside the building to sell our strawberries. This worked really well and we thank all who came along to support us by buying our fruit. We were joined on this 'doorstep' stall by Fallen Tree Coffee Truck who provided everyone with

their caffeine fix and it was a pleasure to be able to help out another local small business during these strange times.



We are glad to be getting back to a new 'normal' and are looking forward to the future.

**Mary Inglis**

## **Stirling District Citizens Advice Bureau**

If you need advice, information or guidance, Stirling District Citizens Advice Bureau is here for you.

Visit the Citizens Advice website for detailed information on a wide range of topics, including guidance on benefits, debt, money, work, housing and much more.

([www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland](http://www.citizensadvice.org.uk/scotland))

Continued temporary suspension of face-to-face advice

Whilst our face-to-face service remains temporarily suspended, Stirling Citizens Advice Bureau continues to offer comprehensive advice via telephone and email.

If you require advice please contact:

Tel: 01786 470239 or 01786 451225, available 10–3pm Monday to Thursday

Or email: [sessionsupervisor@stirlingcab.casonline.org.uk](mailto:sessionsupervisor@stirlingcab.casonline.org.uk)

**Maggie Magor**

**Outreach Worker, Stirling Citizens Advice Bureau**

## Obituaries



**Marjorie Muirhead Bryce**  
**1935 – 2020**

Marjorie Muirhead Young was born on the 5th December 1935, to Robert and Jean at Powbridge Farm, Airth, a little sister to Helen and William and ten years later she became big sister, to Alistair.

Powbridge was a bustling home with Marjorie's parents being a sociable couple - keen travellers, curlers and avid bridge players. Their extrovert personalities and lifestyle was instilled in Marjorie from a young age.

Marjorie's education was split between junior school in Stirling and then The Beacon in Bridge of Allan, where she forged life-long friendships.

On finishing her schooling, she attended secretarial school and took up her first job as secretary to the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders Regiment, with her office being at Stirling Castle.

With changes on the farm, she returned home to work. During this time, she attended 'Dough' School in Glasgow, where she trained in all aspects of household management – cooking, baking, entertaining and sewing (which was never her forte). Unlike many of her friends, Marjorie's day didn't start at 8 am when she caught the train, her day started with her farm chores, milking and responsibility for the dairy - she loved her cows and took great pride in the dairy.

Marjorie was a keen member of the Young Farmers where she participated in all aspects of the club events including drama and baking and she loved donning her glad rags and going dancing at the weekend. Her claim to fame was being runner up in the Miss West Area beauty pageant in 1953.

In 1954 she met Thomas Kinross Bryce, Tommy, at a Young Farmers dance, a dashing young farmer from the Carse of Stirling who loved fast cars and showing cattle. Their relationship blossomed and in 1956 they were engaged. Marjorie anticipated a short engagement, however a date was arranged eventually to coincide with a member of the Bryce family returning home from South Africa for Christmas, and with only three months' notice they married on the 19th December 1962.

They honeymooned in England with Tommy's relations in Suffolk. The Big Freeze hit Britain on the 27th and they faced a horrendous drive back North when they took two days to cross the A66, due to the awful snow drifts.

They set up home at Chalmerston, with both Tommy and his sister Betty being heavily involved in the pedigree cattle world. Marjorie was responsible for organising endless lunches, afternoon teas and evening meals associated with this aspect of the farming business. Pancakes and scones would be flying off the girdle as visitors viewed the stock, the dining table would be set with the best china and silver cutlery, Marjorie would quickly change, ready to greet the guests at the front door with her radiant smile and welcoming demeanour.

In 1965 Lorna was born, and with Robert arriving in 1969 their family was complete. Marjorie ensured they were given every opportunity in life - swimming lessons, tennis, riding and golf. She embraced Robert's love of stock and having participated in the endless show circuits with Tommy for years, she supported and encouraged Robert from a very young age, to

show his sheep. Up at the crack of dawn with packed lunches made ready for another long day, standing by the show ring.

As the children were growing up Marjorie strived to instil good manners, respect and politeness in them, her major concern was the incessant use of bad language. This was an on-going problem, not easily addressed as Tommy, Betty and the farm worker used these adjectives on a regular basis. Marjorie was not going to be beaten, initially she tried bribery, a sweetie if they managed a whole day without a sweary word, this proved unsuccessful, she then resorted to a spoonful of mustard on their tongues if they were caught mouthing profanities, sadly this was also unsuccessful – as recently as Christmas 2019, while relaying this story, she admitted defeat!

In 1995 when first diagnosed with cancer, Marjorie decided that she was going to attend everything she was asked to – she would tell anyone in the same situation as herself, that sitting at home over-thinking only resulted in molehills become mountains.

With the support of her brother and sister-in-law, she sampled the jet set lifestyle of cruising and enjoyed the experience immensely. On a daily basis her life was fulfilled with the support of her friends and for their social outings she would apply her fake tan, her makeup and the obligatory lippy and meet up with them for morning coffees and lunches. She still enjoyed entertaining at home on a regular basis – dinner parties for six guests were often incorporated into her weekly agenda. Normally on a Saturday, after having been to have her hair done by Louise at 8 am and Golden Girls lunch at Airth Castle, she would rush home to set the table and start to cook for her guests arriving at 6.30 pm. We often wondered how she found the energy to fit so much into one day.

In later years she was happiest at home in the evenings watching television in front of the fire with Tommy. He would tolerate her soaps, while she would not so quietly tolerate the Sky Sports channels and Question of Sport. Her jet setting was curtailed to holidaying with Marcus, Lorna and the family in Shapinsay three times a year with Tommy and Betty, where Marjorie played cards every night with the family and re-charged her batteries, before heading back South to participate in her hectic social calendar for the next few months.

She took great pleasure in watching her granddaughters grow up, Rebecca and Amy brought her great joy and often sleepless nights when they became of age to drive! She enjoyed hearing of their antics following their nights out and loved going to their concerts and Talent Spot competitions with Robert and Lynne. She worried about Rebecca



going to Aberdeen but looked forward to her coming home for the weekend, so that she could catch up on all her news.

When Tommy passed in 2018, she had the continued support of Betty on a daily basis, they had their coffee together every morning, but again her good friends came to the fore, her bridge playing increased but more often the players would come to Chalmerston, to save Marjorie having to go out in the evenings. Church on a Sunday involved leaving the house at 9 am picking up her friends, church, followed by coffee at Briarlands, dropping them all home and heading off to visit a friend in the retirement home at Dunblane – returning home around 3 pm – another full day under her belt.

Marjorie had the ability of finding something good in everyone, she was compassionate, always looking for a way to help someone less fortunate, she was tolerant of everyone – treat others as you would like them to treat you.

What legacy has she left the family? They would all agree she was of a “pull up your big girl/boy pants and get on with it” attitude, her motto was “least said easiest mended”. Every day she would say “put on your lippy and your smile and face another day. Don’t be satisfied with life – live it to the full!”

### **Irene Shanks Blair (nee Reid)** **1933 – 2020**

Born and brought up in Croftfoot, Glasgow, Irene was an only child and lived there until marrying Ian Blair (deceased) and started a new life as a farmer’s wife at Woodlane, Blair Drummond. This was a very different life from that of a hairdresser in Glasgow.

She adapted well to farming life and a country lifestyle, attending the Woman's Guild and Kincardine in Menteith Church.

Ian and Irene were blessed with 2 daughters, Aileen and Janice. Family life at Woodlane was always busy, with Irene doing farmhouse Dinner, Bed & Breakfast in the summer, whilst also helping out in the hay field. She enjoyed having everyone at Woodlane and loved when friends and family visited.

Attending the local agricultural shows was a huge part of life at Woodlane, as Ian's hobby was to show Commercial Cattle. This hobby extended to successfully showing at the Royal Highland show and the Winter Fair.



Irene also continued with her hairdressing career, doing friends hair at home, or going to the villages of Thornhill and Gargunnock, also going to Watson House Care home for the elderly. She was described by friends as more than just their hairdresser, she was a very good friend and brightened up their day, getting shopping and bringing along treats.

The Church became a huge part of Irene's life in Blair Drummond, where she would attend weekly church services. She also served for a number of years on the Kirk Session, helping organise numerous fundraising events. Her thirty plus years as the Sunday School teacher brought her much joy, organising many outings to Crieff Park, the pantomime at Perth Theatre and latterly the Macrobert, not to mention the annual Christmas Party. In December 1980 the highlight was a visit from a baby lion cub, courtesy of the Safari Park.



When Ian sadly passed in December 1991, Irene eventually moved to Stirling, where she enjoyed her retirement, continuing to do a little hairdressing and carried on with her love of making Decoupage pictures. She kept in touch with her many friends until her health deteriorated following a number of strokes and latterly she resided in Randolph Hill Nursing Home, Dunblane, where she was very well cared for and much loved by all the staff. She continued to keep her hairdressing skills alive by keeping them right about their hairstyles and the colours which suited them. The highlight of her day was the regular visits from family and friends.

Sadly Irene passed away on 25th June 2020, with a private burial being held at Kilmadock Cemetery on 8th July 2020.

## Farming News

How we all wish for that lovely April/May weather now, we are now into October on the annual rainfall front, the saving grace is when it's not raining we are getting more sun and drying winds. At Westwood Lane like most of the Carse of Stirling farmers, we have finished the hay. We are grateful the yield is back on last year, as demand is slow, we have room to get the hay into the sheds and hopefully sell it over the winter. You may have also noticed that the harvest has started, the winter barley has been cut, this is feeding for cattle during the winter. I am afraid the tractor and combines activity will continue, as the great spring and abundance of sunshine means the spring crops of barley and oats will follow on quickly behind the winter wheat.

Please be considerate on the road when you meet these big machines, especially if you are on bikes. It is scary for farmers when bikes use the machines as wind breaks, or do not stop to allow them to pass, there are many blind spots that could cause serious accidents. I will also apologise in advance for the moving of stones, pots and bins on the roadside, Chalmerston Road is too narrow for these ever-growing big machines.

The last point to make during this busy time in the fields is, please ensure your cats and dogs are safe when the machines are in fields. Cats in particular love to hunt in the standing crop and we can't see them until it's too late. On a lighter note if your green fingers have been busy and you now have too much, please use the "what's app" to punt or swap produce. I am definitely going to have excess apples and pears come October. Please let me know if you want to be added to neighbours WhatsApp. **Katie Brisbane** 07957689782.

### **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	£6.50 for hardwood
Small bags	£5.50 for softwood

Contact: **Michael McKinstry**

**Tel: 01786 841728    Mob: 07955 124057**

## Safari Park

We were delighted to have been able to re-open the Safari Park on the 29<sup>th</sup> June and we've had a busy month, putting measures in around the Park to keep visitors and employees safe and healthy during this time.



Anyone who has visited the Safari Park recently will have noticed a few changes –

including lots of hand sanitisers, self-service hygiene points and a new one-way system. We have introduced a limit on the numbers of visitors allowed into the Park each day (capped at around 1/3 capacity), and we have a staggered entry time to minimise queuing on arrival. The biggest change has been our new ticketing system and we'd like to remind everyone (including our members) that they now need to pre-book their tickets online in advance of their trip.

As there's a high demand, we have extended our opening hours and until mid-August we'll be open until 7pm every evening, and 9pm on Saturdays. This has allowed us to release more tickets (including an additional allocation for members) which are now available via the website.

We've signed up for the UK government's Eat Out to Help Out scheme, which means you could save up to £10 per person, if you eat in our Food Court, Mon-Wed throughout August.

Plus, we're also running special Members' Evenings, which offer exclusive access to members and the opportunity for them to bring guests for free. Our next Members Evenings take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> September.

Finally, our most exciting news flash... the Safari Park will remain open until December this year, giving everyone the chance to pay us a visit. Look out for more information on this later in the month.

**Liz Gunn**

**Marketing Manager, Blair Drummond Safari Park**

## Births



Congratulations to Ailsa (nee Cullens) and Alastair Stevenson currently residing at Orchardhead, Cuthill Brae, who welcomed their little boy Alfred James Stevenson (Freddie for short) on 19<sup>th</sup> May, weighing 8lb15oz.



Hamish Cullens (formerly of Orchardhead, Cuthill Brae) and Sarah Rose are delighted to announce the arrival of Rosie Cullens. Rosie was born on 18th June 2020, weighing 6lb exactly.





Niamh and Thomas Heald of Carrat Cottages, Ochertyre Road, are delighted to announce the birth of Saoirse Rose Heald, born on 25th June weighing 8lb 12oz.

## **Near Me Scotland**

We are sharing the link to a new resource in Scotland called Near Me. Near Me is a video consulting service, that enables people to have health and social care appointments from home or wherever is convenient. All you need is a device for making video calls, like a smartphone and an internet connection. Near Me is a secure form of video consulting approved for use by the Scottish Government and NHS Scotland. For more information please see the Near Me website: <https://www.nearme.scot/>

**Kelly Tulloch**  
**Administrator, Healthcare Improvement Scotland**  
**Community Engagement**  
[kelly.tulloch@nhs.net](mailto:kelly.tulloch@nhs.net)

## **Blair Drummond Blethers**

Hello to all the folks who are part of the Blethers network. We hope this finds you and yours in good health?

We have been going through the most extraordinary of day to day living these past five months and thankfully are now beginning to come into calmer waters.

Sadly, until Scottish health experts guidance assures us that its safe to meet again in our community hall, to mix and mingle and enjoy our lunches, we must continue to keep our distance. The majority of our membership comes within the more 'mature' age group, and are therefore vulnerable, so we will keep our distance for a while longer.

All the people who were going to come along to entertain us have said they will be happy to do so in the future. And the activities planned have been put on hold too.

Keep an eye on the Blair Drummond Hall website, or Facebook, or Stirling Observer, where we will be sure to put notices of the intended restart date, sometime in the future. So meantime, please take care and stay safe.

**Christine Bauer**

### **Update from Martin Earl, Cllr for Trossachs & Teith Ward**

Stirling Council held a virtual full council meeting on 30 June, before the Summer recess. Meetings will resume again in late August. The main report on the agenda was the controversial changes to bin collections. For the record, I voted against them for many reasons that I would be very happy to explain, should anyone wish to get in touch. I also remain extremely concerned that the way this was done, without any prior consultation, will have serious and long term consequences on people's willingness to engage in the future. Other important reports provided an update on the Council's response to the Covid19 crisis and the evolving financial impact. In late September or early October there will be a fully revised budget, presented for agreement to a Council meeting. This will be significant and is one to watch out for given the potential impact in a range of service areas.

The Education Service is working on a full return to school from August 11<sup>th</sup>. They are also able to offer the full 1140 hours of nursery provision to entitled children. This may not be always the ideal arrangement needed

by all parents due to restrictions still in place. As we progress with the easing of these this should improve.

We will all have noticed the number of roadworks that have been taking place. This is likely to become even more evident as Road Authorities attempt to catch up on the backlog created during the past few months. At a time when our businesses are desperate to trade, it is even more important that the impact closures or delays can have are properly considered. However, I am delighted that the badly needed resurfacing for sections of the Kirk Lane has been confirmed and will take place in this financial year.

There is a continuing problem with the use of the glass recycling bins at the Community Hall. They fill up extremely quickly and people leave excess bottles and other waste piled up around them. They are in an easily accessible location off a main trunk road and many people use it as they are passing. Given their location, the Council needs to make more regular uplifts, to prevent the mess accumulating right in front of the hall.

## **Maggi's Story**



I cancelled my schooling because I wanted to see the world and I felt that it was time to go out and gain some experience. I decided to go to a community with disabled people because I had good experience already at a Camphill community elsewhere. I was interested to see Scotland and so I arrived in October 2019, I was 17 years old.

I moved into a room in this amazing Camphill Blair Drummond Castle and started to work in Garden House. There were six residents living there. In the months up until Christmas it was an amazing time in the workshops, with all the Advent and Christmas projects and the many visits to Scottish Pantomimes and restaurants. During this time we co-workers were a close-knit group and my house became my second family. I felt so included in this big Community. The advent time until Christmas was, for me, a time for hope, peace, joy and love.

Then Spring came along but, for me, not with sunshine and happiness, but with the Corona virus, which was the biggest topic at the time. It was rumoured that co-workers would have to go back to their countries, but in the end it was our own decision to make and I didn't have second thoughts about going back to Germany. There was no reason to go back

and I felt that everyone here had greater needs. A lot of friends decided, with legitimate reasons, to go back to their home countries and in this difficult time, especially for the residents, we all had to say goodbye to the co-workers who decided to leave and who were now friends.

At this time our morning gatherings in some of the houses stopped and every week there were changes which we didn't have the chance to prepare the residents for. The morning gatherings were cancelled and the Day Services closed. A week later the workshops were closed and we got new staff in the houses. We had to do social distancing so we couldn't have meals together anymore and a house was closed, so that we had an isolation house for the worst cases. Every house got one or two new residents. Every day we had new rules and some things are changing and we don't know for how long, so we can't tell the residents when we can go back to normal and what after this time will be normal?

I have the feeling we can manage and that we are as good as is possible, prepared for whatever. I am surprised how well the residents are doing because not all of them can understand the situation, why we can't hug each other anymore, or why we have no workshops and why they can't go home. I never thought that my volunteer year will be like this but actually I enjoy it so much I have decided to stay longer because if I go back in August I don't feel that I will have finished my time here and I want to support the residents back to their normal routines.

**Magdalena Briesch**

## **Chardon's Story**

I am Chardon Nguyen, a co-worker from Vietnam. Let me tell you about how I am getting on so far in Camphill Blair Drummond (CBD). First of all, I would like to tell you of my very first steps on the CBD journey. This was in March last year when I decided to go to CBD. It took me almost 10 months for my application and visa for the UK to go through. It then took me nearly 29 hours to travel from my hometown in Vietnam to CBD. I think that right now you are wondering what motivated me to go through such a long journey, moreover, what encourages me to stay here, during these very difficult times instead of returning home?

I worked in an Art and Craft school for children in Vietnam before I applied to volunteer in CBD. Apart from the normal business of the school, I wish to establish a non-profit project, named Heart Arts, to use arts as a form of soul nourishing for children living in poverty and as a



therapy for children with autism. Therefore, learning that Scotland is a cradle of Camphill movement and what these Camphill communities do to support their residents, I submitted my application when I got to know CBD was recruiting international volunteers. Before coming to CBD, I visited their website to gain a better picture of how the community would support my voluntary role there. When I actually started to work, I realized that this place is definitely where I should spend a full year.

Like other co-workers, my role in CBD is to support the residents in daily life and spend time with them in workshops. In my definition, CBD is a place where love never ends and where no one is left behind. CBD is a community where all the people help one another, no matter who they are. I must say that not only do I learn from the staff and other co-workers, but I do also learn a lot from the residents, especially the unconditional love they have for others.

As I had some experience in the Art and Craft school before, I love making handmade decorations with the residents and this is how we are



together getting through the lockdown. Their facial expressions, their eyes opening in surprise, and how they love the handmade items we make together, make me believe that arts as a therapy can heal the soul for everybody. I still remember the time I painted a rainbow on my house doors. It was a rainy afternoon, the sky was so grey and there was a resident in another house looking at me doing the artwork. He patiently stood by the window in his house seeing a rainbow gradually appear on such a cold

day. This made me believe that the lockdown is like rain, it will be gone and a rainbow will come, if we do not give up hope. The more I spend time with them, the more I know about the residents stories and the more I get to know the more I realise they deserve to have more. I read an article about people with learning disabilities, it said social distancing is not a new experience for them, they are familiar with that since they have disabilities. This is when I determined to stay here, together we will overcome this situation. My country is currently controlling the virus with just more than 50 cases being treated in hospitals and zero death recorded. It is a safe place to return to, but as I said above, the residents taught me what unconditional love is. They cannot go home to visit their families, they cannot go out at weekends to other places, they cannot meet their friends from Day Services and other houses, so this is when they need us co-workers more than ever. We are taking this time as a

chance to do more physical exercise and craft activities. Therefore, the residents can have a healthy body and mind. As I also want to do more for them, this is the time for me to do so because I have more time than before.

For my personal life in CBD, I want to go out because when I first came here I struggled a lot with the cold weather and simply could not go out. When it became warmer and I had settled in for a completely different life in Scotland, it was lockdown, so I have never had a chance to visit my new hometown of Stirling. But let's look at a positive side of the situation, as I have never been to these places I cannot really miss them and so I find it not too hard to stay at home. Luckily, CBD is located in a very peaceful place near a pinewood, rapeseed fields, lake and river, what else I could ask for? My parents taught me that if I cannot change the situation, try to live with it. Hence, as we all need to do social distancing, I try to follow a healthy routine at home. I wake up early in the morning, go for a walk while listening to the birds singing, watch the sun coming up, and breathe the fresh air. On my walk, I stop at several places and take some photographs, as I have taken up photography as a new hobby, or I write my diary about what I have done these days, especially what I think and how I feel, so that I can remember how I spend my year in CBD later on. This pandemic situation gets me to live slowly, to think more about my life and how to make it more meaningful. There is a song in Vietnamese I listen to these days, it says that if everybody chooses to do easy jobs, who will take the difficult ones? We are all thankful for the NHS and other people in the frontline risking their lives to protect us, so I know that I am going on the right path so far, and the orientation for my future career is also a good choice. There is one saying that encourages me to do voluntary works for more than 6 years "Volunteers are unpaid, not because they are worthless but because they are priceless".

It has been nearly 3 months since I came to CBD. This is a place I will miss so badly when I return home and no matter how carefully I pack my luggage, there will be one thing for sure I forget to take home, that is a part of my heart. For the CBD community is not just a workplace, it is a home, with my family living there.

"Land of a silver birch... Blue lakes and rocky shores I will return once more..."

**Chardon Minh Nguyen**

## Red Kite Nursery

It is with deep sadness that I send you our last Article:

"Red Kite will be closing its doors, after 48 years of Childcare and Education for the Kilmadock Community.

All potential re-opening scenarios within the Covid pandemic necessitate increased staffing that we cannot afford.

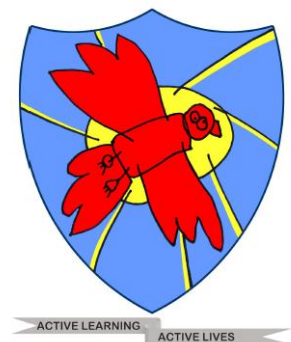
The Nursery runs as a Not for Profit Charity organisation, and our current qualified staff team are all paid significantly less than their public sector equivalents. Even so we struggle to balance the costs of staff, rent, insurance and resources against our sole income of Government Funding.

As readers may re-call we were moved from the 3 upstairs rooms last August, as the Council deemed them no longer compliant with Health and Safety regulations - we were swiftly re-housed in the old Kitchen - which was re-floored and re-fitted. We were then able to rent sole use of the kitchen, whilst the rest of the Building - Hall, upstairs kitchen etc., remained accessible for the entire community to use. This new Kitchen area will now be included in Stirling Council's scoping measures as they determine School and OSC capacity for August 2020.

We are very sad to be saying goodbye to our 16 families under these circumstances and in this manner, despite the wonders of technology a Zoom wave can never replace a hug!

Thank you to all our families past and present for their support and warmth, we have loved being a part of your children's lives."

**Tracey Stewart**  
**Manager**  
**Red Kite Community Nursery**  
Tel: 01786 841752



## Thornhill & Blair Drummond Community Council

Contact details: [ThornhillBlairdrummondCC@gmail.com](mailto:ThornhillBlairdrummondCC@gmail.com)

Report an issue: [www.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.stirling.gov.uk)

## **Doune Health Centre**

### **Tick Time**

Many patients have been enquiring about tick bites. This is certainly the season for ticks and with such a mild winter the experts tell us there will be a lot of them about this year which sadly increases the risk of Lyme disease.

Tick bites are often harmless but some cause allergic reactions too.

Ticks are attracted to people and their four-legged pets and can move easily between the two.

The bites are usually painless, and people are often unaware they have been bitten.

Ticks are found mainly in woodlands and heathlands but also in parks and gardens.

### **Prevention**

Wear long trousers and tuck them into your socks.

Try and walk in the centre of pathways, away from vegetation.

Carry a tick remover with you on your outings.

Remove the ticks as soon as possible.

Use a repellent. One that contains at least 20 % DEET.

Check for ticks once home. Strip down and examine yourself, especially behind the knees, groins, underarms and in your hair.

Shower within two hours of coming indoors. Showering may help wash off unattached ticks.

### **Tick Removal**

Remove the tick promptly without damaging it.

Use fine tweezers or a tick removal tool. You can buy these from pharmacies, vets, or pet shops.

Grasp the tick as close to the skin as possible.

Pull upwards, take care not to twist, squeeze or crush the tick.

Make sure you have removed all of the tick.

Disinfect the bite site and wash hands.

### **After removal**

Seek medical attention if you fail to remove all the tick yourself.

It is important to see a medical professional if you develop a flu like illness or a rash after a tick bite.

The incubation period for a tick bite rash is usually 3-10 days but it can be up to 30 days. The rash, if it develops, tends to have a red centre with an expanding red or clear circle. It is often described as looking like a bull's eye on a dart board.



Despite what you may have been told, smothering, or burning ticks is not a good idea. Try to avoid applying petroleum jelly or alcohol as this could lead to tick distress and potentially increase the risk of infection. Please remember, not all ticks carry the infection. Be careful and enjoy the outdoors.

**Linda Keay**  
**Practice Nurse**

### **Medical staff changes at the Practice**

#### **Dr C. Jardine**

The Practice has received many enquiries regarding Dr Jardine. We can now inform you that Dr Jardine has decided to retire from the Practice after a period of ill health and has announced that he will formally retire at the end of September this year. At this time we have simply started to plan how best to celebrate his work and dedication and this will be influenced by the phases of the Covid pandemic. In a later edition, we will reflect on the life and times of him as a GP in Doune which started back in October 1991.

#### **Dr Judith McLaughlin**

Dr McLaughlin has been with us since January and we were fortunate that she could cover Dr Jardine's period of sick leave. She leaves the Practice at the end of July.

#### **Dr Anne McKeown**

Dr McKeown joined us last August. Anne has been on the GP Returners scheme which is a programme for doctors who have had a career break. She is now eligible to apply for a GP post and leaves us in July.

#### **Dr Clare Dobson ST1 GP Trainee**

Dr Dobson will be leaving in August after six months and is moving to FVHB for Paediatric training, ST3 or GP Registrar (final year of GP speciality)

#### **Dr Alex Fullbrook ST3**

Many patients will remember Dr Fullbrook when he worked here in 2019. He returns in August for one year.

#### **Dr Gillian Mallagh ST3**

Dr Mallagh returned to the Practice in June following maternity leave. She will be with us until next August.

## COMMUNITY HALL RECYCLING BINS



On several occasions over the past few years the recycling bins situated in the car park of Blair Drummond Community Hall have been left full to overflowing, and indeed a huge number of empty bottles have often been left both loose and in cardboard boxes nearby. Unfortunately once these boxes get wet they just fall apart and make handling even more difficult. People using these recycling facilities may not be aware that council refuse collectors are not obliged to uplift items which are left outwith the bins.

We are aware that the recycling bins are frequently being used by people from outwith Blair Drummond communities especially from Doune, where currently there are no facilities.

All glass, paper and cardboard, and cloth bank items must be left inside the appropriate recycling bin and if the bin is already full then recycling should be taken away with you and not left in the hall car park. Not only is glass that is left lying around a hazard to other car park users, it is also unsightly and detracts from the appearance of the hall itself.

Regarding the cloth recycling bin please note that all clothing etc should be securely tied inside a plastic bag, which is small enough to fit into the chute. **LARGE BLACK REFUSE BAGS ARE TOO BIG!**

The hall committee endeavours to maintain the hall and car park in the best possible condition and we would very much appreciate your co-operation in this matter. Thank you.

**Kate Ingle**

**Chair, Blair Drummond Community Hall Association Committee**

— SERVE UP —  
**SCOTCH LAMB  
FOR  
ST ANDREW'S  
DAY**  
— ON 30TH NOVEMBER —



**#LambForStAndrewsDay**

**Stirling libraries** are once again offering hearing aid batteries, food waste caddy liners and dog waste bags for collection as part of their Select & Collect service. To order contact the library, in advance at Doune Library 01786 841732 or [dounelibrary@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:dounelibrary@stirling.gov.uk) Stirling Library 01786 237760 or [centrallibrary@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:centrallibrary@stirling.gov.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](mailto:bdgrapevine@gmail.com)

Items for Edition 38 should be submitted by **31<sup>st</sup> October 2020**, 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](http://www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk)

Facebook: **Blair Drummond Community Hall**

**Please take a look at our Facebook page for updates on local issues as well as the Joke of the Day.**

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