



Issue 48

The Grapevine

May 2023

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

Blair Drummond Youth Club

After a long break due to Covid restrictions Blair Drummond Youth Club started back in October 2022. We started with approx. 14 members and have enjoyed a great season with lots of fun activities.

We made best use of all the Youth Club facilities at the hall to enjoy some active time playing football, basketball, Uni-hockey, archery and even enjoyed some down-time with board games and chess. There are a lot of games choices in the cupboard, although there are definitely some favourites!



We had a special visit from Brian one of the volunteers from Trossachs Search and Rescue (see *above*) giving CPR training and guidance to the kids. He also brought along his dog Zak and explained Zak's important role in Search and Rescue. Brian told us of how Zak had recently searched a collapsed house in Ayrshire and how important that was to ensure nobody was trapped in the wreckage.

We continue to be supported by Active Stirling who made 2 visits this session to teach us some new sports.

Our seasonal events also kept the kids happy and full of sugar, with a fun time at our Halloween themed evening and enjoying Pancake Tuesday goodies.

We ended the year with an enjoyable outing to Xtreme Combat at Edinburgh where we had some laser tag fun.



The Youth Club funded some of the above equipment and activities by undertaking fundraising at Blair Drummond Christmas Fayre, raising £220 from the bottle stall. Thanks to all who donated and contributed by buying tickets on the night.

We ended the year on a high, but with a sad note, as Lorna Fotheringham has now hung up her Youth Club Leader hat after 10 years. A huge thank you to Lorna for her support to all the members over those 10 years. We are sure she will continue to support and guide our new leaders, Georgie Petrie and Lisa Main, as they find their feet.



Our next session will start in September and we will be sure to share more relevant information for all potential members nearer that time.

Lisa Main, Youth Club leader

Blethers

The daffodils and tulips and are giving us their annual beautiful show, assuring us that Spring is on its way, always welcome!

And speaking of welcome, over the past few meetings of the Blethers, we have welcomed back folks who have been unable, for various reasons, to come along. And we've said 'Hello, come in and join us' to some newcomers. We are always happy to have new members, over the age of 50, from our local communities.



Beetle Drive winners along with Danny

Along with our usual soup and sandwiches lunch, in March we had a fun Beetle Drive, which went along at a fair pace, with volunteer Catherine acting as caller and trying to ensure fair play by all. Danny, a Guide Dog in Training, who came along with his trainer, took the whole thing in his stride, peacefully snoozing despite the hilarity all around.

April brought the Blethers 10th Birthday. In celebration of that Margaret McBeath kindly cut a beautiful birthday cake, for us all to share. Margaret was the very first Blethers volunteer and has continued always to ensure all newcomers are given a warm welcome. The delicious cake (made by Lucy Inglis at Briarlands) was shared with everyone and not a crumb was left!





The Bangers with their prizes

We rounded off the afternoon with a Scottish Quiz (no horrendously difficult questions were included, honestly). Teams names were decided upon by all the tables, and Catherine once more kindly refereed the procedure. Amongst much humour and head scratching, scoring and checking, The Bangers team won, with the Winter Worthies coming second. Folks were amazed by how much they knew and were sometimes flummoxed by the questions they didn't know but thought they should have!

So, after these two months of hilarity, for the next of meeting (last Monday of the month, between 12 – 2pm, at Blair Drummond Community Hall), in May we will have our usual soup and sandwiches and Chat afternoon. And by June and July we will have other activities up our sleeves. We look forward to seeing you.

Christine Bauer

Hair at Home by Rebecca

7 years' experience in all aspects of hairdressing including cutting and colouring. For women, men and children.

Call or text 07341 953801 for appointments
in the comfort of your own home.

KIMPS Primary School

Kincardine in Menteith Primary School have been getting ready for summer this term. We were incredibly lucky as staff from Blair Drummond Safari Park came and replaced some dilapidated planters in the playground with some fabulous new ones, all filled with soil ready to be planted. Our luck continued as Lynsey Cully and her colleagues from SSC Technologies spent a sunny day at the school, clearing the playground and varnishing our new planters and our benches. The playground looks fabulous with planters ready to be filled with flowers, fruit and vegetables.



In readiness to get planting outside, the classes have started sowing some seeds inside. So far we have planted squash, broccoli, tomatoes, cucumbers, onions and sunflowers. We created our own biodegradable pots and in a few weeks the new shoots and pots can be planted straight into the planters. We can't wait to see how our planting progresses over the coming weeks.



Blair Drummond Hall Diary Dates

Monday: Co Step Dance class 7pm alldance@costep.co
Tuesday: Youth Club 7pm to 9pm (*September to April*)
Wednesday: Co Step Dance class 7pm

Monday 29th May: Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches.

Tuesday 13th June: Blair Drummond Hall AGM & Committee meeting. At 7.30pm. All welcome.

Monday 26th June: Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches.

Monday 31st July: Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches.

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

BLAIR DRUMMOND ESTATE

Hardwood Logs	£110/ bag (1m ³)
Hardwood Limbs	£100/pickup load
Softwood Logs	£90/ bag (1m ³)
Softwood Limbs	£80/pickup load
Small bags	£8.50 for hardwood
Small bags	£7.50 for softwood

Small bags available from The Smiddy farm shop

Contact: **Michael McKinstry**

Tel: 01786 841728 Mob: 07955 124057

News from the Safari Park

We're back and better than ever!

It's official, we are open again for the 2023 season! After a busy winter filled with lots of maintenance work, we hope you'll notice some improvements around the park on your next visit. The Bird of Prey arena has had a bit of a facelift, we've replaced the lion viewing platform, our amusement rides have got a new paint job, and we've resurfaced several of our roads and paths. All in all, we're pleased with the way everything is looking.

Senior memberships

We are delighted to announce that we have now begun offering senior memberships. Available for adults who are 60 years old and above, these memberships can be purchased for £50 – the same price as our child membership. As always, members can visit the Park time and time again throughout the season and enjoy some great perks like - exclusive member-only events and 10% off all refreshments, rides and gift-shop purchases.

Spring baby boom at Blair Drummond Safari Park

It's official - the weather has turned a little warmer, the sun is showing his face a little more often, and baby animals are being welcomed into the world - spring is here!

We are fully in the spring spirit, with six new babies being born being born in recent months.



The first babies of the year were two pygmy goat kids named Neeps and Tatties (*left*), born to their mother Betsy on the 25th of January, which is of course Burns Night. Our social media followers helped to name them by voting from a shortlist of Scottish-themed names in honour of our national bard.



Next, another two pygmy goats named Captain Jack Sparrow and Calypso were born. This brother and sister pair were given pirate-themed names because Jack had to wear a cast on one of his legs when he was first born - making him walk like a pirate!



Finally, we welcomed two Valais Blacknose lambs (*above*), known as the "cutest sheep breed in existence." They were named Killian and Kasper by their keepers. Valais Blacknose sheep are famous for their fluffy, almost teddy-bear like appearance. They are also known for their friendly, affectionate natures and are often kept as pets.

All six babies can be found in the Pets Farm section - playing on their very own playground equipment, full of energy and mischief. Visitors are advised to prepare themselves for the potential cuteness overload when they visit Pets Farm. It's always heart-warming to see the new life that spring brings to the animal kingdom, and Blair Drummond Safari Park is no exception.

Jamie-Leigh Green, Communications and Conservation Manager



The RHET Factor & Friends
hosts

"A Musical Meal"

Friday 12th May 6.30pm - 9pm at Briarlands Farm
Come and enjoy a delicious 2 course meal, songs,
musical recitals and laughter

Tickets £20 per person to book please

email rhethorthvalley@gmail.com

All funds raised go to
RHET Forth valley

RHET

The Royal Highland Education Trust

**Forth Valley
Countryside Initiative**

Under 6's free
Limited children spaces
Price includes a 2 course
meal tea and coffee,
BYOB if desired.

"taking the classroom to the countryside"
Charity Number SC032612

RHET News

Please come and enjoy a delicious Briarlands meal and enjoy some great music, singing and more on Friday 12th May 6.30 – 9pm at Briarlands, email rhetforthvalley@gmail.com for tickets £20 per person, all proceeds to RHET Forth Valley.

For the first time ever, I have had to close bookings for Farm Visits and talks, as there are no days left this term. This is due mainly to the GRHET Superhero Snack Attack challenge. RHET Forth Valley secured a grant through The Good Food for All Fund, enabling us to offer a tasting and learning session of the 4 Scottish Superhero grains Oats, Wheat, Barley and Oil Seed Rape. We have been amazed how little pupils know about what is in their snack, but thrilled at how much they gain and enjoy the learning experience. If anyone fancies volunteering a few hours to join us on our tour of Stirling schools, please get in touch with Katie 07738470208 or email forthvalley@rhet.org.uk

Please help us raise bus funds by signing up for a one of Scotland's Kilt Walks, [HERE](#) anything you raise will be topped up 150% by the Hunter Foundation.



****If you would like to support the work we do, please consider joining Stirling Community Lottery, if you choose RHET we will receive 50% of the £1 ticket price, find out how [here](#)*****

For updates on what's happening in Forth Valley follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#)

Discover a range of resources and links to support your food, farming and STEM topics at the [RHET teachers portal](#)

[RHET You Tube Channel for videos on Food, Farming and The Countryside](#)

Katie Brisbane, Project Co-ordinator, RHET Forth Valley

Briarlands Farm

The Easter holidays are behind us and we finally have time to breath! It's been a busy few weeks but it's been wonderful to see everyone visiting us here at Briarlands Farm.

During the Easter holidays we had an Egg Hunt in our Straw Box, a Word Hunt around the park and an Egg Decorating Competition.

Our winners (*pictured right*) have all won an annual membership to the farm so they are able to visit us as often as they like!

We've also had lamb feeding available every day, which is always a hit.

On the 20th & 21st May we will be hosting our annual Tractor Weekend!

This is where you can come and see all the vehicles that make Briarlands special! We'll have an array of tractors and other vehicles out on display for you to see and explore. We'll also have Face Painting available and competitions to enter!

Although on most days we are now happy to accept walk in's – we are asking for bookings only on this weekend!

At roughly the beginning of June our Pick Your Own Strawberries will be available once again.

When available, there is no need to book to go strawberry picking, you can just come along between 11.00am and 4.30pm on days when we are open. Please call to check availability before

making a special journey to pick strawberries though, as sometimes we may need to close if demand outweighs supply.

Briarlands Strawberries are special. Grown in polytunnels on wires which are waist height, they are easy to pick. The advantages of this method are – no aching backs, no slugs or dirty berries and no need to spray for mould. Our strawberries can also be picked whatever the weather – a great advantage here in Scotland!

To keep up to date on our events follow our Facebook page @briarlandsfarm or check out our website www.briarlandsfarm.co.uk

Did you know that when you book tickets online the tickets are 10% cheaper?

To book – simply go to our website and hit the “Book Now” button!



Blair Drummond Hall Update



February's Beetle Drive

As you will see from the contributors in the Grapevine the hall has been busy with a wide range of age groups, in keeping with its aims of improving and enhancing the life of those who live in Blair Drummond.

A doorbell was fitted to improve security and keep us all warm when it is cold weather, so hopefully this will stop the door being left wide open when the hall is in use.

Some maintenance work has been carried out in the area around the car park and some interior painting done inside the hall.

An inventory of the contents of the hall has been updated.

A small subcommittee continues to seek quotations for upgrading the hall heating and lighting with renewable energy and they are in discussion with funders.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday 13th June at 7.30 pm in the hall and all are warmly welcome to attend. The AGM will then be followed by a committee meeting.

Nominations are welcome for new committee members.

Our committee meetings are held 6-8 weekly, except for summer months, and we aim to complete the business within one hour.

What does go on in Blair Drummond Hall?

Some of you may have children and grandchildren that regularly walk down the path from the school to do sports and school celebrations in the hall.

Maybe your youngsters attend the lively Youth group.

Some of you may have family who attend the monthly Blethers lunch group.

Maybe you are a dancer who attends the dancing group.

Maybe you have been at a party in the hall.

Maybe you or your family have attended the Christmas Fayre or other events organised by the hall committee, such as our recent Beetle Drive or Gin Tasting.



Gin Tasting fun

Hopefully you'll enjoy being kept up to date by reading about events in the Grapevine.

The running of the hall and this Grapevine newsletter is totally dependent on volunteers.

The more volunteers we have to help out will reduce the load on everyone.

So do you have any skills or interests that could benefit your community in Blair Drummond?

Do you have computer skills to keep our website updated?

Are you a gardener that could pot up and tend the containers with your spare plants, to cheer up the outside of the hall, or keep them watered over the summer months?

Could you deliver copies of the Grapevine in your locality?

Would you like to support your community and get to know your neighbours, then please get in touch with anything you can offer or suggest. We welcome help so that we can continue to benefit those who live in Blair Drummond. You don't have to become part of the committee to help out but will be most welcome if you do.

Please email bdgrapevine@gmail.com

Alison Coates, Chairperson

Kincardine in Menteith Church

With the falling numbers attending services it has been decided to hold a service first Sunday in the month at 9.30am. However other services will be held through the year for special celebrations in the Christian Calendar e.g. Easter, Christmas etc, which will be held on the appropriate date. Some of these services will be Evening Services at 6.30pm. It has also been decided to hold Evening Services 3rd Sunday of the month - May, July, September, again at 6.30pm and these will have a theme.

Summer Service Dates (all at 9.30am)

7th May (Communion)

4th June

2nd July

6th August

3rd September

Evening Services (all at 6.30pm)

21st May - My Choice of Hymn

16th July - Summer Evening Reflection

17th September - Harvest

For the service on 21st May we are asking for your favourite hymn and why it is your choice. Your choice can be sent to me before 14th May.

A warm welcome awaits you at all these services.

Janette Gilliland, Session Clerk

3F

The 3F group have had an excellent variety of speakers this session, from the Bothy Association, Clydesdale Horse Society, Seafarers Mission, Nurse Lynn Bryce, to making bags from rags. Our last meeting on 30th May is at Briarlands for a Picnic and Entertainment. We look forward to preparing a programme for 23/24, starting on the last Tuesday of September, in Kilmadock Church Doune. If you would like more information and would like to join us please get in touch.

Janette Gilliland

Camphill Blair Drummond

Burns Night



On Wednesday 25th of January our community celebrated Burns Night with a meal and ceilidh. We started the festivities with the haggis being piped in by one of our parents who looked very smart in his kilt. We then enjoyed Robbie Burns poetry before we ate a delicious meal of haggis, neeps and tatties, fruit, biscuits, and cheese

washed down with irn-bru. Most of our international volunteers hadn't tried haggis before and by the look on some of their faces I don't think they will again!!!! We sang songs led by our choir and enjoyed the Address to the Lassies and Reply to the Laddies by Marie and Lennart. After the supper we all enjoyed dancing at the ceilidh.

Valentines Day Celebrations

On Tuesday 14th February our community celebrated Valentine's Day with a special game of 'love themed' bingo and disco. Our bingo callers Andy and Charlene played love songs and everyone had to match the song to the bingo card. Our lucky winners received prizes of big teddies, sweets and love heart photo frames.

After the bingo, residents, students, employees and international volunteers enjoyed a disco in the Drawing Room. A photo booth was set up with 'love themed' props. Much fun was had by all.



Great News!

Get your bike ready!!

Save the date: Saturday, 10 June 2023 - Our Bike Safari fundraising event is back. This is a great opportunity to challenge yourself to cycle or walk around the inside of the Safari Park. Please keep checking our website for more information on this great family event

www.camphillblairdrummond.org.uk

Doune Health Centre

May / June Holiday

The clinic will be closed on Monday 8th May and Monday the 5th June.

Please remember to order your regular prescriptions before the holiday weekend. If you require medical assistance during our closures, please call NHS 111 for Out of Hour's service. If your matter is urgent, please call 999.

Tuesday 17th May Staff Training.

Due to staff training there will be no appointments available in the afternoon on the above date. Please follow the advice as above if you require help.

New trainee doctor



Dr Richard Abbott (*left*) has joined us for 6 months until August. He is an ST1, (Speciality Trainee year 1) which means he is an experienced doctor who has qualified and has now decided to pursue general practice as a career.

He did his medical training in Glasgow.

New receptionist

Suzanne McElfatrick joined the reception team in March on a part time basis. Suzanne lives locally.

Travel advice and vaccination services

Many of you may be planning an overseas trip in the near future and will require travel advice and vaccinations. Sadly we can no longer offer this service, but Forth Valley Immunisation team is available to help.

The easiest way to contact the correct resource is to go online, and search for NHS Forth Valley - Travel Health Service.

This will take you to the information you require and then you can fill in the necessary details on line which takes approx. 5 mins to complete.

A member of the Immunisation team will then reply to you with advice and instructions.

The NHS Immunisation team can supply vaccines that are available on the NHS. These include Tetanus, Diphtheria, Polio, Hepatitis A, Typhoid and Cholera.

They can now offer non NHS vaccines at their centres for a fee. This is a new service.

For more information on non NHS vaccines you can contact a private travel clinic.

The local private travel clinic is called “Gecko Travel clinic.”

Anne Maclean and her team have years of experience and knowledge and will provide a travel health risk assessment for you including vaccinations, anti malarials and travel accessories.

www.geckotravelclinic.co.uk

Mobile :07769172357.

Campbell at the Woodside Pharmacy also has advice on Travel information.

General travel information

Information about countries and vaccinations can be found on the useful link.

www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Masks

Unless exempt, and until further notice, please continue to use a face mask throughout your visit. We provide masks at the reception area if you require one.

Repeat prescriptions

Unfortunately we are not able to accept repeat prescriptions over the phone, as our phone lines are increasingly busy. This helps us with our aim to answer all calls efficiently.

There are a few other ways to order prescriptions:

Email: fv.gp25224dounadm@nhs.scot

Hand in paper copy of repeat prescription request form to the local pharmacy or health centre post box.

Use an App called Patient Access – ask reception for more details.

We thank you for your cooperation.

Newsletter

NHS 24 Online

Download the free NHS 24 Online app to find your nearest services, to assess your symptoms and to get virtual assistance.

The App is compatible with both [Android](#) and [iOS](#) devices.

The App allows you to find appropriate self-care and health services so you can access the right care, at the right place.

The programme allows you to get answers to questions and find out how to get further advice on various ailments and what to do next.

There is also a chatbot function to answer questions on a wide range of topics, as well as Self-help guides for both physical and mental conditions, where to find Local support and Scotland's Health Service directory.

Spring Covid vaccination programme

The latest programme started in April and is being offered to Over 75 years, residents in Care homes, house bound, and those aged 5-74 years with a weakened immune system. The vaccines will be administered at local community vaccination clinics. Our patients will be invited to Stirling Health and care village.

Local information is available at www.nhsforthvalley.com/covidvaccine

Alternatively Campbell at the local Woodside Pharmacy will be administering Covid vaccines too and you can contact Woodside Pharmacy directly for an appointment if you prefer.

Open access X-Rays

A few months ago we informed you that any routine X-Rays have to be done at Larbert (FVRH).

There is good news. The service can now offer patients the choice of either attending Stirling Community Hospital or Forth Valley Royal Hospital from now on. The Xray and ultrasound dept can be located in the GP & Minor Injuries Centre within Stirling Community Hospital.

Opening Times:

FVRH Monday to Friday 8.30am until 4.30pm

SHCV Monday to Friday 9.15am until 12.30pm and 2pm until 4.30pm

Warts and verrucas □

Some patients have been asking me about wart treatments.

Warts are contagious and can easily be spread through contact to other areas of your face or body, as well as to others.

Warts and verrucas are small lumps on the skin that most people have at some point in their life. They are usually viral and go away on their own but may take months or even years.

Warts do not cause you any harm, but some people find them itchy, painful or embarrassing. Verrucas are more likely to be painful

You can treat warts if they bother you, keep coming back or are painful.

Unfortunately we no longer treat warts in the clinic. We used to freeze warts with liquid nitrogen, a technique called cryotherapy.

We can no longer access liquid nitrogen and it is not part of the GMS contract nowadays. Pharmacists can give good advice on warts. There are a variety of creams, plasters and sprays that can be used as effective treatments.

Podiatrists also offer help and advice. Our local podiatrist Emma Bryce treats warts and verrucas and has ideas, leaflets and various treatments. Emma can be contacted on her mobile :07828742569.

See a GP if:

- you're worried about a growth on your skin
- you have a wart or verruca that keeps coming back
- you have a very large or painful wart or verruca
- a wart bleeds or changes in how it looks
- you have a wart on your face or genitals

Dos and Don'ts

- wash your hands after touching a wart or verruca
- change your socks daily if you have a verruca
- cover warts and verrucas with a plaster when swimming
- take care not to cut a wart when shaving
- do not share towels, socks or shoes if you have a wart or verruca
- do not bite your nails or suck fingers with warts on
- do not walk barefoot in public places if you have a verruca
- do not scratch or pick a wart

Very important information

The Health Board has advised us that they will be upgrading our computer Server on Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th & Thursday 20th July.

Unfortunately there is no way to avoid the disruption to our normal service, brought about by the essential upgrade required to our server on the three dates listed above.

This, in essence, is the brains of our entire Clinical systems and without it we cannot access any information that we hold on all our patients.

What this means for our patients is that on these days there will be **NO** access to:

Clinical records, routine patient appointments, prescriptions, results, routine enquiries or our IT systems

We will however remain open, with receptionists taking telephone calls. These should be limited to emergencies/urgent issues as we will be unable to organise scheduled appointments. Please try to avoid calling unless essential. We will of course have medical and nursing teams on duty during this period for assistance if required.

Our apologies in advance for the inconvenience this may cause.

Please make a note in your diaries.

Linda Keay, Practice Nurse

Blair Drummond A873

Blair Drummond community is situated in a beautiful part of central Scotland, so understandably there's a lot of road traffic, be it people passing through or those who use the routes regularly. Unfortunately not all of them respect the requirements of travelling on country roads, whether it be their speed or style of driving. For instance, the stretch of the A873, from the junction at The Smiddy to well past the exit for the Coldoch road, including Coldoch road, throughout which the number of accidents and near accidents continue very regularly.

For a number of years residents affected have been lobbying for some traffic calming measures, with the support of local Councillor Martin Earl, and the Thornhill & Blair Drummond Community Council. Last summer a petition was gathered from 99% of the residents and sent to Stirling Council. Eventually the Environment, Transport and Net Zero Committee, after presentations by residents, discussions and site visits, decided that some measures are required.

In this year the measures will include rumble strips, signage and road junctions repainted. The petition process apparently ensured the issue was brought before the Committee and without it the new measures would not have been agreed.

As reported recently in the Grapevine there is a new pathway for cyclists to be created, coming off the Kirk Lane and around The Smiddy, onto the A873 stretch of road under discussion. Stirling Council have committed to keeping the petition open and once the cycle link is completed and in use, they will review traffic speed on this stretch of roadway and will decide if traffic speed reduction is necessary, from the present 60mph to 40mph.

It's hoped by all the local residents that the measures about to be applied, will be sufficient for road users to reconsider their speed and style of driving.

Trossachs Search and Rescue

There is a defibrillator located at the community hall and over the years we have had courses run by Trossachs SAR on it's use. Would you be interested in learning (or getting a refresher) how to administer CPR? If there is enough interest we will organise a course in the autumn.

Please email bdhallinfo@gmail.com to register your interest.

JOIN  FOR **Strength & Balance**

McLaren Leisure Centre, Callander
Every Tuesday
 **3.00pm - 4.00pm**

What our Participants say*

 **88% experienced an improvement in their social wellbeing**

 "I now feel I have more strength and an increased confidence to take the stairs"



WALK IN THE PARK

Find a **Strength & Balance near you!**
All abilities welcome. Just turn up!














www.trustinthepark.org/strength-and-balance
info@trustinthepark.org
07784 240270

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.

WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU IS IMPORTANT TO US

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Tel: 01786 446 585



D A Lyle & I M Logan is an appointed representative of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 11982). And an introducer to NFU Mutual Select Investments Limited, a member of the NFU Mutual group of companies.

Weather News

Don't panic, summer must be on its way. 2023 has been a slow, wet one so far. (10% above average so far for this year). It is not unusual to have a cold spring, we have just been spoiled in recent years which makes us farmers and gardeners frustrated.

The farmers have been putting in some really long hours recently getting the crops in the ground, the majority in Blair Drummond is spring barley which will hopefully go to the breweries, there is also spring oats which you will enjoy as porridge etc next winter. Those lambing are now well through, some are finished with wee lambs out in the field. So could I please remind you all to keep dogs out of the fields, even those in crop as ground nesting birds are sitting on eggs. You may see the farmers doing funny manoeuvres with the sprayers as they dodge the nests. The bright

yellow fields are growing oil seed rape, the most valuable crop at the moment. If you are struggling with the pollen try and buy local honey as I am told this could help.

Katie Brisbane



BLAIR CRAIG
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Plumbing Services For Stirling & The Trossachs

 

- Boiler Installations
- Boiler Repairs
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- Powerflushing
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- Plumbing Repairs
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- New Builds
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  **BAXI**

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

Half 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 49 should be submitted by **31st July 2023**, 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

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.

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