

Issue 50

The Grapevine

November 2023

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

Wedding



Congratulations to Amanda Killen, Mid Rossburn Farm, Blair Drummond & Ross Strachan, who were married on Friday 8th September. The wedding ceremony and reception were held at Glenbervie House Hotel, Larbert, on one of the hottest days of the year.

Briarlands Farm

The October holidays are now over! The weather certainly wasn't kind to us but it didn't stop people enjoying a day out here at Briarlands!



This year during the holidays we tested out hosting our own Briarlands Pumpkin Patch!

People could come and pick their own pumpkins from our field and even go and carve them in our Thunderdome Tunnel.

With the clocks changing on the 29th October we are now onto our winter hours of 10am - 4.30pm. We'll close for Christmas Day and Boxing Day, the 1st & 2nd January, and then will be closed from the 8th January until we reopen on the 10th February 2024.

To finish the year, we will be having our annual Christmas on the Farm experience! This runs every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from the 1st – 23rd December. Tickets are still available on our website for this event and we'd love to see you all there, to go on a magical journey to Santa's Toy Factory!

At this event our tractor will take you on a trip, in your own family pod, on the trailer, up through the farmyard admiring the lights on the way, before entering the world of Santa's Toy Factory on the farm. Once there, Santa will come around the trailer and speak to all the children. The cheeky Elves will hand out Santa tokens to all the children and then when your trailer ride ends you can come back to our main building and spend your tokens in our Elf's Toy Shop!



To keep up to date with 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!

Down our Way

(An occasional series of interviews with local people)



Quite a number of people living in our community have already had the pleasure of meeting Michelle Kibaris, be it at the school gate or community events. So, for other people it seemed time to expand our knowledge of the talents of Michelle and her partner Kris Fotheringham.

Michelle hails from Callander, went to McLaren High school at Callander and whilst there knew Kris as a friend. She went on to study Business at the University of Glasgow whilst working part time in various hospitality venues. Like many another, she then made her way to London to work but soon realised it was not the life she wanted. But she did realise that meeting and working with people and making them happy was something she did enjoy.

To that end it was time for some global travel! And who did she do that with? None other than Kris! Their travels took them through Asia for 4 months and then on to Australia, where they travelled and worked for 2 ½ years. Their work was very varied, from being camp cooks and tractor drivers on cotton and wheat farms, which was challenging given the very basic facilities, to being pastry chef in high end restaurants. Their time in Melbourne, learning all about speciality coffee (which to quote Michelle was, quality coffee at another level) made her realise here was something she could do, and do well, back home.

On their return Michelle ran a cafe in Glasgow, gaining a fuller understanding of the vagaries of running your own business in the catering world! Then, with the happy arrival of baby Flynn, they decided it was time to move back to their home area and settled in Blair Drummond. A mobile Coffee & Cake catering service was what Michelle aimed to

create and Kris set to work on his beloved Land Rover (poor Kris giving up his Landy), adapting it to the needs of the venture. Then, sourcing high quality coffee, made the business venture real!

Michelle's very first event in 2016 was at Arnprior Pumpkins, when it was still a very small weekend event. And with Michelle's company ethos of "Good Coffee Anywhere", her business reputation began to expand and her calendar filled, with the Scottish Open, Agricultural Shows, Markets and Food Festivals. Then in 2020 the Covid pandemic arrived and everything came to a dramatic pause. Events cancelled like dominoes and it all looked very bleak! As things eased a little, Michelle was kindly invited to trade at Briarlands, providing coffee while they sold their strawberries and baking, something she remains hugely grateful for.

Getting back into the swing of mobile catering as events began to return, Michelle took a chance call from a music producer, asking her to cater for 3 days at the production of a music video, this was followed by a film job, which lasted for 6 months and so things took off.



Michelle now has 2 fully equipped trailers, and a team of 7 people who travel all over Scotland, providing catering for Amazon Prime, Netflix, TV series and films. And yes, for those who are fans, she has catered for Outlander! She has met famous actresses and actors, as she and her staff provide coffee and cakes for between 100 – 350 people per day, working Monday – Friday. Working on film sets can be hard work and involve long, long days, sometimes in excess of 17hours but Michelle loves it and the

variety that it brings each day.

This all requires Michelle and Kris to work as a team, which they obviously do when you listen to their interactions. To add to the mix, this year they bought a house locally, which Chris with his joinery training and tremendous skills is renovating to the highest standards, making a beautiful home for the family and its latest edition baby Clay, who arrived in 2022.

This young family obviously enjoy challenges, making people happy and doing a good job into the bargain. We wish them all the very best.

Alan Brisbane Celebration of Life service



All of us at Westwood Lane would like to say a massive THANK YOU for your overwhelming care and support following Alan's tragic accident. I delivered the donations received at his Celebration of Life service to the Scottish Charity Air Ambulance. It was an amazing visit. I was shown round the helicopter and chatted to one of the incredible paramedics. Over £3000 was raised for this amazing charity, which had given us the chance to all say goodbye to Alan and allowed Alan to become an organ donor.
Thank you again.

Katie Brisbane



*Ladies, please join our talks held in
Kilmadock Parish Church, Balkerach Street, Doune
on the last Tuesday of months November – May
7.30pm – 9pm*

- | | |
|--------|--|
| 28 Nov | Jayne Whitehead “Make a Christmas Wreath”
(NB this meeting will be held in Gargunnock Community Centre) |
| 30 Jan | Alison Young “Old Leckie – Our Farm” |
| 27 Feb | Cheryl Seivewright “Woodlane – The Story!” |
| 26 Mar | Catherine Macgregor “Photography” |
| 30 Apr | Fiona Campbell “Know your Plants” |
| 28 May | Picnic at Briarlands Farm, with Entertainment |

Suggested donation of £3 covers teas and coffees

Janette Gilliland

CLEANER WANTED

**The hall is looking for a new regular cleaner.
If you're interested or require more information please contact
Louise on 01786 841352 or at bdhallinfo@gmail.com**

Archaeological Dig at Drip Bridge

A few months back, I was approached by Murray Cook, the local archaeologist, asking if he could do a 'dig' in our garden, as he believed that an old Roman road runs parallel to the old stone bridge that is there today. History tells him that it would likely have been a key crossing point of the river and used by the military and possibly royalty, such as King William I and King Henry VIII.

So, in early October, a team of 4 archaeologists - equipped with a gazebo, some shovels and head to foot waterproofs - braved the rain and began to dig a 1m x 1m x .9m deep hole in our garden, adjacent to the old bridge at Drip Bridge. Much to their delight after several hours, though deeper than they were expecting, they did indeed come across an eroded track believed to be the road from the old Drip Ferry. This would more than likely have continued into the river and been the ford to cross the river at this point centuries before the bridge was built. This road would possibly have been 8 metres wide.



It was very interesting to hear from Murray Cook that he believes in the significance of this finding, especially in terms of its use by the military. They also found small fragments of china and pottery embedded in the soil, likely thrown from the Inn!

Sadly the hole is filled back in now (Health and Safety more than anything!) but still amazing to think that a piece of important local history is there...right under our feet!

Murray writes a blog and for those interested, you can read more about it by signing up to his blog <https://stirlingarchaeology.substack.com/> and search for Drip Ford: The Most Important Ford in Scotland?

Jennifer Ure

Blair Drummond Community Hall



Autumn events began with a community Heart Start training session led by members of the 'Trossachs Search and Rescue' group, which was a fun way to learn and update our skills and use of our defibrillator at the hall.

The popular Beetle Drive evening in October, which is always well supported by enthusiastic younger members of our community, raised £80 towards hall funds from the raffle and entry.



The Christmas Fayre will be held on Friday 24th November from 7pm (see *page 20*) and we extend a warm welcome to you to come and give your support to stall holders, including our local Blair Drummond groups. Enjoy an opportunity to meet up with friends over a cuppa and a taste of Christmas.

As part of the committee's ongoing efforts to improve our energy saving, LED lighting has now been installed throughout the building, with some sensor lights where required.

We continue to pursue our renewables project, supported by CARES (Communities and Renewables Energy Scheme) towards improving the heating. We are currently awaiting the required permissions from Stirling Council and are striving for work to start as soon as possible.

Thanks are due to the many people within Blair Drummond who show their ongoing commitment to the hall and its aims, by offering their time and skills, to maintain and look after the hall.

This promotes the smooth running of its operations and bookings for the benefit of the community in Blair Drummond. If you would like to become involved with community led events and activities, please email or come along to the next Committee meeting in the hall on **Tuesday 7th November at 6.30pm** (enter at the kitchen door).

Alison Coates, Chair

Blair Drummond Youth Club



Youth Club has enjoyed a great start to the 2023/24 season with around 15 members. We have a calendar of events to keep the members active and engaged, including a great Halloween party (see *photos*) and an upcoming visit from Doune & Dunblane Cricket Club and Taekwondo (both in partnership with Active Stirling), to look forward to.

Our AGM is on Tuesday 14th November, at 6.45pm.

We will be holding a bottle stall at the Blair Drummond Hall Christmas Fayre on Friday 24th November to raise funds for Youth Club so if you have anything to donate, please let us know and we can arrange to collect.

Youth Club runs till March 2024 and is available to kids from P6 to S6. If you would like to know more, please contact Lisa Main on 07792 968756.



Graduation

Congratulations to Sandy Holl of Moss Laird, Blair Drummond who graduated earlier this year with BEng Hons in Mechanical Engineering from Glasgow University.



No gown photos as he had taken himself off to Kenya for 4 weeks, for some high altitude training. A great experience and where he had time to relax after university exams.

Left - Sandy running in Iten, Kenya

Blair Drummond Safari Park



Welcome Sifa

On the 20th of September, we welcomed a new male giraffe to our resident group. Sifa, a 5-year-old Rothchild's giraffe, arrived at around 8pm on Wednesday after travelling all the way from Dublin Zoo in Ireland. This is a pretty significant milestone for us because he's the first male giraffe to join our gang since 2010. The European Endangered Species Programme recommended this move, so you know it's the real deal!

Sifa made the journey from Dublin in a special transporter, designed to accommodate his impressive height of 18 feet. Not only did he travel by road to get here, his journey also included a sea voyage!

Large Mammals Team Leader Suzi Marshall shared her excitement saying 'We are thrilled to welcome a new male into our giraffe tower. We are used to having an all-female group, so we were a bit taken aback by how tall he is. He's a good couple of feet taller than all our girls! We wanted to make him feel welcome as soon as he arrived, so we laid out a delicious dinner of willow. He made himself right at home and started tucking in right away!'

Sifa has already been successfully mixed with his new companions Harriet, Bella and Ruby and they all seem to be hitting it off. Make sure to pop along and say hello next time you are in the Park.

Spectacular, spectacular!

Get ready for some festive fun! From November 24th to December 23rd, we are bringing back our beloved Christmas Spectacular event. It's time to dig out your cosy jumpers, don those adorable reindeer ears, and head on over to the Park.

Here's what you can expect:



Santa Sleigh Drive-Bys: catch a glimpse of the main man himself as he rides through the Park several times a day.

Festive Fairground: Enjoy the excitement of a traditional fairground with thrilling rides and games.

Christmas Market: Explore a traditional Christmas market with charming stalls offering unique gifts and goodies.

Marshmallow Fire Pits: Warm up by the marshmallow fire pits, perfect for roasting marshmallows and creating sweet memories.

Dinosaur Illuminations: Wander through our prehistoric dinosaur forest and marvel at the dazzling illuminations that light the way.

Delicious Food and Drink: Satisfy your taste buds with a variety of tasty food and drink options. For the adults, there'll even be warming cocktails from the local Stirling Distillery.

But that's not all! This year, you can also enjoy a special Rubber Chicken production of 'Santa Claus and the Dragon Who Didn't Like Christmas' in our Safari Marquee. This short, interactive, and relaxed performance features storytelling, puppets, music and more. It's the perfect introduction to theatre, filled with Christmas magic and plenty of engagement for our younger audiences.

So, mark your calendars and get ready to make unforgettable festive memories at our Christmas Spectacular event!

Jamie-Leigh Green, Communications and Conservation Manager

Weather



Blair Drummond weather update ...Yes, as you can imagine we are on for a WET year! October's rainfall was 23mm above average meaning we are now 90mm above average for the year, this was mainly down to the ridiculous amount of rain in July.

Most of you will have noticed that the cattle are now disappearing from the fields and are enjoying a dry bed and food in the sheds, a lot of the sheep that have appeared are this year's lambs, they have been brought down from hill farms to be finished on our lush Carse grass.

With the amount of rain we have had and more storms predicted, please stay safe and use the WhatsApp to let us all know if a road becomes flooded. You are best not to chance it with cars, there are always those of us with tractors who can bring supplies and help in an emergency.

Katie Brisbane

(Photo by Linzi Bryce)

Blethers



On Monday 30th October the Blethers held a busy afternoon!

Apart from the usual soup and sandwiches lunch, the members were entertained by the Mondayleles (*left*). The 4 woman ukulele group provided everyone with a great range of songs and between times some jokes. These were appreciated (given it was Halloween season) by the local school children who had joined us for this session.

Each year the membership of the Blethers choose a charity they wish to support, this year it's the local Eilidh Brown respite home. A great suggestion by our member Helen was that we hold a local raffle to raise money. Everyone was astonished by the superb range and number of gifts donated by the local community. So, after our entertainment slot, the raffle was drawn with a good share of prizes going to members and the rest to local people. It raised the great sum of £505.05!!

At our November (27th) meeting, the money raised will be given to the Eilidh Brown charity, when a representative will join us.

Then, in December (18th), we will have our Christmas lunch and enjoy the school children joining us for a carol singing concert.

As you can see, we like to have a bit of fun in between chat and lunch, so if you are over the age of 50, and live in the Blair Drummond community or surrounding area, we would welcome you to our voluntary group, which is held on the last Monday of the month, between 12-2pm at Blair Drummond Community Hall. We look forward to seeing you.

Christine Bauer



CLEANER WANTED

The hall is looking for a new regular cleaner.

If you're interested or require more information please contact Louise on 01786 841352 or at bdhallinfo@gmail.com

Blair Drummond Curling Club



The season kicked off in September with the return of the curling season and the opening bonspiel. We welcomed our members back on the ice at the Peak Stirling.

We were fortunate to have expert coaching for BDCC members from World Champion Hammy McMillan, in October at the Peak. Hammy gave hints and tips on how to improve and how to get the most out of sweeping the stone into the house.

Alan Brisbane of Westwood Lane Farm was a long standing and much loved member of Blair Drummond Curling Club and his tragic death, due to a farm accident, has left our members devastated. Alan was a skip for BDCC Province team and a BDCC skip for club games. Alan's name is on a number of trophies and he will be sorely missed by all, for his happy demeanour and the games on the ice will be poorer without him. His son Jack is continuing to carry on the tradition of curling in the Brisbane family.

Bruce McAlpine formerly of Rosecroft, Blair Drummond was a former BDCC member who curled for Blair Drummond at the Grand Match curling on Lake of Menteith in 1979. He has passed away at the age of 94.

Our fundraiser Quiz, scheduled for Saturday 7th October, was cancelled due to the tragic death of Alan Brisbane. Date for your diary, it has been rescheduled for Saturday 24th February 2024.

If you want to have a go at curling then contact the Peak, Stirling, for Try Curling for a block of 4 lessons, then you will progress to Monday nights at the Gateway at the Peak, where you can learn more.

If anyone is interested in joining BDCC then please contact Secretary Stephen Walker on 07724042730 or myself on 07977441108. Our Club games are on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 5.30/6.00pm

Anne Christie, Chair, Blair Drummond Curling Club

Doune Health Centre

Macmillan Mighty Hike



There was a lot of chat, plenty of sweets, some tears and a few blisters but also a lot of fun was had by the Doune Health Centre team at the Macmillan Rob Roy Mighty Hike.

5 of the Health Centre staff (Lynne Bryce, Lorna Carbery, Nadia Paterson, Mairi McGrandles and Dr Julie Reid) tackled the

route on Saturday 2nd September in the warm sunshine. A full marathon length of fields filled with cow poo, forests, mud and hills (a lot...almost 3000ft worth!) made the day interesting and challenging but so worth it.

We are all delighted that so far we have raised over £2,000 for this wonderful charity. Many thanks to everyone who supported the team and for supporting the Book and Bake sales we had in the surgery, to raise money for this worthy cause.

ST1 and ST3 (Specialty Training)

Dr Rebecca Thompson (ST3) will be with us for one year and is pursuing a career in General Practice. She is in her final year of training now.

Dr Arinash Randi (ST1) will be in the clinic for six months and is in the first year of his specialty training.

FY2 doctors (Foundation year 2)

In the July/August edition I explained what a foundation doctor is about. We welcome our first ever FY2, Dr Hannah Scholes, who has joined the team for four months training. This is a new and ongoing rotation for the clinic.

Return of ANP (Advanced Nurse Practitioner)

The Health Board is providing an ANP for one session per week.

You may remember in 2020, Andy McAviney worked with us, so whoever is allocated to us will have a similar skill set.

Advanced Nurse Practitioners are Registered Nurses who have done extra training and achieved academic qualifications to be able to examine, assess, diagnose, treat, prescribe and make referrals, for patients who present with a variety of ailments and complex conditions that require advanced clinical skills. Due to their training they have the ability to act autonomously and get the care required for patients quickly.

Over the years ANP staff have made a big contribution to the NHS and the role has been introduced into different settings in primary and secondary care. In an era of GP shortages, they can substitute for doctors, which is important nowadays.

They will see 'on the day emergencies' and can safely manage patients who present with undiagnosed conditions.

A different ANP will rotate out to Doune for the weekly session.

Vitamin D

Vitamin D is important to maintain good health especially for bones, teeth and muscle health.

Most people should be taking a Vitamin D supplement, especially from October to April as we are not able to make enough Vitamin D from sunlight when outdoors over these months.

In Scotland 15 minutes of unprotected sun exposure daily is safe, exposing skin such as forearms, lower legs or face.

After sun screen is applied your body will not make any more vitamin D.

Our main source of Vitamin D is sunlight.

Children from the age of 1 year and adults need only 10 micrograms of vitamin D daily, purchased from pharmacies, health stores and supermarkets.

Vitamin D is only found in a small number of foods such as red meat, liver, egg yolks, oily fish-salmon, herring, mackerel and sardines. Some fortified foods- cereals and fat spreads.

Winter Flu and Covid 19 vaccinations 2023

Vaccines will be done by Forth Valley Immunisation team at local hubs.

Please do not contact the Practice regarding any vaccinations as we no longer hold any stock.

The immunisation team are contacting you now to invite you along for vaccines, if you are eligible.

Latest information on the winter programme is available on NHS Forth Valley website:

<https://nhsforthvalley.com/Covid-19-vaccination/>

NHS Forth Valley – Covid-19 & Flu Vaccination

Both Covid and flu vaccines can be safely given together. Invitations are being sent out now to those at risk.

Adult Flu vaccines

You will be entitled to a flu vaccine if you are aged 50 to 64 years with no underlying health conditions.

Winter and Covid 19 Flu vaccinations

Invitations to people aged 65-74, or with no underlying conditions and those aged 12-64, in a clinical at risk group.

Those that are housebound will continue to get their vaccinations at home.

The Woodside Pharmacy will be offering the above vaccines if you prefer. Contact the pharmacy for more advice. 01786 841216

Immunisation telephone line

Phone 0800 130 3120 (available 8am-8 pm) 7 days a week.

Clinic Closure

The clinic will be closed on Thursday 16th Nov from 12.30 pm onwards.

This is for Staff training all afternoon.

Therefore if you need medical advice or help whilst we are closed please contact NHS 111.

If it is life threatening dial 999.

Linda Keay, Practice Nurse

New Health Visitor

There has been a reshuffle within the area of Health visiting. Debbie Wishart, who worked in Doune for seven years, has transferred to Dunblane Medical Practice to join the team there. In her place we welcome Charlotte Standing and this is what she has to say.



‘Hello, my name is Charlotte Standing and I am so excited to be the new Health Visitor for Doune, Deanston and Thornhill areas and will be based at Doune Health Centre.

I have been a practicing Midwife for the last 10 years and have just completed my Health Visitor Training (Specialist Community Public Health Nurse) at Stirling University. In my spare time I like to spend time with

my family and friends, travel and visit new places. I really enjoy yoga and walking in the beautiful Scottish countryside. Everyone has been so welcoming at Doune Health Centre and it is a fantastic place to work. Working as a Health Visitor is a brilliant opportunity and so rewarding and I am really looking forward to meeting more of the local children and families.

I work Monday to Friday and can be contacted on 01786 842451, please leave a message if I don't answer and I will aim to respond within 48 hours.’

A Year to Remember: Reflecting on McLaren Leisure's 2023 Journey

This year marked a significant milestone for McLaren Leisure as we celebrated 25 years of providing sport and leisure facilities to our community. It has been a journey filled with growth, learning, and most importantly, the support of our wonderful customers and members. To everyone who has been a part of this journey, we extend our heartfelt gratitude. It has been an eventful year here at McLaren Leisure as we celebrated our 25 years with 25 wonderful events, from community walks in our local area, battling it out on our pool inflatable and in the gym, to finish off the celebrations with our big Birthday Bash. It has been a year of friendship, laughter, camaraderie and healthy competition.



On top of these events, we have welcomed fantastic new groups to McLaren Leisure, including Callander Cinema Club, celebrated a spooktacular Halloween, supported our local schools in health, fitness and work experience, hosted Yoga Workshops, launched our new Multiball and Open Office and our Fitness Class which has grown from 19 to a whopping 35 classes per week. We are working closely with NHS professionals to offer a range of programs. We are thrilled to see so many of you dedicated to your fitness journeys and we are committed to bringing you even more variety in the year ahead.

In a year marked by economic challenges, McLaren Leisure remains dedicated to supporting our community. We understand the strain of rising costs and we aim to make fitness and leisure accessible to all, ensuring that our community can continue to prioritise their mental and

physical health and wellbeing, without too much financial strain. McLaren Leisure serves as a hub for social interaction, fostering connections and combating rural isolation. One of the most heartening aspects of this year has been the surge in community spirit. We've seen a significant increase in the number of visitors and members, which speaks volumes about the strength and unity of our community.

As we look to the final month of 2023, we look forward to sharing the most magical time of year with you. Children will be practicing their best snowflake floats during Christmas themed swimming lessons. Callander Cinema will be back with 'Chevalier' to finish off the year, and with more wonderful movie options for 2024! We will be sweating it out in your favourite Christmas special fitness classes, including Train the Trainer, where you have all the power over our fitness instructors.

December is set to be a month filled with festive cheer at McLaren Leisure. We have an array of exciting Christmas events lined up, promising joy, laughter, and unforgettable memories. Keep an eye out for our January timetables, which will bring fresh activities and opportunities for 2024.

From all of us at McLaren Leisure, thank you for being a part of our incredible year. Your support and enthusiasm have made every event, class, and screening a success. We are excited for the journey ahead and cannot wait to create more wonderful memories with you all.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, from all the Staff and Board at McLaren Leisure.

Festive opening hours: Check out our timetable or online booking system for bookable session times during our winter opening hours



Saturday 23 rd December	09:00-17:00
Sunday 24 th December	09:00-15:00
Monday 25 th & Tuesday 26 th December	Closed
Wednesday 27 th – Friday 29 th December	08:00-17:00
Saturday 30 th December	09:00-17:00
Sunday 31 st December	09:00-15:00
Monday 1 st & Tuesday 2 nd January	CLOSED
Wednesday 3 rd January	Normal Opening Hours Resume

Camphill Blair Drummond's Annual Advent Sale



Save the Date

The festive season really is the most wonderful time of the year at Camphill Blair Drummond. Our ever-popular Advent Sale this year will take place on Saturday 2nd December 1-4pm. There will be festive fun for all the family with something for everyone to enjoy. It is a great opportunity to start or finish your Christmas shopping (depending on how organised you are!) whilst supporting our community. Keep an eye on our website for further details www.camphillblairdrummond.org.uk

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  **BAXI**

Blair Drummond Hall Diary Dates

Monday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm alldance@costep.co
Tuesday:	Youth Club 7pm to 9pm (See page 9)
Wednesday:	Co Step Dance class 7pm
Tuesday 7th November:	Blair Drummond Hall Committee meeting. At 6.30pm. All welcome.
Friday 24th November:	Christmas Fayre. 7pm to 9pm. (See below) (To book a table - bdgrapevine@gmail.com)
Monday 27th November:	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches. (See page 15)
Monday 18th December:	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches. (See page 15)
Monday 29th January:	Blair Drummond Blethers. 12-2pm. Soup & sandwiches. (See page 15)

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



This year's Christmas Fayre takes place on **Friday 24th November, from 7pm till 9pm**, in Blair Drummond Community Hall.

We have lots of new stalls this year, including Briarlands, Drymen Beer Shop, Phoenix Gifts & Keepsakes, Wolf in the Trees, Teeny Tartans and Jaggy Thistle Crafts, as well as many regulars including the local Primary School. The Youth Club will be having a bottle stall and Kincardine in Menteith Parent Council will be organising a chocolate tombola.

As we have done at all our Christmas Fayres, we will be holding a Charity Raffle which will be drawn on the night – the prizes being mainly donated by the stallholders. The money raised from the raffle this year will be donated to the Hall's fund towards the renewable project.

We hope you will be able to come along and support us, as well as buying some unique Christmas gifts. **Admission is - £1 for adults and 50p for Children which includes tea/juice and mince pie/shortbread.**

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D A Lyle & I M Logan is an appointed representative of The National Farmers Union Mutual Insurance Society Limited (No. 111982). And an introducer to NFU Mutual Select Investments Limited, a member of the NFU Mutual group of companies.

Cycling World Championships 2023 – Part 2

Just before going to print in the last Grapevine, I wrote how Jenny Holl and Sophie Unwin had won their first race, the Kilo, at the World Championships in Glasgow Velodrome.

Well, they went on to race the following night in the Pursuit final and then 2 days later in the Sprint final, both at the velodrome. For anyone who was watching it was exciting, edge of the seat racing and Jenny and Sophie took the win in both, with top spots on the podium, the gold medal and of course the coveted rainbow jerseys.

3 World Championship wins in 4 days!



We then got a few days off to draw breath before it was off to Dumfries where they went on to ride the Road Time Trial and Road Race. Again taking podium places for silver and bronze respectively. What a Championships! Congratulations to you both.

Emily Holl



Closed Monday 25th December 2023

Closed Tuesday 26th 2023

Reopens Wednesday 27th December 2023

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Closed Monday 1st January 2024

Closed Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Reopens Wednesday 3rd January 2024

- If you feel you need any medical advice or medical help which is **not an emergency** whilst the surgery is closed, please contact **NHS 111** by dialling **111**. This telephone number is free to call and is available 24hrs/7 days a week.
- If it is a **life-threatening emergency** dial **999**.
- Please ensure that you have sufficient medication, especially during the four day closures on both the Christmas and New Year weekends.
- Always follow the instructions when using medicines and never exceed the stated dose. Be prepared by keeping a few useful items and medicines at home such as paracetamol, ibuprofen, aspirin, plasters, and a thermometer.



Scotch Lamb for St Andrew's Day

#LambforStAndrewsDay



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 51 should be submitted by **31st January 2024**, 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.

Website: www.blairdrummondhall.co.uk

Facebook: **Blair Drummond Community Hall**

BLAIR DRUMMOND ESTATE

Hardwood Logs	£110/ bag (1m³)
Hardwood Limbs	£100/pickup load
Softwood Logs	£90/ bag (1m³)
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