

Kintore Konnect

Issue 51, Spring 2023



Connecting
The
Community



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DEADLINE
for the Summer 2023 issue is:
20th May 2023

FACEBOOK:

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PHOTOGRAPHERS:

We are always looking for pictures to feature in Kintore Konnect - these can be local scenes, events or any subject that might be of interest. Why not send us your favourites?

ARTICLES:

Do you have a story to tell; or an interest you'd like to share; or an event you'd like to promote? We would be delighted to hear from you.



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Eighth	£50	£40 x 4 = one payment of £160
Sixteenth	£30	£24 x 4 = one payment of £96
<i>THIS WOULD BE PAYABLE AS A ONE OFF ANNUAL FEE</i>		

EVENTS

Let us know about your event. The next issue will be covering the period from **June 2023 to August 2023**. Please call or email us with details of any events during that period that you would like included.

Contact us on:
Facebook: Kintore | Tel: 07340 305603
Email: info@kintorecommunitycouncil.co.uk

Kintore Konnect reserves the right to refuse or amend any advertisements or submission and accepts no liability for any omission or inaccuracy.

Highlights

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Think You Know Quiz by Cllr. Glen Reid

The Konnect Konundrum

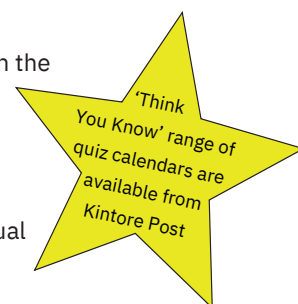
- NECR was a local radio station based on School Road in Kintore, which ceased broadcasting in 2018, but what did it's initials stand for?

True or False?

1. The River Don is longer than the River Dee.
2. Euro banknotes made from cotton.

General Knowledge

1. Which country replaced the Kuna with the Euro on the 1st of January this year?
2. What is the lowest number not allocated to a UK motorway?
3. Which company buys about 15% of the UK's annual potato crop?
4. What connects the following; platypus, short-tailed shrew, slow loris, solenodon, and vampire bat?
5. What did Robert Wilson supposedly photograph in 1934?
6. Which city has statues of Desperate Dan and Minnie the Minx?



See page 14 for the answers!

Kintore and the Community

It was a busy year in Kintore in 2022, and this year looks like being another busy one with a wide range of events for all. The King's Coronation will be celebrated on Saturday 6th May starting at 11:00 in the Square. Many of our local groups will have stalls offering food, drinks and treats with music and family activities.

We then have the various activities associated with the Summer Festival. With events during the week leading up to the big day on Saturday 10th June, hopefully the weather will be kinder to us than last year.

In November, we will have the Fireworks which last year had a great attendance from the residents of Kintore and the wider area, and was enjoyed by all.



Following the flooding event towards the end of last year, we have been working with Aberdeenshire Council on various issues in respect of this. Just recently, we have received an amount of temporary flood barriers from the Council which will be used in any potential future flooding events.

Following their unsuccessful appeal, we had a presentation in February from Scotia Homes on their latest outline plans for the Town Park and the new housing at Midmill. They are planning on submitting revised plans in the next couple of months, and we encouraged them to arrange a Public Meeting in which to share the new Plan with the community in Kintore for their comments.

It will soon be time for the great volunteers led by Sue to start on the Floral displays around the town, which really enhance Kintore and are much admired. A few extra pairs of hands to help this year would be much appreciated. Just let us know, you don't need to be an expert gardener, the teams all muck in so to speak.



Volunteers are the life blood of communities such as Kintore, but sadly in many areas in Aberdeenshire as in the rest of Scotland many community groups are struggling to survive because of lack of members.

In Kintore, we have a core group of members but we do need other people from various walks of life to join us to improve our community in many ways. Fresh faces and new ideas are a great way of enhancing the good work the Community Council do in many areas that affect everyone in the town.

We are inviting residents in Kintore to join us; we meet once a month on the 3rd Tuesday and discuss various topics of interest or that could affect the community such as Planning.

We have our Annual General Meeting in June however, there is a call for people to join us prior to that date.

If you are interested, please get in touch via the email address: info@kintorecommunitycouncil.co.uk and we can arrange an informal chat with one of our members.



Jamie,
Chair - Kintore & District Community Council.



Granton Golden Agers Opening 5th March 2023



Open Monday to Friday 9am-3pm at
Midmill Business Park

Granton Golden Agers is a community club, that invites all elderly people to embark on new friendships and enjoy activities that they love together. With activities, delicious home cooked dinners and an abundance of tea, coffee and a fine piece – there is something for everyone to enjoy.

Our day service offers morning, afternoon and full-day sessions. The sessions are flexible to people's choices whether you fancy a particular morning each week or afternoon, or full days its catered for your choice.



Example Timetable:

	Tues	Wed	Thurs
9am	Fly & Chat		
10am	Sing-a-long	Knit & Natter	Quiz
11am	Who's who	Crosswords	Dominos
12pm	Lunch		
1pm	Bingo	Cards	Shuffleboard
2pm	Fly & Music from the decades		

Book now to avoid disappointment

Full day	Half day
£55.00	£40.00

Contact Stacey to secure your place

07771346935

grantondevelopments@gmail.com

Girlguiding Kintore News

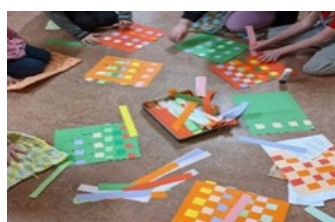
What we have been up to....

Since Christmas, unfortunately we have lost one of our units. 2nd Kintore Brownies were unable to find any volunteers to run it so it has closed. However, we still have two Rainbows Units, a Brownie Unit and a Guide and Ranger Unit, so we are still busy within our community. However, if anyone would like to help out with any of the units you would be most welcome.

Please contact kintoredc@outlook.com if interested.



The last session before the festive break our very talented Rangers did a super job making gingerbread houses.



Our Rainbows and Brownies this term have been celebrating Burns by making tartan mats and playing 'toss the haggis'. We also acknowledged

Children's Mental Health Week by stargazing and meditating, some of the Rainbows almost fell asleep!



1st Kintore Guides and Rangers attended a Thinking Day Parade to Kintore Parish Church. World Thinking Day is celebrated every year, worldwide by Scout and Guiding organisations.

Achievements

A huge congratulations to Orlaith Michie who worked very hard to achieve her Guide Gold Award. She had to complete lots of badges and organise her own fundraiser to gain this award, so well done.



Leader Kyrsten Black received her Five Years' Service award. She is a valuable member of 1st Kintore Guides and Rangers.

Leader Christina Millar received her Ten-Year Service Award and has decided it is time to move on from Guiding. Her long service and hard work with Brownies have been incredible and we wish her all the best in her new endeavours.

Our Leaders help so many girls realise their full potential, gain confidence and share some incredible moments with them along their Guiding journey.

Finally, thank you to all the residents of Kintore who have popped their used ink cartridges into the recycling box at Kintore Library. The first full box has been sent off and we look forward to finding out how much we have earned for our units. The recycling box is now ready for re-filling so please keep recycling those cartridges.



Wishing you all a Happy Easter from Girlguiding Kintore!



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Lungworm - An emerging disease

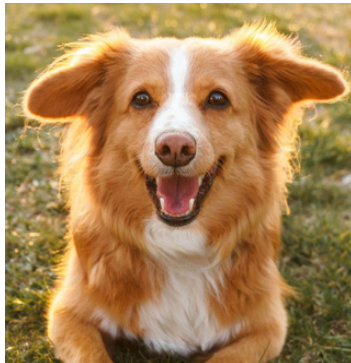
Lungworm is an emerging potentially lethal disease – more and more cases are seen each year. There has been a lot of coverage about this disease in the doggy press, so here is an update.

Snug and snails are the problem here. To the gardeners out there, they are a nuisance; to the Host, they are a plague; but to the dog, they can pose a health risk because they act as a carrier of one of the most serious types of worms that he or she can catch. The worm is called *Angiostrongylus Vasorum* – or the lungworm. It affects dogs and foxes, and has slowly moved up from France and around Europe into southern England via the fox population. Thankfully our cold climate has slowed the spread of the parasite north of the border, and there have been only a handful of suspected cases in Scotland thus far – there have to be some benefits to the weather!

Awareness is key with lungworm. It is an emerging disease, and there are likely to be more cases in the future, but if vets and dog owners are aware of the signs, we stand a good chance of effectively preventing infection. The dog can become infected by the larvae of the worm by accidentally (or deliberately, in some cases) eating slugs or snails. They can also become infected by snail trails including, for example trails over their favourite outside toy.

Now for the gory bit, skip this paragraph if you are eating breakfast while reading the paper! The life cycle of this parasite takes place partly inside the dog (the host) and partly inside the snail or slug (the intermediate host). An infected dog or fox will have adult worms living in the lungs and blood vessels. These lay eggs. The eggs are coughed up and swallowed by the dog, and then passed out in the faeces. They are then eaten by the slug or snail, which completes the cycle of infestation when eaten by another dog or fox.

The symptoms vary and can sometimes be difficult to pick up. The worms may affect the lungs and cause coughing or breathlessness on exercise. Sufferers can also develop clotting disorders can be serious and show themselves as pinprick blood blisters (or haemorrhages) on the tummy.



Diagnosis is difficult but a combination of tests can sometimes give us the answer, e.g. physical examinations, x-rays, blood tests and faecal tests (to identify the larvae).

Treatment

The good news is the treatment is available and if caught early we can get rid of the worm before too much damage has been done. However dogs with more serious symptoms will need hospitalisation often in intensive care with blood transfusions and other drugs.

Prevention

The best way to prevent the problem is to consult your Vet for the best parasite prevention program. Regular worming, as usual, is a must. In general, products that you can buy 'over the counter' from a pet shop or supermarket won't have any effect against lungworm. Try to stop your dog eating slugs and snails if possible. Pick up your dog's faeces and dispose of them properly (so they are not spreading lungworm and other worms to dogs and humans).




Coming full circle, awareness is key. If your dog is a snail eater and you are worried that he or she has symptoms that could represent lungworm, do contact your vet as soon as possible.

Charlie Carnochan BVM&S MRCVS
Clinical Director






"National Vet Award Finalists 2018"
"The best mixed veterinary practice in Scotland - GHP awards 2016"



YOUTH GROUPS for Young people
in Kintore and surrounding areas

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Junior Group for P5, P6, P7
3.30pm-5pm

Tuesdays 7pm-9pm- YAFTS for
all kids S1+



Allandale Gardens
AB51 0UT

All youth groups are **FREE** and ran term time by our fully trained staff and volunteers. For more information, contact our Youth and Bothie Development worker, Rachel Lewis on Rachel.lewis@actionkintore.co.uk or 07842265814

Or check out our Facebook and Instagram page - Bothie Kintore



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Aberdeenshire Councillor's Report

Councillor Glen Reid

Kintore Flooding - Northern Road Improvement/Solution

I have been working with our senior flood engineer for the last couple of years on the issue of the Lochburn. He thinks there is a solution or an improvement at least to the current situation. It involves the culverts at the railway line and requires the permission of Network Rail.

It has been extremely problematic getting Network Rail to come to the table and authorise works. However, after I applied pressure to their senior management last year, their project team did begin meetings with Aberdeenshire Councils Flood Team. I initially sat in on these meetings, but as they are operational matters, I left it to the two teams to progress. However, in October, when I heard there was to be bad weather, I chased it up to find that our team had made little progress with Network Rail.

I immediately wrote to the senior management at Network Rail and asked for another meeting asap to iron out any issues and progress this so that some improvement can be found for the residents affected on Northern Road. That meeting took place in mid-December and I insisted on being present to push things forward.

In advance of the meeting, I wrote to Network Rail's senior communication manager, whom I had been dealing with and who had been the most effective person at pushing the project team into action and, with permission, shared affected residents' stories to humanise this situation. It worked and elicited his commitment to, "push for progress."

I also wrote to Richard Thomson MP, gave him a full brief on the situation and timescales so far. I thought that it might add extra pressure if he became involved and he wrote to Network Rail.

I attended the meeting with our senior flood engineer and three members of the Network Rail team and it was productive. Our engineer and I both spoke at length, outlining the situation from an engineer's perspective and from the affected Kintore residents' perspective.

Network Rail first and foremost apologised for the delay and length of time that it has taken to get to this point. They agreed that action must be taken as soon as is practically possible.

Network Rail agreed to procure an Options Study via a framework contractor to assess the best option for intervention at the railway culverts. This work, including surveys, was anticipated to take approximately three months to conclude and should provide an approved solution. It is currently on going and near completion.

We have arranged a follow up meeting for early March where Network Rail will provide Aberdeenshire Council with an update on the progress of the Options Study.

Network Rail have agreed to increase their funding contribution to undertake the Options Study and contribute towards a solution over this and the next financial year.

In brief, Network Rail's options survey will be concluded by mid-March. They will then meet and brief Aberdeenshire Council, before then making it publicly available. After the study is concluded, the solution will be costed, and if it is within budget then implementation will be progressed.

I know that there is a question mark over the budget/cost, but I'm sure you will understand that until it is costed, nothing can be committed to. However, both Aberdeenshire Council and Network Rail were positive about this progressing. The initial survey cost, which Network Rail had mentioned at the last meeting, has been reduced by over 50%.

Although I cannot guarantee anything, this is the biggest step forward, and the most positive that I have felt re this horrendous situation, since I began campaigning for a solution over two years ago. I know that there is a question mark over the budget/cost, but I'm sure you will understand that until it is costed, nothing can be committed to. However, both Aberdeenshire Council and Network Rail were positive about this progressing. The initial survey cost, which Network Rail had mentioned at the last meeting, has been reduced by over 50%.

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New Zebra Crossing – Gauchhill Road

These hard won works were due to be completed by the end of this financial year and therefore I have been chasing this for some time. However, I received this response from the Head of Roads in Garioch:

"I was at a project update meeting today, as related to various Capital projects and it was confirmed that they are almost at the stage of issuing a contract to take this work at Gauchhill Road, forward."

There were issues with relocating the nearby bus stops and underground utility apparatus, but they appear to have these now resolved.

I can't see the work, which will be going to external contract, being completed this financial year now but would hope that it will progress from April/May time."

I have continued to push on this, and in my discussions with the service, it has been clarified that the project may take 12 weeks from the contract issue. Materials may take 6-8 weeks and construction 3-4 weeks. I therefore asked that the contract be issued before 26.05 so that, at the very worst, it will be finished by Friday 18.08 before the children return to school the following week.

My pressure seems to be working as I have recently been informed that it is anticipated that the council will go out to tender in mid March, with a contract award mid April and that construction should take place in June/July.

Kemnay Academy Bus Park and PROPOSED Extension

Earlier this month, a project to provide Kemnay Academy with a much needed bus park was approved by the Garioch Area Committee.

As well as a bus park providing 16 bays, space will create for a drop off and pick up facility. Kemnay Academy has 70% of its pupils using some form of school transport, the second highest in Aberdeenshire, and buses currently have to use limited layby space on Bremner Way.

However, as many of you will be aware, Kemnay Academy has consistently been over capacity and I have argued repeatedly that action needs to be taken to address this situation. Education officers agree and plans for an extension have been drawn up.

Currently, there is no identified budget for this extension (details below) that Education officers, pupils, parents and the community know is needed. I am in opposition and am doing my best to argue for its inclusion in the capital plan.

Aberdeenshire Councillor's Report

Councillor Glen Reid

Kemnay Academy Bus Park and PROPOSED Extension - cont.

I have asked that the Administration councillors (Tory/Lib Dem and Independents) who represent this area, go to their groups and argue the case for this vital extension.

Money was found for new academies in Ellon (£36 million, 2015) and Inverurie (£55 million, 2020) and there is a new academy planned for Peterhead.

This project will be expensive, but it is an extension, not a new build.

It is urgently required and in it's entirety.

It is time that this was delivered for Kemnay, Kintore and Blackburn.

The background and proposals are below:

Last year, Education officers presented plans for a new extension to address the issues of over capacity and 'temporary' accommodation. I was quite frustrated that these plans were not advanced last year, but earlier this month, officers firmed up their proposed plans to extend the academy.

Their rationale is that:

- Permanent accommodation is required to replace non-linked accommodation.
- Enable an increase in published capacity.
- Accommodate rising roll within future accommodation.
- Support fluctuations in pupil subject choice by offering increase in flexible accommodation.
- Refurbish Practical subject areas to improve Suitability Core Fact Assessment.
- Increase accommodation in practical areas in line with curriculum demands and anticipated school roll.
- Improved collaboration opportunities between school based partners and organisations in fit for purpose facilities.
- Align academy accommodation to Learning Estates Strategy principles and secondary school brief

The scope of the proposed extension/project is:

- Replace the non-linked accommodation with a permanent structure which includes sufficient general teaching classrooms supporting future growth at the academy.
- Increase in practical subject spaces in areas of Drama, HE and Technical, including learning spaces to support the delivery of Foundation Apprenticeships.
- Collaborative spaces for school partner agencies are also required to enhance the support offered to young people.
- Creation of a bus park.

The project would deliver:

- Additional an additional Drama Studio and Wood Workshop
- Replacement of all temporary accommodation
- Increase in classrooms/learning plaza
- Art department storage
- Partner collaboration space
- Catering and dining considerations
- Bus Park

Kemnay Academy Existing Accommodation:

Total Practical - 26

Total Non - Practical - 41*

***includes 10 classrooms within non-linked accommodation**

Kemnay Academy Future Accommodation:

Total Practical - 29

Total Non - Practical - 45

The published capacity is 730 and the current working capacity is 980, however this would be increased to a target capacity of 1200.

Cllr. Glen Reid

Community Champion – LGiU Scottish Councillor Awards

East Garioch (Ward 12)

Tel: 07388 956139

Email: cllr.g.reid@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

Report from Cllr. Jim Gifford

Thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this edition of Kintore Konnect.

It is hard to believe that by the time you are reading this, it will be getting on for a year since the council elections in May 2022. So much has happened in that time locally, nationally and internationally.

Since the election, I have enjoyed getting to know the Garioch Area in more detail and trying to understand the particular challenges in every part of the area and I am enjoying working with our local communities on issues that most directly affect them – and that of course includes Kintore and the surrounding area.

At the beginning of February, we finally got the new Local development Plan 2023 (LDP) signed off by the Scottish Government. As you will be aware, this is the masterplan for the whole of Aberdeenshire for the next five years and details for this area – and the whole of Aberdeenshire – can be seen under planning on the council website at Aberdeenshire Local Development Plan 2023 - Aberdeenshire Council.

As usual, the ink is barely dry on this new LDP when the process for creating the next one starts. This is the opportunity for every resident, business and community in Aberdeenshire to try and shape what they want their area to look like in the future. There will be many opportunities to participate in the various consultations so watch out for those being advertised over the coming months and years.

Also by the time this is being read, the council will have set its budget for 2023-24 including the Council Tax for next year. This is the 15th budget process that I have been involved in and it has been by far the most difficult and challenging.

Years of under-funding are really catching up on all of our council services which has been accelerated and exacerbated by the aftermath of all things Covid, the high rate of inflation and increasing interest rates that have affected all of us.

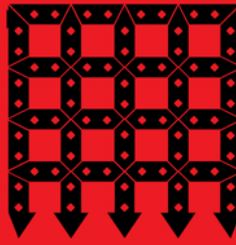
The cost of living affects councils as much as individuals and we are only too painfully aware that decisions that we make to get the numbers in our budget to stack up directly affect many people who depend on the many services that the council provide or pay others to deliver on our behalf.

Having made a raft of the least-worst choices from a list of unpalatable options, we now must make sure that, as far as that is possible, our residents and communities are supported through the coming months while we hope for better times to come.

Cllr. Jim Gifford

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Kintore in Spring

Here's a selection of images sent in over the last couple of months from around Kintore!



Photo by: Rachel Lewis



Photo by: Jim Reid



Photo by: Paul Davison



Photo by: Rachel Lewis

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Celebrating 20 years in Business

On the 1st of February 2023, Jim Reid Vehicle Sales & Service celebrated 20 successful years in business, as they continue to supply their customers with the best experience when buying or servicing their cars.

The family run business started with just Jim and Gail on the 1st February 2003 and has grown steadily, with 17 on the Payroll and now incorporating Vehicle hire in to the services at the busy Kintore site.

It is great to see a family business doing well in our community, with such a focus on helping customers, and as a team they will do what's asked when it comes to the local community without question.



One of the first business cards!

From Phil Buchan, Director - *"We would like to take this opportunity to thank our customers new and old for their ongoing support and loyalty over the years, and we warmly welcome them to the Showroom."*

Kintore Church

Message from Rev Neil Meyer



Proposed Union of Churches

For the past few years, the Church of Scotland congregations of Cluny, Monymusk, Echt & Midmar, Kemnay, Blairdaff & Chapel of Garioch and Kintore have been working together as an area grouping of churches.

The ministers meet regularly to share ideas and support; the congregations meet to share worship in one place whenever there is a 5th Sunday in a month; the ministers and congregations shared resources during the Covid lockdowns; and the congregation of Blairdaff & Chapel of Garioch has been cared for by the ministers of the other congregations while they have been without a minister.

With changing patterns of ministry and drops in staffing levels across the Church of Scotland, this grouping of churches will experience a reduction of ministry positions to just 2½ (2 ministers and 1 half-time assistant) over the coming years. This will take effect as ministers retire or leave and are not replaced.

The Ministers and Elders of our congregations have been meeting together over the past two years to consider a way forward that will ensure we continue to deliver meaningful, mission-driven ministry to all the Congregations and Parishes in our area. We are confident that by working together as one united congregation, led by a united Kirk Session with a team of ministers, we will be able to sustain and grow mission and ministry across this large new parish for the foreseeable future.

All of the participating Kirk Sessions (church councils) have voted in favour of the union and it is part of the future mission plan of the Presbytery (regional church council). The next step in the process is for the members of each congregation in the grouping to approve the union.

This will take the form of a proposal at a congregational meeting. If all congregations approve the union, we will proceed to union at the start of September this year.

At the Stated Annual Meeting of our congregation to be held directly after 10am worship on Sunday, 23rd of April, 2023, in Kintore Church, our congregation will be asked to vote on the proposed Basis of Union with the five other churches to form the Bennachie Parish Church of Scotland, and to vote on the accompanying Basis of Team Ministry which will establish a team of ministers to serve the new parish.

If you are a member of the Parish Church, I would encourage you to be with us for the vote, and if you are not a member, I would ask that you pray for us as we discern God's will for this next step in our journey.

Grace and peace to you all,
Rev Neil Meyer



Dates for your diary

Sunday afternoons

**Please check Messy Church Kintore
Facebook page for details.**

12th March

9th April (Mini-Messy Easter)

14th May

**We start at 3.30pm with refreshments at
Kintore Church**



✓ Sunday meeting weekly in person

✓ New time - 10:30am

✓ Kintore Public Hall

✓ All welcome

✓ Join us...

www.kintore.cc

Kintore's Unsung Heroes

Behind every great community is an army of Unsung Heroes. This feature is designed to turn the spotlight on some of these great people so you get to know more about them and what they do for Kintore and the wider community.

Meet Emma Davies of 'Sustainable Kintore'

Originally from Edinburgh Emma moved to the Aberdeen area to further her education at Aberdeen University, eventually settling here in Kintore about 8 years ago with husband Paul. Mum to Joshua 6 and Ethan 3, she is the founder of 'Sustainable Kintore'.



What is 'Sustainable Kintore' and how did it start?

Sustainable Kintore is a small group of locals who want to make a difference in Kintore and the wider community by raising awareness of the Global Climate Emergency at a local level and work to improve our natural environment in Kintore. As well as running our own events, we are trying to support other community groups to think about sustainability and make positive changes.

We started up about 2 years ago following a fundraising litter pick for Tearfund, organised by Kintore Parish Church. We now have 7 locals who meet every 6 weeks as a Steering Group to discuss & organise events. We are all Christians and motivated by what the Bible teaches us; to look after the world and to act justly. We have about 20 other super volunteers who help out at events and provide advice.

Can you describe what type of events you organise & encourage locally?

Over the last couple of years we have organised a number of successful events. Last year we organised a Plant & Produce Stall, where we encouraged those who are lucky enough to be able to grow excess plants & produce in their garden to display these. Where money is raised this is donated to the likes of Christian Aid however we do encourage the exchange of goods for other goods, like a 'barter system' of old. We have received some very positive feedback and would like to see this event grow again this year.

At Sustainable Kintore we have a firm belief in the local circular economy and have also come up with some really creative ideas for reusing & upcycling household goods that would normally find their way to landfill. For example, we have previously organised book swaps, a warm clothes bank and a Summer recycled sculpture trail.

What are the wider objectives for 'Sustainable Kintore'?

Our priorities for this year are around the use of land/greenspace in Kintore and reducing waste and litter. We already have litterpicker stations around Kintore and a seed/plant swap box, which anyone can use. We often attend Kintore & District Community Council meetings to find out first hand what local planning is being discussed and if we can encourage house builders to become more environmentally friendly and aware of the benefits of wider & better use of greenspace and areas where bugs & wildlife can be encouraged to live alongside the developments.

In the coming year, we hope to work more closely with Aberdeenshire Council and improve the biodiversity of some council owned land around Kintore. We also want to help make our local areas cleaner & tidier by helping organise Community litter picks etc.

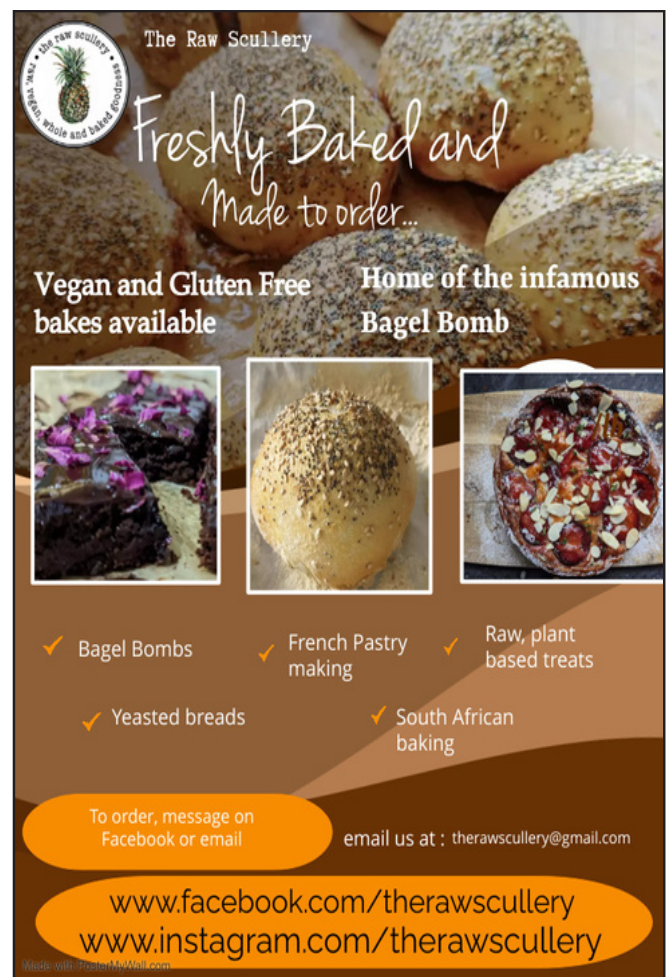
Do you think you are making a difference?

Regardless of how small an action is it all makes a difference. We are under no illusion that the impact of our group is small when it comes to the overall Climate Emergency. However, we hope that by doing what we are doing, it will encourage others to join in. We all have a responsibility towards the future of our children and our children's children through our actions. Change has to happen, and the clock is ticking, all we can do is raise awareness and encourage change and positive action. It's up to all of us and the systems we are part of to change to make a difference.

How do people get involved?

If this small feature has sparked an interest, the best way to get involved or even just find out more information about how to get involved is by emailing me at sustainablekintore@gmail.com. You can also follow us on our very active Facebook page Sustainable Kintore, on Twitter & Instagram. Our webpages can be found on the Kintore Kirk website (www.kintorekirk.org). You can keep bang up to date by signing up for our Newsletter by messaging us via any of the ways listed above. We aim to send this out about every two months. Hope to hear from you soon!

Be sure to pick up the next issue for yet another interview with one of Kintore's Unsung Heroes



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Rotary Club of Kintore, Blackburn & Kemnay

The year has started off busy for the Rotary Club of Kintore, Blackburn and Kemnay, with busy face to face meetings and visitors talking to us. Along with our regular meetings, we are also busy planning fundraising events, with Tea Parties, Golf outing, Kintore Summer Festival and also the King's Coronation to look forward to in the coming months.

One of our guest speakers recently was Emma Leith, who earlier this year attended a RYLA – Rotary Youth Leadership Awards – camp, it was great to hear her talk so passionately about the trip and the change it made for her. This year the Rotary Club are sponsoring again, so if you know a young person who would enjoy and benefit from such an experience, please get in touch via Facebook or search for us online. Here are some words Emma kindly put together for us to publish, and encourage someone to go for it!

"In July 2022, I got on a bus in Kintore that would take me to the most enlivening thing I have ever experienced. I had heard about the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards before through my family members especially my Auntie Jen who attended in 2003 and still holds fond memories of her time there to this day. In anticipation, I was nervous and excited for the week ahead. I quickly got over my anxieties once I boarded the bus and made my first friend as I started up a conversation with the girl sitting beside me.

Meeting my team when we first arrived was the best way to begin as we all got along so well straight away and became fast friends. This contributed to our team winning overall at the end of the week! Even out with my team, everyone was so friendly and eager to get to know each other. The activities during the day were not only physically challenging but also mentally stimulating. We helped each other through fears and celebrated our achievements when we accomplished our missions. I felt a sense of pride for everyone that overcame fears even though we had just met that week.

Through each activity was an aspect of leadership as a leader was chosen for each task. I surprised myself when I volunteered to be the leader for our first activity and during this, I improved my decision making, collaboration and problem-solving skills as we adapted to changes that were thrown at us. I learned a lot about my own leadership style and what I can improve on using my mentor's suggestions.

It was a completely safe space among likeminded girls. I made friends for life, and I am still in contact with them today. I am so grateful to the members of Kintore, Blackburn and Kemnay Rotary Club for selecting me as their RYLA candidate last year and I am sure they will choose another deserving young person to enjoy this experience in 2023." - Emma Leith

We have also welcomed Henry Riddoch, from Oldmeldrum Rotary Club, who spoke to us about ALEC (Aberdeenshire Life Education Centres), this is a Rotary led charity, providing education in schools around Aberdeen and beyond. These are sessions focused on healthy life choices, including wellbeing, relationships, substance misuse and internet safety, and they form an integral part of the Health and Wellbeing provision in schools.

Recently we have had Alan Milne present to us about the First Responders in our area, another life saving service working closely with the Ambulance services, it was interesting to hear what goes on in our communities.

We welcome many guests, and if you would be interested to join in on a meeting or find out more about Rotary and how you can contribute within your community, find us on Facebook or send a message to jamie.grant79@yahoo.com. We are keen to recruit more members to build on the team we have and be able to support the community more.

Our meetings are the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of each month, normally at 6.45pm and just ask for location!

Jamie Grant, Kintore, Blackburn and Kemnay Rotary Club



Think You Know Quiz by Cllr. Glen Reid Answers

The Konnect Konundrum

North East Community Radio

General Knowledge:

1. Croatia
2. Seven (there is no M7)
3. McCain Foods.
4. They're all venomous mammals
5. Loch Ness monster
6. Dundee

True or False?

1. True.
2. False.



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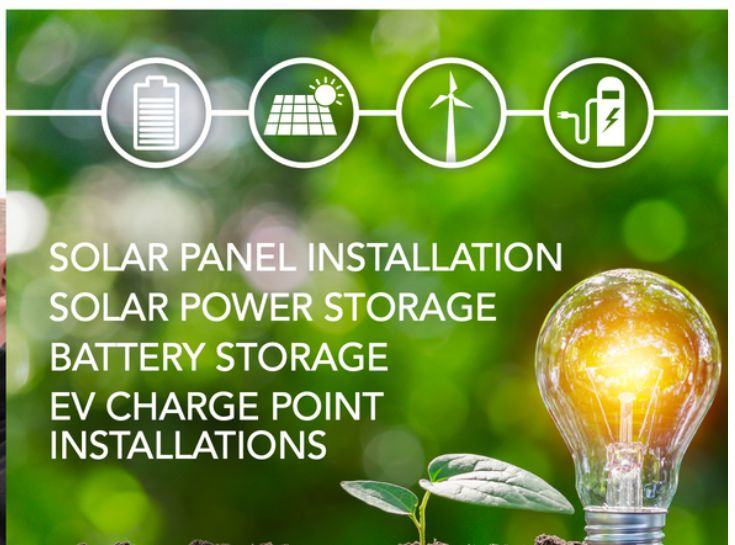
Contact Pauline on 07526453892

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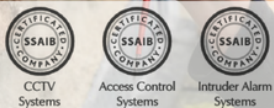
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How did Kintore earn its Royal status?

More than a thousand years ago Kintore was declared one of Scotland's first Royal Burghs. Just how did a small village in rural Aberdeenshire come to be granted this exalted status?

The snappily-titled book "*The Early History of Kintore: Extracted from Old Records and Charters*" explains: "*The Burgh (Kintore) is of very ancient date, claiming its original charter from King Kenneth II of Scotland, whose reign commenced about 834 and terminated A.D. 854.*"

Perhaps it is not surprising that there is some uncertainty about the details of events more than a thousand years ago. While "*The Early History of Kintore*" states that it was King Kenneth II who granted Royal Burgh status on our town, some histories say that Kintore was granted its royal status in the 9th century.

This could be due to uncertainty whether the Royal Burgh status was conferred by the first King Kenneth, Kenneth Macalpin or King Kenneth II. It doesn't help that Royal Burgh status, at this time, was not accompanied by a charter. The royal declaration was enough.

But how did Kintore, relatively remote from the centre of royal life come to be granted royal status?

At the time, the Danes were invading Scotland and Kintore seems to have seen quite a bit of action.

The Danes crop up in two places in Kintore. One is the Dane's Burn which runs down to the Don from Balbithan. Apparently there was another battle with the Danes on this site, and again the Scots won. The name became the Danesy Burn and is now on the Ordnance Survey maps as the Densy Burn.

At Thainstone in Kintore is Camiestone (or Camus Stone) where tradition says that the Danish commander fell and was buried.

But the biggest battle seems to have been on Tuach Hill (shown below), where the invading Danes faced the Scottish army.



The citizens of Kintore are said to have ingeniously come to the aid of the king's army. They tied oak branches to the horns of their cattle and drove them at the Danish lines, turning the tide of the battle.

A grateful King Kenneth declared Kintore as one of the very first royal burghs.

As '*The Early History of Kintore*' puts it: "*Tradition says that in commemoration of a signal victory gained by that monarch over his enemies and that for the good services of the villagers turning out en masse, with their cattle covered with oak branches, who made so formidable an appearance that a complete victory was obtained; and that for their good services the King granted them Royal Privileges.*"

The rout of the Danes is celebrated on the Royal Burgh of Kintore Coat of Arms. It has a shield, an oak tree and two horned bulls, with oak leaves, holding the shield.

Perhaps because of its royal connections, Kintore seems to have enjoyed an elevated status through much of its history.

The kings and queens of Scotland became frequent visitors to Hallforest Castle, which was built, possibly by King Robert the Bruce, as a hunting lodge in the royal forest.

Kintore's Royal Burgh status was renewed by King James IV in 1506 and this time there was a charter.

The official status of Royal Burghs ended in 1974 with local government reorganisation and the disbandment of town councils. But, the good news is that it is recorded in Hansard that Royal Burghs, like Kintore, can continue to use the Royal Burgh title.

With so much history attached to it, why would we not want to remain "*The Royal Burgh of Kintore*"?



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Diary of Events

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
1st Tues	Kintore SWI	Kintore Public Hall	19.30
3rd Tues	Community Council Meeting	Currently Online	19.00
1st & 3rd Thurs	Kintore, Kemnay & District Rotary Club	Currently Online	18.45
2nd Sun	Messy Church	Kintore Church	15.30 - 17.30

Weekly Meetings

Mon	Junior Group - P5, P6 + P7	The Bothie	15.30 - 17.00
Mon	Girls Brigade Groups (P1 up to and including S6)	Church Hall	17.00 - 19.00
Mon	3rd Kintore Brownies	Kintore Public Hall	16.00 - 17.15
Mon	3rd Kintore Rainbows	Kintore Public Hall	16.15 - 17.15
Mon	2nd Kintore Brownies	Kintore Public Hall	18.00 - 19.00
Wed	1st Kintore Rainbows	Kintore Public Hall	18.15 - 19.15
Thurs	1st Kintore Guides and Rainbows	Kintore Public Hall	19.00 - 20.30
Mon & Wed	Kintore Scouts - Cubs (8-10 years)	Kintore Scout Hut	18.30 - 20/15
Tues & Thurs	Kintore Scouts - Beavers (6-8 years)	Kintore Scout Hut	18.00 - 19.00
Tues & Thurs	Kintore Scouts - Scouts (10-15 years)	Kintore Scout Hut	19.30 - 21.00
Tue	Young & Free to Speak (YAFTS) (All kids S1+)	The Bothie	19.00 - 21.00
Wed	Health Walk	The Square	10.00
Sun	Kintore Community Church	Kintore Village Hall	10.30

Some of the above may be subject to change due to school holidays

Upcoming Events

DATE	EVENT	WHERE	TIME
Sun 2nd April	Kintore 0-3 Easter Fun Day	Kintore Public Hall	13:30-15:00 & 15:30-17:00
Sat 6th May	King's Coronation	The Square	11:00
Tues 6th June	Fun Run - 5K		18:30
Thurs 8th June	Dog Show		18:15
Sat 10th June	Kintore Summer Festival	Playing Field (Next to Kintore Primary)	11:00-18:00

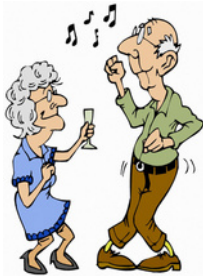


KINTORE 0-3 group
EASTER FUN DAY
 BOUNCY CASTLE & SOFT PLAY
 GLITTER TATTOOS & MORE
 SUNDAY 2ND APRIL 2023
 TIME SLOTS
 13:30-15:00
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 Saturday 10th June 2023
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 Playing Field next to Kintore Primary School
 Magic Show Under 5s Soft Play More to come!
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 Instagram: @Kintore_Summer_Festival
 Email: kintoresummerfestival@outlook.com

KINTORE SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB



We are an over 55's club who meet in the church hall on Wednesday afternoons from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. during the Winter months. Our programme includes Scottish, County Western and Irish musicians and singers. Our 2022/2023 session starts on the 5th October and we are looking for new members to join our friendly club. The annual membership fee is £10, so if you want to be entertained on a Wednesday afternoon please come along as all members old and new are most welcome.

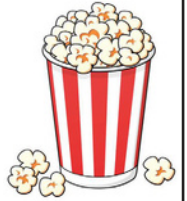
For more information please contact Meg Mackay on 01467 632455 or 07565503384.



Girls' Brigade

Charity Quiz

27th March 2023



5pm – 6.30pm



In Kintore Church Halls



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Kintore Library

Would you like to access newspapers, magazines, e-books and audio books for free online? – then please read on.

Special event: Monday 15th May at 2pm. Finding out the history of your house. An hour(ish) presentation/talk by our experts at Library Local Studies department with examples of resources they keep there e.g. valuation rolls, electoral registers from 1970s which people can then have a look through. This will be bookable through [lifelifeaberdeenshire](http://lifelifeaberdeenshire.gov.uk), but there should be spaces available for people to turn up. Please contact the library for more details.

Kintore Library is open 15 hours a week, on a Tuesday morning 9 – 13.30, Wednesday afternoon 14.00 – 18.00, Thursday afternoon 13.00 – 17.00 and Saturday morning 9 – 11.30.

- You will be able to access the public computers and print from your own, or our, device, paying either beforehand with your card or in cash at the desk (correct change please).
- You can send your printing from home and collect within 24 hours using the Princh App, (you can pay by card at home or in cash when you collect).
- You may also photocopy (cash only – correct change please).
- And of course you will be able to choose your own books.
- You can also pick up NHS hearing aid batteries /distance aware badges and lanyards /dog poo bags/ food caddy waste and battery bags.

What else can you do at the library?

Bookbug sessions are on a Tuesday at 10.30am and a Friday at 9.15 – booking is advisable but subject to space we are happy to accept people walking in, see below for booking details

Knit and Stitch is on a Tuesday 10 – 12, no booking is required but spaces are limited.

Doorstep Delivery - if you are unable to come to us we may be able to come to you, please phone us direct for details 01467 532605 or email kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

Bra Bank - bring in your new and gently worn bras and we will arrange for them to go to Africa, via a charity partner.

Jigsaws - there is a wide selection of adult`s jigsaws available for borrowing.

What can you do at home?

Lifelifeaberdeenshire is an innovative approach to delivering Sports and Culture Services on behalf of Aberdeenshire Council. On the libraries home page you can see various initiatives which might be useful to you. Digital library To access free newspapers (including the PJ), e-books, e-audio books and e-magazines. The library catalogue is where to go to reserve books of interest to you, which will be delivered to the library of your choice, you can also request the library service buys a book if it is not already held. Online Databases are also accessible, these are trusted sites and great for any homework help as well as being useful tools.

We are keen to do additional outreach, if you would like library staff to visit your group or place of work please be in touch at kintore.library@aberdeenshire.gov.uk or by phone **01467 532605**.

For further information or to book a Bookbug place or Click and Collect slot at any Aberdeenshire Library please visit the website <https://lifelifeaberdeenshire.org.uk/libraries> or phone **01467 532929** during office hours. This is also the phone number for Live Life Aberdeenshire Leisure sites.

Please like our Facebook page Kintore Library and/or Aberdeenshire Library and Information Services.



Distance Aware badges and lanyards show others you need space.

You may have seen details of this Scottish Government scheme in the press or other media.

Distance Aware badges and lanyards are for anyone who prefers others to take extra care around them, for any reason. You might be worried about mixing with others as we adapt to living with the virus, or you might just feel more comfortable when you have more room.

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