

Our Estate Newsletter

SPRING 2023



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Quarrymill Kingfisher. Credit: Gary Cantwell

Quarrymill, “a place of public resort”

Quarrymill Woodland Walk provides a beautiful setting for a relaxing Spring amble to enjoy the natural beauty on our doorstep, and it also has some incredible tales to tell.

As a man who enjoyed fresh air and the outdoors, AK Bell purchased Scone Den in 1933 and entrusted it's maintenance to The Gannochy Trust in 1937 with the instruction to keep it as “a place of public resort”.

Quarries,

The earliest recorded activity at Quarrymill goes back to 1328, when Robert the Bruce wrote to Scone Abbey for permission to use stone to build the [Bridges of Perth and Earn and for the Kirk of Perth](#). Scone Abbey and Palace are reported to have been built with the distinctive red and yellow sandstone from Quarrymill.

.. mills,

The Annaty Burn provided a source of power for a variety of 18th century mills for spinning cotton, starch works (Farina Mill) for the textile industry, a bone meal mill, and a Shoemakers' last mill. Evidence of Quarrymill's industrial past include a mill wheel and a stone anvil at the back of the Macmillan Coffee Shop. The mills' sluice pond survives and is now home to ducks and moorhens further up the Annaty Burn.

.. and legends

The Stone of Destiny is shrouded in mystery and an important part of the coronations of Scottish and British Monarchs for centuries. It has been said that once it became known in 1296 that King Edward the First planned to take the Stone from Scotland to England, monks from the Scone Abbey hid the Stone in a safe place and replaced it with one taken from the Annaty Burn at Quarrymill. Whatever is true, the Stone of Destiny, currently housed in Edinburgh Castle, is thought to have been hewn in Quarrymill.

Ref. <https://bit.ly/410qW5L>

Quarrymill wildlife

A rich and diverse range of wildlife call Quarrymill home, or are just passing through. The fluorescent flashes of the kingfisher are a common site - look out for them on perches over still water. Heron, duck, moorhen, dippers and wagtails also enjoy the waterside. Watch for treecreepers as they defy gravity on the search for insects.

As dusk falls, the bats and owls take over the responsibility for flight and night may be when the otters find safe passage along the Annaty Burn to the Tay.



New Sheltered Housing Manager

Margaret Easton has left as sheltered Housing Manager and is returning to Kincarrathie House to work caring for residents. We thank her for providing an excellent service over the last year and wish her all the very best for the future.

Shirley Stephen is our new Sheltered Housing Manager and she has come from working in "Very Sheltered accommodation" with Caledonia Housing Association.

Shirley has a wealth of sheltered housing experience and I am sure you will all give her a big "Gannochy Welcome" in her new role.

Letters have been sent out to Sheltered Residents giving updated information.



Our "**warm space**" started in February 2023 in the Gannochy Hall with a small number of residents attending increasing to about seven or more for a cuppy and a chat.



We thought a name change to "**Spring watch**" might encourage and motivate our sheltered residents to come along in future months with the snowdrops, crocuses and now daffodils popping through the ground - signs of better weather is ahead.

All sheltered residents are very welcome for a "Tea/Coffee and a Chat".



Tenancy Spotlight

The Short Assured Tenancy Agreement & The Private Residential Tenancy Agreement - Joint Tenants leaving

Both types of Agreements require joint tenants to both terminate their tenancy even if only one person is leaving the property. A new Private Residential Tenancy Agreement will be signed with the remaining tenant where one person is staying on. The Trust do not get involved in deciding who the remaining person will be, as this is decided by the joint tenants themselves even if it involves them seeking legal advice.

Changes in your household

To keep our records up to date it is important that we are advised if anyone is leaving or joining your household, especially anyone over the age of 16 years old. We have an obligation to ensure our houses are not overcrowded, as this can be detrimental to health.

Dog Fouling

We are again appealing for residents to be vigilant and look out for any residents allowing their dogs to foul on the pavement or common grass areas without picking it up. If you have family members taking the dog out ensure they have a supply of poo bags.

I am aware that we have people coming through the estate from various other areas, but if they are regular walkers and are seen not to pick up, then we can report them to Perth & Kinross Council.

Car parking on the estate

Please ensure that your car is parked in your drive and that any visitors are using your drive or visitor parking bays and not parking on the pavement.

Gardens—It that time of year for Inspections

We are commencing walkabouts and contacting tenants to tidy gardens and cut grass after the winter period. Assistant Estate Manager (Grounds) advises that tenants should now be looking to get the opportunity to cut the top layer off their grass, so it makes it easier for the future months.

Community Anchor

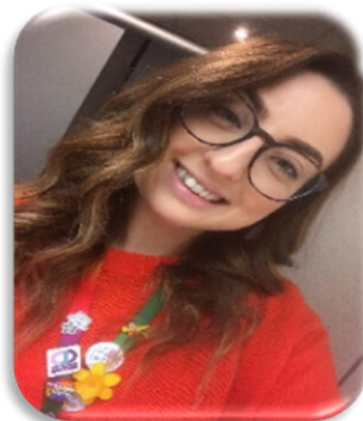
The new role of Community Anchor is jointly funded by Caledonia Housing Association and The Gannochy Trust.

As Community Anchor, Megan Crossan will support older people with activities that keep them active, healthy, improve their quality of life and assist them to be socially included in their communities.

Megan is hoping to get Gannochy Sheltered Residents involved in Joint ventures with local sheltered housing developments in Perth and Scone and to introduce some new activities at the Gannochy Hall. A survey among our sheltered residents has taken place to look at what events and activities they would like to see come to hall.

An invitation has been given to attend Bowerswell's "Coronation Party" with Buffet and entertainment. Posters will be put up in our community notice boards with details.

We hope the start of this new venture will improve social inclusion and enhance community activities.





Staff Spotlight: Mrs Fiona Russell, Grants Manager

When did you start with The Gannochy Trust?

I started with the Trust on 14th April 2003 and also got married and moved house the same year so have a few 20th Anniversaries coming up this year.

Key moments at the Trust?

There have been a lot of highlights over the last 20 years including the Trust's 75th Anniversary back in 2012; the addition of 48 new houses within the estate; providing annual funding of around £5m to registered charities; a programme of Grants Plus events to support capacity-building and sustainability in charities; greater use of the Trust's facilities.

What is the best part of your job?

As both Grants and Finance Manager it is the wide variety of work ranging from speaking to charities about their applications and hearing about their progress, through to working on annual budgets and preparation of the annual accounts. We are fortunate to have a great staff team at the Trust and the support, teamwork and laughter all make it a wonderful place to work.

What do you do to relax after work?

Enjoy reading, making jewellery, walking and exploring Scotland – with regular stops for tea and a cheese scone!

Gannochy Youth Events in May

Three Friday evening events for young people aged 10 to 18 from the Gannochy area are planned in the Curly from 6pm to 8pm on 12th, 19th, and 26th May.

The Mobile Youth Unit and Youth Workers from Kinross-shire Youth Enterprise and YMCA Tayside will be providing a free **Barbeque and Pizza** under shelter of gazebos on each of the three evenings. Space for young people to just meet up with friends and have a free bite to eat.

Friday 12th will also offer **games and activities**.

Friday 19th will include a **bike maintenance** workshop - bring a bike for repair.

Friday 26th will have a focus on **live music**.

No need to book but if you have any suggestions for activities, or dietary requirements, they will need to know in advance. Please contact events@gannochytrust.org.uk or message **07545 164359**



Gannochy Community Hall Events

Gannochy Events Group (Book with Helen - 07808 087708)

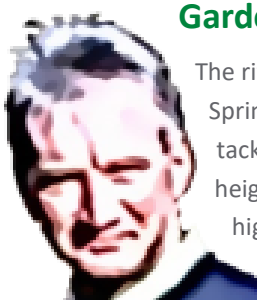
- 13th April Afternoon Tea
- 28th April Quiz Night
- 8th May Coronation Buffet

Sheltered Housing Coffee Mornings (Book with Shirley - 07450 752284)

- Every Tuesday Morning

Social Needlework Classes (Book with Marianne - 07754837187)

- 22nd April Crochet Class
- 24th April Knit & Natter



Gardener's Corner

The river of purple crocuses at the entrance to Quarrymill now provides a fantastic annual Spring welcome to traffic coming in to Perth on the Isla Road. It being Spring, it's time to tackle the grass. A good rule of thumb is not to take more than a third of the grass height off in one cut, that will mean that you should start the year with the blade on a high setting. Cut regularly to progressively reduce the height of the grass by Summer to enjoy your garden at its best.

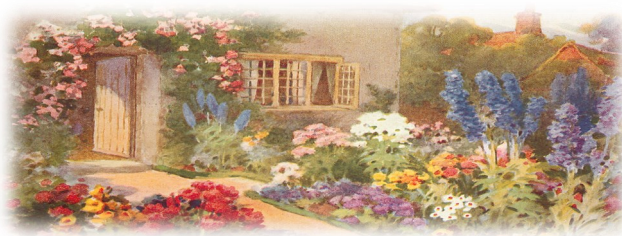
Sunflower Competition

Get your seeds in the ground before the end of May and register your Sunflower before the judges visit with the tape measure on 4 September.

Register on Eventbrite - <https://bit.ly/3K4Q6t2> or email events@gannochytrust.org.uk with your address.



Bob's Bits Now that spring is upon us it is a good time to ventilate our homes! Blow away the winter cobwebs by opening your windows for a short period of time each day (weather permitting) to allow the fresh spring air into your home.



Housing Services and Tenancy Guide Delivered along with your newsletter is a copy of the Housing Services and Tenancy guide designed to provide you with a quick reference on various aspects of your tenancy and the services that we provide.

The Gannochy Trust provide high quality homes for rent which honours the original vision and wishes of our founder A.K. Bell. We invest in looking after the houses, wider estate and the green spaces with the aim of promoting wellbeing and enhancing tenants experience of living on the estate.

Emergency repair contact numbers “out of office hours”

Trade/Issue	Contractor	Tel. No.
Gas and Heating Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Boiler/heating not working Radiator leak which cannot be controlled No hot water Carbon monoxide detector activating/faulty 	Thermal Comfort Frank McDonald	07703107364
Plumbing and Drainage <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Blocked drains which are preventing the use of toilet or sink Leak to water supply pipes 	Thermal Comfort Frank McDonald	07703 107364
Electrical and Smoke Alarm Systems <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electrical faults which will not re-set Faulty smoke or heat alarms 	Dave Peebles	07709 365071
Joinery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jammed or faulty door/lock or window which compromise security 	Graham Davidson	07493 233844
Roof leaks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Missing or broken slates causing water ingress 	Alan Robertson & Sons	07738499180
Sheltered Housing Aid-Call System <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Faulty control unit Faulty smoke or heat alarms 	PPP Taking Care Aid Call	0800 0851587

Gardens and Patios Awards

The Gannochy estate is renowned for its well maintained gardens and patios and we would welcome your nominations for the gardens and patios that bring you most joy and that you think are worthy of recognition.

You can nominate as many gardens or patios as you like, including your own, by simply emailing events@gannochytrust.org.uk

The top nominated gardens will be judged in July and we will notify finalists so that you know when the judges will be visiting.

Trophies will be provided for all finalists and winners will also receive garden centre vouchers.