

## LOCAL BULLETIN

## OUTREACH

## Fife postmaster to run temporary mobile service for Scone

A Post Office service will return to Scone this week after a postmaster from Fife agreed to provide a mobile service.

The move is expected to be a temporary measure, with Post Office chiefs keen to move the service into a business already operating in the local area.

The mobile outreach service is operated by the postmaster from Kennoway Post Office, who will set up next to the chemist's on Angus Road every Thursday from 2.15-3.15pm, and Friday from 9-10am.

Post Office change manager Robert Sharp said: "We understand how important having a Post Office service is to residents in Scone and we are confident this mobile outreach service will meet their needs while we continue to seek a permanent solution."

"We would still encourage any retailer or small business

owner interested in running the Post Office in Scone and incorporating it into their business to get in contact."

Attempts to reopen the service at Scone collapsed last month.

The Perth Road outlet has been closed since January and was due to be relaunched by Bridgend businessman Ian Morgan.

However, Mr Morgan said he was forced to pull out after a dispute with Post Office chiefs over staffing requirements.

Now the shop, branded as Usave Convenience Store, is being offered to let by property consultancy firm Graham and Sibbald.

The 915sq ft store is being marketed as a "rare lease or purchase opportunity".

According to the shop's particulars, the property is available for lease at a rent of £14,000 a year.



## Area's care home residents Go4Gold in golden years

Older people in Perth and Kinross took part in a care home challenge event yesterday to highlight the importance of physical activity.

Around 120 residents from 40 care homes and day centres across the region tried their hand at various games and challenges at the eighth annual Go4Gold event in Bell's Sports Centre in Perth.

The participants took part in various physical challenges, including indoor curling, golf throwing target, fishing for ducks, hoopla, and a golf putting challenge.

Some of the other activities on the day included a warm-up session led by Perth College UHI, a games challenge, and a tea dance and sing-song, with the Perth High School ceilidh band providing the music and singers.

Far left: Betty Cowie putting alongside well-dressed staff from RDM Care Home Scone. Above left: Dorothy Ford from Balhousie Care Home, North Inch. Left: Hopemark Care Home residents Kath, Mina and Eileen.

Pictures: Steve MacDougall.

## LOCAL BULLETIN

## LOCH EARN

## Dundee High pupils on crest of a wave after sailing competition



Young sailors battle it out for the Brown Cup.

Dozens of young sailors battled it out on Loch Earn in the annual Brown Cup schools sailing competition.

The event consisted of three fleets - Optimist class, Topper class and Handicap - made up of children from across Scotland.

Organised by Loch Earn Sailing Club since 1959, the competition was founded by former commodore Jack Brown.

Tom Mitchell, James Gifford and Rory Gifford, of Dundee High, won the overall competition.

## PERTH

## Shock as bag of suspected drugs found outside primary school

The grounds of a Perth primary school were searched by police after a bag of white powder was discovered nearby.

Officers were called after a bag of the substance, suspected to be class A drug cocaine, was found just yards from North Muirton Primary.

The bag was discovered last Thursday, by a parent who disposed of it before it could be examined by police.

No other evidence of drugs was found following a search of the school area.

A police spokesperson said: "Police Scotland was contacted on June 6 by a Perth resident who found what they believed to be drugs in the North Muirton area and then disposed of it."

## PERTH AND KINROSS: NEWS IN BRIEF

## SCONE

The next meeting of Scone and District 50+ Group is on June 19 in the Robert Douglas Memorial Hall, on Abbey Road, when Dagsy Smith will be providing the entertainment.

Doors open at 1.30pm and the meeting starts at 2.

## PERTH

The community farm on Jeanfield Road will be holding an open day from 11am to 4pm on Sunday.

## WEEM

A Gaelic Songs of Praise will once again be held in Weem Parish Church at 2pm on Sunday.

Familiar hymns will be sung in English to well-known Gaelic melodies and Aberfeldy Gaelic Choir will sing.

## SCONE

A prize bingo in aid of Tayside Kidney Patients Association will take place at the RDM Institute, Scone, on June 21 from 7.30pm.

## MEETING

The next meeting of Earn Community Council will be held in Forgandenny Hall on June 24 from 7pm.

## MUSIC

A record and CD sale will be held in Perth's Salutation Hotel on Sunday from 11am to 4pm.

## VERSES

A poetry workshop with writer Jim Mackintosh will be held at the Strathmore Centre for Youth Development, Wellmeadow House, Blairgowrie, today from 6 to 8pm.

## £13k damage to city centre traffic lights in one year

**COUNCIL:** Tracing motorists meant authority recouped almost all repairs

ROSS GARDINER

More than £13,000 of damage was caused to traffic lights and streetlamps in Perth city centre crashes last year, the council has revealed.

The local authority faced a bill of £10,920 to repair traffic lights which were knocked down in collisions in the city centre, a Freedom of Information request has revealed. Being able to trace the drivers, the council were able to make sure the motorists' insurance firms paid out on almost all the repairs.

Traffic lights were knocked down seven times between April 2018 and April 2019.

The most afflicted posts were the island lights outside the Grampian Hotel, and the island lights outside the police station on Barrack Street, with both sets needing to be repaired twice.

**“We will recharge the cost of carrying out repairs to street lights and posts to the individual responsible. COUNCIL SPOKESPERSON**



A police car hit a light near the force's Perth HQ.

The Barrack Street lights were damaged after a police car crashed into them just metres from the Perth headquarters.

At the other end of Caledonian Road, the island lights on York Place have been knocked down repeatedly, with a separate FoI revealing they had to be replaced five times in 2017 alone - totalling around £9,000 of damage.

Council officers were also called out last year to repair damage to lights outside the AK Bell Library, Dickens Bar, and outside the Bridgend Inn, where Main Street becomes Isla Road.

Two street lighting columns were also knocked over by vehicles in the city centre, totalling more than £2,200.

Lamp-posts on Balhousie Street and Dundee Road were both struck by vehicles, but the local authority only had to pay £100 towards the repairs.

A council spokesperson said: "Whenever possible, we will recharge the cost of carrying out repairs to street lights and posts to the individual responsible for the damages, if they can be identified by Police Scotland."

"If the individual cannot be identified the repair costs are met by the council." [rogardiner@thecourier.co.uk](mailto:rogardiner@thecourier.co.uk)

## Council to lock down Persimmon Homes site after road dispute

**PLANNING:** Part of new housing development will be sealed off to workers

JAMIE BUCHAN

Construction giant Persimmon Homes will have part of its new Kinross-shire housing development sealed off in a bitter dispute with council chiefs.

The company has been accused of building several unauthorised streets at its 350-home Lathro Farm estate.

Tomorrow morning, Perth and Kinross Council will take the unusual step of fencing off the roads, putting them out of action for several months.

The local authority has said efforts will be made to retain access for people who are already living on the site, as well as for new homeowners who are due to arrive in the coming weeks.

But Persimmon has been told to get all trade vehicles off the affected area.

Since construction began on the land between Kinross and Milnathort in 2017, there has been a stream of complaints from residents who claim the developer has broken several planning conditions.



Councillor Willie Robertson. Picture: Steven Brown.

The roads that will be shut off are between the finished houses on the west side and the motorway.

Lib Dem councillor Willie Robertson said: "I just find it incredible that such a well-known national company would behave in this way."

"Dealing with complaints about Persimmon has become a full-time job."

He said: "There are already people living on this estate and they will be greatly disadvantaged for quite some time by having these streets fenced off."

"I just can't understand how something like this can happen in this day and age."

A council spokeswoman said: "The roads forming phase 1B at the west side of the site are being constructed without Road Construction Consent. This constitutes an offence under Section 23 of the Roads (Scotland) Act."

"This closure will remain in force until consent has been granted and this may take several months."

Persimmon Homes North Scotland said it was investigating the matter and would issue a statement in due course.

In April, council chief executive Karen Reid insisted that Persimmon was following rules imposed with planning permission, following allegations of infringement.

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## SPORT

## Excitement at Gleneagles served up by tennis legends and aces

Tennis legends are to descend on Gleneagles from tomorrow for the only Scottish fixture in the ATP Champions Tour.

Former British No 1 Tim Henman, former world No 1 Juan Carlos Ferrero, and former world No 5 Thomas Enqvist will be among the players taking part in the three-day Brodies Invitational, which runs until Saturday.

Also playing for the first time will be GB Fed Cup captain Anne Keothavong and former Belgian Fed Cup captain Dominique Monami.

Tennis fans will also have an opportunity to see some of Scotland's up-and-coming junior talent in action, as they take on the legends and each other in exhibition matches.

## PERTH

## 'Disturbance' closes city street



A police vehicle at the scene on South Street.

Part of a Perth street was sealed off by police following reports of a disturbance yesterday.

A cordon was placed outside a block of flats on South Street, around an area covered in broken glass. A police spokesman said although there were reports of a disturbance, it turned out a window in the flats had been accidentally broken.