



HAPPY EASTER! BULLETIN



WELCOME TO THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES FROM THE TRUST

TRUST OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 10:00 - 4:00
Tuesday: 10:00 - 4:00
Wednesday: 3:30 - 5:00
Thursday: 12:00 - 4:00
Friday: Bulletin Day

Wellbeing Wednesdays

11:00 am - Stroll in the Park
12:00 - Special £5 Lunch
1:00 pm - Craft Circle

Thursday

2-4pm Gentle Garden Group
4-6pm Take Away Pie Night

KPT COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

**(COMMUNITY HYDRO
DIVIDEND)**

NOW OPEN!

For more information and how
to apply,
please contact using the
details below.

YUNEX GIVES THE GREEN LIGHT TO ACTIVE TRAVEL ON THE NITH BRIDGE!

Efficient and clear signalling is a key step in delivering safe journeys for all active travellers including cyclists, walkers and wheelers.

There are two elements which differentiate the traffic installed by Yunex Traffic on the Nith Bridge from standard traffic lights. The Yunex traffic signals use cameras and sensors which detect traffic approaching. If there is no traffic approaching on the opposite side of the bridge the lights will remain green or turn to green. Conversely if the lights remain red there is traffic approaching on the bridge. Active Travellers now have a button at accessible level which if pressed will activate an active traveller signal which will indicate when safe to cross. There will be a further signal mid bridge which can be pressed if the time allocated (approx. 40 secs) is deemed insufficient to complete crossing.

Keeping our community connected and safe at Nith Bridge we are delighted that phase 1B2 of the Penpont to Thornhill Path is available for our walkers, wheelers, and cyclists to use. Please remember that the permanent Yunex traffic signals at Nith Bridge are now fully operational. A polite reminder to all drivers for the safety of all, please ensure you stop on red. These vehicle-activated lights help manage visibility on the bridge, making the journey better for everyone. Thank you for your patience and for helping make our community's new path a success!



Telephone: 01848 331435



Email: info.kptdt@gmail.com



Website: www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

USAGE ANALYSIS OF THE PENPONT-THORNHILL PATH: DATA REVIEW SPRING 2026

1. Objective

To evaluate the volume and frequency of walkers, cyclists and wheelers at two key access points –Penpont and Drumlanrig—to determine current usage levels and trends.

2. Methodology

Automated transponder counters were deployed at the Penpont terminus and the Drumlanrig access point. Data was collected over a 7-day intensive period (19–25 March) and a 29-day baseline period (19 Feb–19 March).

3. Results

Location	Reporting Period	Total Count	Average Frequency
Penpont	19 – 25 March (7 days)	489	3.3 / hour
Drumlanrig	19 – 25 March (7 days)	513	3.5 / hour
Drumlanrig	19 Feb – 19 March (29 days)	1,579	2.4 / hour

4. Discussion: Impact of the New Extension

The results highlight several key trends following the completion of the path's most recent section:

- **Immediate Adoption of New Infrastructure:** Despite being the newest part of the route, the Drumlanrig access is already outperforming the established Penpont end (513 vs 489 passes). This indicates that the extension has successfully captured "latent demand" and is being rapidly integrated into the community's habits.
- **Performance Growth:** The jump from 2.4 to 3.5 passes per hour at the Drumlanrig end suggests that as word spreads about the new access point, usage is accelerating.
- **Enhanced Connectivity:** The narrow margin between the two counters (only a 24-pass difference) suggests that the majority of users are likely traversing the full length of the path, proving that the new extension has created a highly functional "through-route" between the two points.

5. Conclusion

The data confirms that the Penpont-Thornhill path is a robust and growing community asset. The high volume of walkers, cyclists and wheelers at the newly completed Drumlanrig access is particularly encouraging, demonstrating the path's newest extension is being well used. As usage has already increased by over 45% in a single month, it is highly likely that usage will continue to rise throughout the spring and summer. We recommend continued monitoring to capture these peak trends and to assist in long-term maintenance planning.

Acknowledgements

Special thanks to Andrew and Irene Haining for their ongoing work in monitoring the counters and downloading the data used in this report.

Report Date: 3 April 2026

THANK YOU!



**Thank
You!**

A great deal of thanks has to go to Alex from CSU Web Design based in Moniaive. Alex responded to our SOS and fixed our issue with the mobile website. Alex is not charging us as he said it was a quick fix. He has also made the top banner more visible - who knew that we just had to rearrange the photos so that they fitted on the page? Alex did! We cannot thank him enough for his help.

THANK YOU, Alex!

Top man!!



<https://cyberspaceunlimited.co.uk/>

A Huge Thank You to Cyberspace Unlimited!

We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the team at **Cyberspace Unlimited** for coming to our rescue this week.

When our mobile website hit a snag, they stepped in with the professional skill and technical expertise we desperately needed. As a charity, we rely heavily on our digital presence to connect with our community, and having a local business reach out to help means the world to us.

It's a wonderful reminder that a little kindness goes a long way. Their support has ensured we can continue our work without missing a beat.

Thank you for being such amazing supporters of our cause!

COMPETITION ENTRY DEADLINE EXTENDED

Calling all local explorers!

Our Active Travel Path Treasure Hunt is staying open for extra time!

We're looking for more winning entries to join our prize draw. The prize is this lovely family hamper including a £25 Voucher to use at the Three Villages Café. So grab your friends and family for a stroll along the active travel path.

Entry forms are available at the KPT Development Trust or The Three Villages Cafe.

Once you've spotted the markers and gathered your clues, hand your completed form back to us by Wednesday 22 April, 5pm.

Reminder: Please do not move or remove the stones along the path.

Winner now announced on Friday 24 April



Good Luck!



FOUR SEASONS IN ONE DAY: A SPECTACULAR STROLL AT THREAVE NATURE RESERVE

On Wednesday, 25th March, the "Stroll in The Park" walking group embarked on a truly memorable day trip to Threave Nature Reserve, near Castle Douglas. Our spirits were high as we set off, relying on the reliable and friendly Thornhill District Community Transport. And what a day it turned out to be! True to the unpredictability of Scottish spring, we experienced all four seasons in a single walk.

An Island Adventure and Four Seasons

As we arrived, we were greeted with a crisp winter chill, turning to biting wind as we approached the banks of the River Dee. Undeterred, we still wished that we could ring the bell to summon the boatman and enjoy a nostalgic trip over to the island. No sooner had we reached the view overlooking the ruins of the 14th-century Threave Castle—built by Archibald 'the Grim'—than the sun broke through, bathing the fortress in warm, spring sunshine. By the time we walked back through the surrounding wetlands nature reserve, we had experienced sudden heavy showers, brief calm, and gale-force gusts, and sleet reminding us how quickly the weather changes in Galloway.

Watching Out for Osprey

March is a special time at Threave Nature Reserve. The breeding ospreys, having travelled thousands of miles from Africa, are known to return around this time to their nesting sites. Our group kept a keen eye on the wetlands, particularly watching the sky near the osprey viewing platform, hoping to catch a glimpse of the magnificent birds returning home.

Warmth and Hospitality at Threave Gardens

After a bracing and exhilarating walk, we were ready for some warmth. We made our way to the café located at Threave Gardens. The café was a perfect haven. We enjoyed a thoroughly rewarding lunch, steaming soup and filling up on hearty, freshly made sandwiches. It was the perfect end to a day that was as invigorating as it was beautiful.

A Great Day Out

Despite the "mixed" weather, it was, without a doubt, a fantastic day. A special thank you to Thornhill District Community Transport for getting us there and back safely and comfortably. If you are looking for a place that offers rich history, abundant wildlife, and dramatic landscapes, a spring visit to Threave Castle and its surrounding nature reserve is highly recommended. Just be sure to bring all your layers!



Photo Credit: Sandy Beer (March 2026)

DATES FOR THE DIARY



Join local author Hugh McMillan, for a gentle, guided Creative Writing Session. We'll be reading stories and poems, and using them to spark our own creativity.

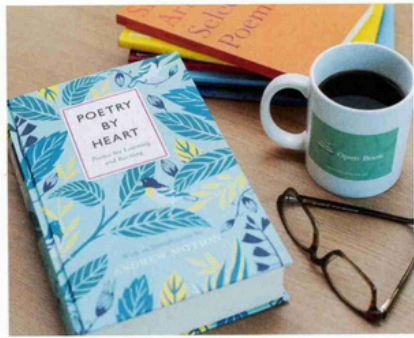
Three Villages Cafe, Main Street, Penpont
DG3 4BP

Learn more at openbookreading.com and sign up for the *Unbound* newsletter.

6:30-8:30pm, monthly on a Wednesday

- 8 April
- 6 May
- 3 June
- 1 July
- 5 August

All welcome, ages 18+



BRIDGEND COMMUNITY GARDEN

Saturday, 11th April

3-5pm

Join us for a Springtime Easter Celebration!



- FOOD
- GAMES
- MUSIC
- CRAFTS



DG3 COMMUNITY FOOD SHARING OPPORTUNITIES

OLD SCHOOL THORNHILL

THORNHILL COMMUNITY FOOD INITIATIVE

EVERY SUNDAY 11.30AM - 12.30PM

A friendly, low-cost shop and drop-in space supporting anyone in DG3 who could use a hand with their weekly groceries

<p>HOW IT WORKS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £6 shop: choose 20 family items • £3 shop: choose 10 individual items • Fruit, vegetables & eggs are always free 	<p>WHO IS THIS FOR?</p> <p>This space is here for anyone who could use a little extra support, including those who:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are finding it hard to make ends meet • are worried about rising prices and everyday costs • are dealing with debt or financial pressures • have had their income reduced or have been sanctioned
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DONATIONS WELCOME FROM 10.30AM ONWARDS

<p>FREE FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND EGGS</p>	<p>STORE CUPBOARD ESSENTIALS</p>
<p>WHAT IS IT?</p> <p>CHEESE, YOGHURT AND COLD MEAT</p>	<p>PLUS TEA, COFFEE OR HOT CHOCOLATE</p>
<p>QUESTIONS? PLEASE GET IN TOUCH!</p>	
<p>Old School Thornhill Station Road Thornhill DG3 5DF</p> <p>w. oldschoothornhill.com e. tcfi@oldschoothornhill.com</p>	<p>WITH SUPPORT FROM</p> <p>Dumfries & Galloway</p> <p>The ROBERTSON Trust</p>
<p>SCOTTISH CHARITY NO. SC049355</p>	



SATURDAY
(10:30 to 12:30)

Come on down to the garden and help to sow our seeds and get growing!

Thursday
(2:00 - 4:00)

Join us for an afternoon of gentle gardening, companionship and general outdoorsy (ish) tasks!

SIGNS OF SPRING!



Slowly awakening!



A host of golden daffodils...

GARDEN GROUP

Join our 'gentle gardening group'
Health & Wellbeing
Thursday
2:00 - 4:00pm

Community Growing together!

Every Saturday
from 10:30am to 12:30pm.

All Welcome!

www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

PLANT OF THE WEEK



Wood anemone (*Anemone nemorosa*).

- **Appearance:** It features star-shaped white flowers with six to seven petal-like sepals, a yellow center, and deeply divided green foliage.
- **Habitat:** Typically found in deciduous woodlands, it often acts as an indicator of ancient woodland due to its slow spread.
- **Behavior:** Known as "windflowers," these plants are heliotropic, meaning their flowers follow the sun and open only in bright conditions.
- **Blooming Season:** They are one of the earliest signs of spring, generally blooming from March through May.




FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME CLUB DATES

27TH March
 10th April
 17th April
 24th April

SIT-IN & TAKE-AWAY BOOKING PREFERRED

To book, please call 01848 331073; find us on facebook, e-mail threevillagescafe@gmail.com or BEST OF ALL, POP IN AND SEE US!

FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME CLUB

At
Three Villages Community Cafe

MENU

Home made Steak Pie, chips & peas £10
 Breaded Haddock, chips & peas £10
 Chicken Supreme & Rice - £10
 Sausages, Mash & Onion Gravy - £10
 Sweet n Sour Chicken & Noodles £9
 Special Fried Rice with chorizo, prawns & chicken £9
 3 egg Shakshuka with or without crispy sausage £7
 Macaroni Cheese, chips & peas (V) £7

5.15PM TO LAST ORDERS 7.00PM
Sit in/take away

To book: please call in to the cafe, email - threevillagescafe@gmail.com or phone 01848 331073



Ever wondered how a small click makes a big difference? 🍷 +

As a community-run café, we rely on word-of-mouth to keep our doors open and our kettles whistling.

When you 'Check In' on Facebook during your visit, it's like giving us a friendly shout-out to all your neighbours!

Why check in?
 ! It helps local folks find us for the first time.
 ★ It shows the world that our café is a busy, vibrant hub. community It's the easiest (and free!) way to support your local Three Villages spot.

Next time you're in for a brew or a blether, pop a quick check-in on your phone. We'd love to see your photos, too! 📷

Thank you for being the heart of the Three Villages Community Cafe. See you soon!




Thank You

Over the last 6 months we have been raising funds for breast cancer, via second-hand book sales in the café.

We have raised a fantastic **£72.14**

breast cancer uk.

Easter Sunday Menu



5th April from 12 noon



Starter (£5.00)

Soup of the Day, served with a bread roll

OR

Garlic Mushrooms, served with brown toast

Main Course (£9.00)

Roast Pork, sage & onion Stuffing, apple sauce

OR

Spanakopita (Greek veg, feta & filo pie)

both served with potatoes and vegetables

Dessert (£5.00)

Easter Cheesecake

OR

Raspberry Roulade

both served with cream or ice-cream

2 Courses - £13.50

3 Courses - £18.00

Contact us to book a table- tel. 01848 331073, email threevillagescafe@gmail.com, or call in.
www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

