



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: Bulletin Day
Friday: 10:00 - 4:00

Wellbeing Wednesdays

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

Thursday

2-4pm Gentle Garden Group
 4-6pm Thursday Night Tea
 Time - Meals starting at £2.50

KPT COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND

**(COMMUNITY HYDRO
DIVIDEND)**

APPLY NOW!

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

SUN, SPOKES, AND SUCCESS AT THE KM RALLY 2026

Glorious sunshine blessed the event from start to finish. A massive thank you goes out to our incredible local community, the Three Villages Community Cafe crew, and our fantastic volunteers—including the KPT Development Trust's Craft Circle. We also extend our gratitude to the ralliers who travelled far and wide. While some returned for the umpteenth time, others joined the KM Rally family for the very first time.

Below is the official group photograph of our participants. Captured outside Kirkpatrick Macmillan's Smiddy, the group is pictured on their way to the famous Keir Cake Raid on Sunday 24th May.



Photo: (May 2026) Courtesy of Sally Hinchcliffe



Telephone: 01848 331435



Email: info.kptdt@gmail.com



Website: www.kptdevelopmenttrust.org

Honouring the Inventor of the Bicycle

A heartfelt thank you to Dumfries and Galloway Council for their meticulous care of Keir graveyard. The recent cut and trim beautifully preserved this historic heritage site. This pristine upkeep makes it much easier for our cyclists to make their annual pilgrimage to the resting place of Kirkpatrick Macmillan.



Pictured at the immaculate burial site are KM Rally volunteers Natasha Tollet and Amber Bain, who made their own journey to pay respects to the brilliant inventor of the pedal bicycle.

PEDAL POWER AND PEACE OF MIND: A HUGE THANK YOU TO POLICE SCOTLAND

Our recent KM Rally was an incredible success, but one of the absolute highlights was the fantastic support we received from Police Scotland. We want to extend our heartfelt thanks to Police Officers Jen and Scott. They spent time engaging with our community and offering free security marking for bicycles. Security marking is a vital tool for bike safety, as it deters thieves and makes it much easier to reunite lost or stolen bikes with their rightful owners through databases like the Bike Register. Thanks to Jen and Scott's hard work, some cyclists rode home with extra peace of mind.



COMMUNITY CAFE COOKS UP A STORM: KM RALLY BBQ A SIZZLING SUCCESS AT KEIR

The local community spirit shone brighter than the May sunshine over the weekend as Keir hosted an unforgettable barbecue for the annual KM Rally on Saturday 23rd May. Tasked with feeding a crowd of hungry cyclists, the team from the Three Villages Community Café truly outdid themselves.



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They served up a spectacular feast specifically tailored to refuel riders after miles in the saddle. The menu featured brilliant burgers and sizzling sausages alongside a vibrant array of delicious side dishes, including freshly prepared pasta, rice, and mixed salads.

Events of this scale require a massive team effort, and this year's barbecue benefited immensely from a surge of extra volunteers. Helpers of all ages stepped up to support the event, generously donating their time to manage everything from the initial site set-up to working the hot grills. Organisers expressed immense gratitude to every volunteer who pitched in, noting that their hard work is what made this particular stop on the KM Rally route such a memorable occasion. To top off a perfect day, the unpredictable Scottish climate played along!

TWIRLING STEPS: AN UNFORGETTABLE NIGHT OF MUSIC AND CEILIDH MAGIC AT KEIR VILLAGE HALL



The evening of Saturday 23 May transitioned from a sizzling outdoor BBQ into a night of high-energy entertainment at Keir Village Hall. The event kept both dedicated ralliers and Ceilidh attendees active until the final notes faded. Sunlight and smoke from the grills created a perfect backdrop for the lively crowd.

Once the sun went down, the energy shifted indoors. The Roving Peddlars took the stage and delivered an unforgettable performance. Specialising in traditional set dances, the band guided dancers of all experience levels through every step and turn. Their expert calling ensured that absolutely everyone stayed on the beat and on their feet.

The unique combination of a warm afternoon social and a high-spirited dance floor left everyone buzzing. Attendees praised the seamless blend of great food, smoke, sunbeams, and non-stop movement. It was truly a memorable highlight of the weekend for the all those who joined in the community fun at Keir Village Hall.



A FLOURISH OF BAKING AND HISTORY: KEIR CELEBRATES THE INFAMOUS CAKE RAID AND THE KIRKPATRICK-MACMILLAN PILGRIMAGE

The historic village of Keir marked Sunday 24 May with a spectacularly successful double celebration. The day featured the infamous Keir Cake Raid and a meaningful pilgrimage to the grave of Kirkpatrick Macmillan, the inventor of the bicycle. The combined events went down fantastically well with locals and visitors alike.

The cycling activity began with a respectful journey to pay tribute to Macmillan's enduring legacy. Following the pilgrimage, the crowd gathered to indulge in the highly anticipated Cake Raid. Attendees were greeted by an incredible spread of treats, turning the gathering into a joyful community feast.

A celebration of this scale is only possible through immense community effort. Organisers extend a massive thank you to the Keir Village Hall committee for providing the perfect venue and support. Most importantly, heartfelt gratitude goes out to each volunteer baker who whipped up a flawless flurry of delicious, home-baked goodies. All funds raised during this wonderful afternoon will go directly towards the vital upkeep and maintenance of Keir Village Hall, ensuring it remains the heart of the community for future events.



SEEDS OF CHANGE: THE STORY OF KPT DEVELOPMENT TRUST

When our landscape began to change and eight years ago as windfarms came on stream, they brought a unique opportunity to our doorsteps: community benefit funding. The volunteer councillors of Keir, Penpont, and Tynron Community Councils looked at this horizon and saw a chance to shape a better future for everyone in our communities.

But they didn't want to guess what the community needed. Instead, these dedicated volunteers rolled up their sleeves and launched a massive listening campaign. They asked a simple question: How can we make our communities better places to live, work, and grow?

The response was overwhelming. Out of that deep community conversation, six main priority projects emerged. Local residents cast their votes, officially setting the roadmap for our future and produced a Community Action Plan (CAP).

However, turning these community led aspirations into reality required a different kind of legal structure. The Community Councils could not manage these large-scale projects alone. To bridge the gap, community members stepped forward yet again. A group of local residents volunteered to become directors, navigating the complex world of governance to officially set up the Keir, Penpont, and Tynron (KPT) Development Trust.

The Trust was never or will be just a piece of paper; it was an engine powered entirely by people. Alongside the directors, separate action groups formed for each project area. Dozens of hands-on volunteers joined these groups, bringing their unique skills, energy, and passion to drive the ideas forward.

As a direct result of that volunteer spark, look at what we have achieved together:

Green Energy & Sustainability: We successfully harnessed our natural resources through the Micro Hydro Scheme and now manage the Community Benefit Fund to help towards sustaining our financial future.

Community Spaces: We established the vibrant Three Villages Community Café as a social hub and transformed the Bridgend Community Garden into a flourishing green space.

Connectivity: We are breaking down barriers with digital inclusion for each of the village halls and physical barriers to community transport and active travel with the Active Travel Path and our local e-bike scheme, making it easier and greener to get around.

Health & Wellbeing: We deliver crucial rural health and wellbeing activities, alongside helpful community signposting for those who need support.

Care & Connection: From practical community food sharing activities to exciting community trips, we keep our neighbours connected and supported.

Youth & Families: Our Amazing Summer Holiday Activities ensure our young people have unforgettable, active summers right here at home.

Next week, as we celebrate **National Volunteers' Week, 1st to 7th June** we look back with immense gratitude. From the councillors who did the initial research, to the directors who established our foundations, and the action group members who bring our projects to life—KPT Development Trust exists because our community chose to step up.

To every single volunteer who has given their time, wisdom, and hard work over the last eight years: Thank you. You are the heart of KPT.

We would love to invite you all to come together and celebrate the tremendous contributions of our volunteers. Please join us at The Three Villages Community Cafe for a casual get-together with light refreshments.

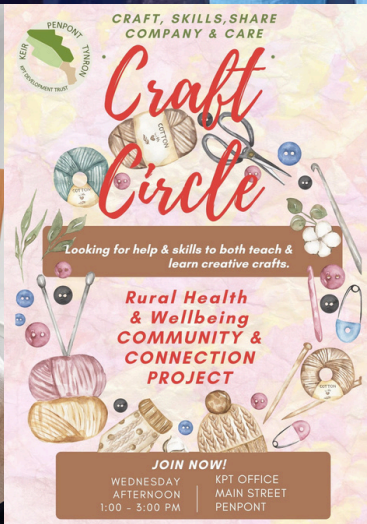
- **Date:** Thursday 4th June
- **Time:** 4:00 pm – 8:00 pm
- **Venue:** The Three Villages Community Café

Thank you for everything you do, and we look forward to seeing you there!

DYNAMIC DUO'S NINE-MILE TREK RAISES HUNDREDS FOR RURAL WELLBEING

Our mother and daughter duo have raised a fantastic £305.00 to support vital rural health and wellbeing after completing a grueling nine-mile charity walk. Diane and Natasha Tollet—affectionately known as "Team Tollet"—took on the challenge around Castle Loch as part of the Lockerbie & District Rotary Club's annual "Walk the Walk" event. The funds raised by the pair will go directly to the KPT Craft Circle, ensuring the group can continue to offer its vital services to the community completely free of charge. The Craft Circle is run as a key part of the KPT Development Trust's Rural Health and Wellbeing Activity. The group currently meets every Wednesday from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at the KPT Office. It provides a crucial hub in the rural community, offering free activities, a welcoming space to share skills, and an invaluable opportunity for local residents to socialise and combat isolation.

Organisers expressed deep gratitude and were overwhelmed by the fantastic public support received throughout the fundraising campaign. Following their successful trek, Natasha and Diane officially handed over the fundraising total to delighted Craft Circle members Claire Copeland and Chrissy Stitt. Claire and Chrissy confirmed the money will immediately go toward keeping the Circle running and accessible to everyone who needs it.





SPILLING THE BEANS: UPDATES FROM THE CAFE



FEAST YOUR WAY INTO THE WEEKEND AT THE THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY CAFE

Looking for the perfect Friday night plan? Whether you are a long-time local or just visiting our beautiful area, the Three Villages Community Cafe is the place to be this Friday, 29th May. Skip the cooking, gather your family, and join us for our highly anticipated Friday Night Tea Time!

We are serving up a mouthwatering menu packed with comforting, home-cooked classics designed to satisfy every craving.

Dine Your Way: Sit In or Take Away

Want to catch up with neighbors and soak in the warm, welcoming community atmosphere? Grab a table and sit in with us! Prefer a cozy night on the sofa? Our entire menu is available for takeaway so you can enjoy restaurant-quality food right at home.

How to Book Your Spot

Spaces and portions fill up fast! To secure your table or pre-order your takeaway, you can:

- Call in directly to the cafe
- Email us at threevillagescafe@gmail.com
- Phone us on 01848 331073



THREE VILLAGES COMMUNITY CAFE
FRIDAY NIGHT TEA TIME

MENU

- Home made Steak Pie, chips & peas £10
- Breaded Haddock, chips & peas £10
- Chicken & Prawn Special Fried Rice - £9
- Sausages, Mash & Onion Gravy - £10
- Sweet n Sour Chicken & Noodles £10
- Mushroom Stroganoff & Rice - £8
- Chicken Fillet BLT, Chips & Coleslaw £10
- Ham Salad & Chips - £10
- Tuna Nicoise Salad Bowl - £10

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

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

CELEBRATING YOU!



VOLUNTEERS' WEEK

You're Invited: Celebrating YOU this National Volunteers Week! 🎉



National Volunteers Week is here, and we want to celebrate the incredible difference you make!

Please join us for a special celebration at the Three Villages Community Cafe on Thursday 4th June between 4:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

We'll have plenty of light refreshments, music, and a bit of a party atmosphere to say a massive thank you for everything you do for our community. Drop in whenever you can—we can't wait to celebrate with you!



Thank You!

#VolunteersWeek



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coffee Morning
Penpont Church Hall

Tuesday 2 June 2026
1030-1200 hours



Mid Nithsdale Church of Scotland

ALL WELCOME!



CREATIVE WRITING WITH OPEN BOOK

Join the Three Villages Creative Writing Group!

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.

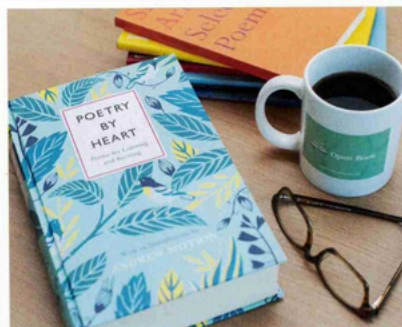
Three Villages Cafe, Main Street, Penpont
DG3 4BP

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+



St John
Scotland



Come and learn life-saving skills

BASIC CPR
AND USE OF DEFBRILLATOR

6.30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY 3rd JUNE
GLADSTONE HALL, PENPONT

Penpont now has two defibrillators, one outside Gladstone Hall and a new one at Burnhead. They are easy to use and St John's is offering this training to give you confidence to use one in an emergency. Your knowledge could be life-saving.



Free but booking required.

Irene Haining text 0772 963 5162

Michelle J at KPT office. Call in or email info.kptdt@gmail.com

Donations for St John's can be made on the evening.

SOUP & SWEET LUNCH
SUNDAY 7TH JUNE
12 - 2PM



Tynron Parish Hall
£8 Raffle

Tynron SWI in aid of Upper Nithsdale Riding for the Disabled

Contact Linda McDonald
07704669668 for more information

