

Search for your views on Estate and Foreshore

A CHARITY is launching a new project to discover what local residents think of Kinneil Estate and Kinneil Foreshore.

The Friends of Kinneil hopes the work will also generate greater awareness of the facilities and attractions at both sites – and even attract new money into future projects.

The group is targeting the Deanfield area of Bo'ness – close to the park areas – for door-to-door surveys. There will also be drop in sessions at local venues.

Maria Ford, the chair of The Friends of Kinneil, said: "Deanfield borders the Foreshore area and is close to Kinneil Estate. We want to know more about how local residents use the spaces, and if they make use of all the

facilities. For instance they may not know about the free, regular events on offer – such as health walks and open days. We'd also like to hear about any improvements they'd like to see.

"The Estate and Foreshore are well used spaces and I'm sure people will have lots to say."

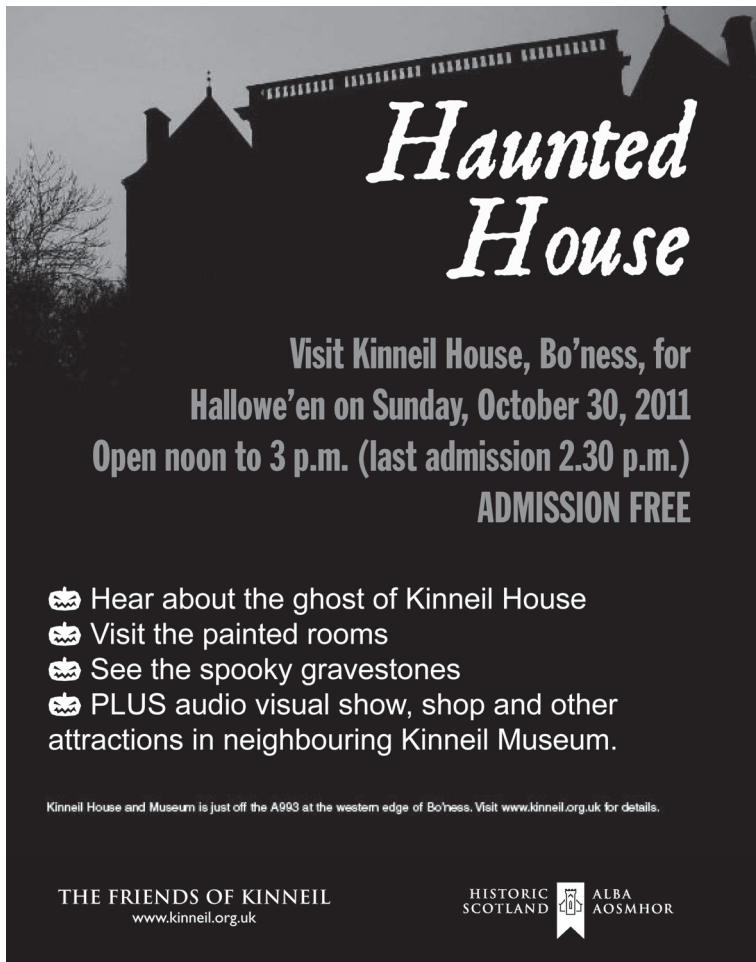
IMPROVEMENTS

She added: "The charity – since its launch in 2006 – has campaigned for improvements to the Kinneil area, and have won a lot of successes. We're constantly talking to people to define future priorities and to respond to local people. Hopefully this research project will help."

Funding for the project has been secured through the Growing Communities Fund, a small grants programme aimed at helping local groups and people in regeneration areas to become more involved in their communities. The fund also helps residents influence local services and improve their local areas.

The fund is managed locally by CVS Falkirk and District – using cash from the Scottish Government's Fairer Scotland Fund.

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Haunted House

Visit Kinneil House, Bo'ness, for
Hallowe'en on Sunday, October 30, 2011
Open noon to 3 p.m. (last admission 2.30 p.m.)
ADMISSION FREE

- 👻 Hear about the ghost of Kinneil House
- 👻 Visit the painted rooms
- 👻 See the spooky gravestones
- 👻 PLUS audio visual show, shop and other attractions in neighbouring Kinneil Museum.

Kinneil House and Museum is just off the A993 at the western edge of Bo'ness. Visit www.kinneil.org.uk for details.

THE FRIENDS OF KINNEIL
www.kinneil.org.uk

HISTORIC SCOTLAND ALBA AOSMHOR

ALL SET FOR FAMILY FUN DAY AT KINNEIL

FAMILIES are expected to flock to Kinneil Estate on Sunday, August 28, for the free annual heritage day. This year organiser Falkirk Community Trust – supported by Falkirk Council – will take visitors on a trip back to the Knights of old.

Full story on the back page

Visit for free

DID you know Kinneil Museum is open all year? The museum, in Kinneil Estate, is normally open Monday to Saturday from 12.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. (plus on special open days.) Admission is free and it makes a great day out. Pop in and find out more about history on your doorstep.

www.kinneil.org.uk/attractions

Homing in

You can see inside historic Kinneil House on special, free open days organised by Historic Scotland and The Friends of Kinneil. There's usually five or six of these a year, spread across the seasons, except winter. Visit the website - or call into Kinneil Museum for info.

www.kinneil.org.uk/access

Romans

YOU'RE living on the frontier of the Roman Empire! The Roman Antonine Wall ran where Dean Road is today. Find out more at a range of events - some free - during Big Roman Week, coming this September.

www.kinneil.org.uk/bigromanweek



You'll never walk alone!

GET in shape, meet new people - and do it all for free.

Join in some of the free health walks taking place in Kinneil Estate. Step Forth walks are every Monday and Thursday, starting at 10.30 a.m., and every Tuesday, starting at 2 p.m.

All walks leave from outside Kinneil Museum and last for around 45 minutes. The walks usually cover Kinneil Woods and other parts of the historic Kinneil Estate. If you'd like to take part simply turn up at

the correct time outside the Museum. All ages are welcome.

Step Forth also operates other walks on the Bo'ness Foreshore and in other parts of the district. Full details are available from Kinneil Museum.

You'll also find updated info in the district news section of the Bo'ness Journal. Alternatively, email: barbara.mcconnell@falkirk.gov.uk - or click the link below!

www.kinneil.org.uk/walk

Become a 'Friend' of the Friends on Facebook

MEMBERS of The Friends of Kinneil have tapped into the world's biggest social networking site to keep in contact with local people.

The charity now has a dedicated section on Facebook, allowing local people to easily follow its activities.

Just visit www.facebook.com/kinneil and "like" the section.

Maria Ford (pictured), the chair of The Friends of Kinneil, said: "Our main website – at www.kinneil.org.uk – has had more than 45,000 views since it was re-launched in 2007. However, we want to make it easier for people to stay in touch, particularly non-members who ask us regularly for information on open days at Kinneil Estate. Facebook helps us easily do that. Simply go to www.facebook.com/kinneil and 'like' us – to become a 'Friend' of the Friends!"



Facebook – launched in 2004 – now has more than 500 million active users. The web company says that half of these people log onto the site in any given day, with an average user having 130 friends. Facebook devotees include everyone from stars like Arnold Schwarzenegger to media organisations like The Journal and Gazette.

Maria said: "A key part of the charity's work has been to promote the estate and encourage more people to visit. Using different websites and social media has been crucial to that strategy."

"So you'll find Kinneil pictures on photo-sharing sites like Picasa and Flickr. You'll find our videos on YouTube and Vimeo.com – and you'll even find audio excerpts of a tour round Kinneil on the podcasting site, Audioboo. We also post links to our stories on the micro-blogging site Twitter. Links to all these sites can be

found on the homepage of our main website.

"We think Facebook will be a useful addition to this portfolio, particularly as it encourages interaction with users and extra chances for people to hear about our work – and easily share it with their network on Friends."

To find out more go online and visit: www.kinneil.org.uk – or go directly to . . .

www.facebook.com/kinneil

Search for your views

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Local CVS chief executive Kenny Murphy said: "We've worked with The Friends of Kinneil since the group was established and have seen the organisation grow from a small campaign group into a hard-working charity, trying to deliver real results for local people in the Bo'ness area. The charity already runs well supported open days at Kinneil House and other activities to promote the



Kinneil area. But we know they want to do more. Consultation activities like this can help groups build up a clear picture of local needs and help support future funding bids to make improvements.

"The project may also attract more volunteers to help The Friends of Kinneil. We hope the people of Deanfield will support the consultation process and get involved in some way."

www.kinneil.org.uk/deanfield

Friends

The Friends of Kinneil was set up to help promote and develop Kinneil Estate and the neighbouring Foreshore. The group welcomes new members. There's a small fee to pay, and reduced rates for the retired, unwaged and students. Contact the membership secretary, Anna McKenzie at 166 Springfield Road, Linlithgow, EH49 7JT; email: anna@kinneil.org.uk

www.kinneil.org.uk/friends

In Trust

FALKIRK Community Trust – a new charity set up by Falkirk Council to deliver culture and leisure facilities on its behalf – has taken over the day-to-day running of Kinneil Museum and the surrounding Kinneil Estate. The Trust and the Council say it will be business as usual for visitors.

www.kinneil.org.uk/trust

Cuppa cheer

A NEW coffee machine has been installed in Kinneil Museum – to meet the demand from visitors. The museum also sells fruit juice and provides free chilled water.

www.kinneil.org.uk/cafe

Get in touch

FIND out more about events and activities in Kinneil Estate and Foreshore by attending one of our drop-in events. These will be publicised through the press and leaflets. Alternatively, contact us directly:

 info@kinneil.org.uk

 01506 510629

 **Maria Ford,**
The Friends of
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16 Craigallan Park,
Bo'ness, EH51 9QY

www.kinneil.org.uk

New life for former pit site

NEXT year marks the 30th anniversary of the closure of Kinneil Colliery - the last pit in Bo'ness.

The mine was situated just off Kinneil Road, overlooking the Firth of Forth.

Today, nothing remains of the pit buildings. However, the site has been transformed into a massive nature park for everyone to enjoy.

Wildlife experts say you can spot bats, owls, deer, butterflies and a range of plants and trees on the old pit site.

Come winter, the sheltered waters and mudflats are apparently home to species like curlew, dunlin, eider duck, shelduck and pink-footed geese!

Falkirk Council has been working with Central Scotland Forest Trust to improve the site.

It's now teamed up with The Friends of Kinneil to make further improvements. There are also plans to try to win official "Nature Reserve" status for the area.

A Friends' spokesman said: "The old

colliery site has become a great resource for people to enjoy. The old pit bings have been covered with grass and trees, and wide paths created to allow people with buggies and wheelchairs to gain good access.

"We want to help promote this site and encourage more people to use it."

He added: "As part of our current consultation exercise, we're asking people if they can get easy access to the Foreshore.

"For instance, would additional steps/footways down to the shoreline encourage better use of this great facility? Would people like to see a return of the metal Distillery Steps - providing a quick link from Deanfield to the shoreline? We want to hear local people's views."

www.kinneil.org.uk/foreshore



Knight fever

FAMILIES are expected to flock to Kinneil Estate on Sunday, August 28, for the annual heritage day.

This year organiser Falkirk Community Trust - supported by Falkirk Council - will take visitors on a trip back to the Knights of old.

Lynsey Wallace from the Trust said: "Visitors will be able to enjoy a spectacular jousting show from the 'Knights of The Damned'. You'll also be able to see the Alba Falconry Birds of Prey. Plus there will be archery from the Falkirk Company of Archers."

Children aren't forgotten about, with workshops, face painting, on-site storytelling, inflatable fun and a climbing wall on offer. There will also be a charity market to raise much-needed cash for local groups.

The Friends of Kinneil will play its part, working with Historic Scotland, to run free tours inside Kinneil House from noon to 4 p.m. (last admission 3.30 p.m.) Kinneil Museum will also be open during the family fun afternoon.

The event kicks off in the park at 12.30 p.m. and runs until 4.30 p.m. (Please note the slightly earlier start/end times for Kinneil House tours). Best of all admission is free for both the fun day and the House tours.

www.kinneil.org.uk/heritageday2011