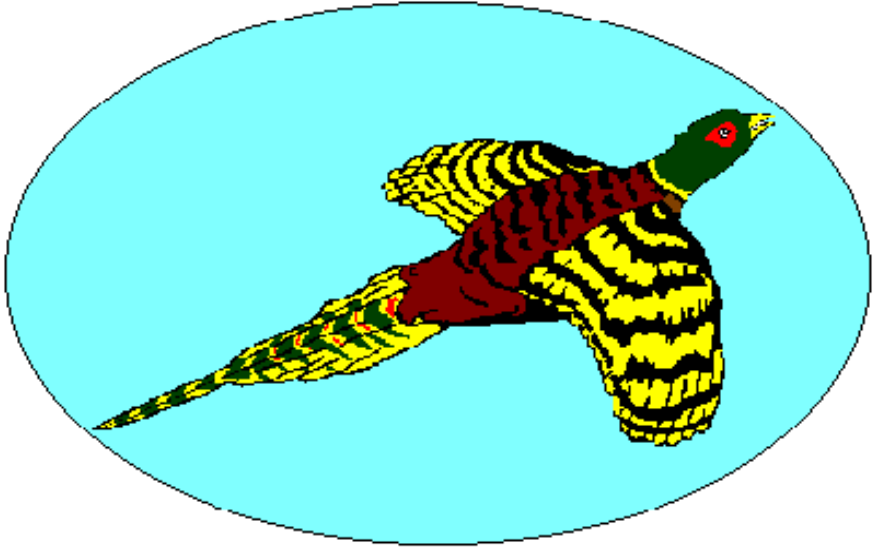


# Pheasant Chatter



Perth & Angus DA  
News Letter

*March 2012*



## Editors Bit

Happy New Year!

What a busy camping year its going to be.



As you can see from the last page Perth and Angus DA have a very busy calendar arranged for you.

You may have realised we have had a few problems with our website. This is now fixed, so be sure to check it out regularly for all the up to date news.

[www.perthandangusda.co.uk](http://www.perthandangusda.co.uk)

I've had a busy start to the year – I've moved house! Please see new address below.

If there is anything you would like included in the next edition of the Pheasants Chatter (November) please contact me by:

Email: Julie.w@live.co.uk  
Snail Mail: 22 McKane Place  
Dunfermline. KY12 7XD  
Phone: 07846 015 648 or 01383 242261

Everyone loves reading what you have been up to and where you have been with your unit so please take time to put pen to paper or digit to keyboard. I look forward to hearing from you!

Happy Camping!  
Julie. x

## Chairperson Chatter

Dear Friends

Here I am looking forward to another new season of meeting everyone again and of course camping with the D A .The year ended and started with our Hogmany Meet.

It was very successful . Ralph and I had a great time and the weather was kind to us. Many thanks to the team that organised everything and to all the members who attended. It was good to see everyone helping.

An extra bit of excitement was added at our annual visit to the pantomime. Just before the final curtain the fire alarm went off and we had to evacuate the theatre, but we know Cinderella lived happy ever after (oh yes she did ) . The meal afterwards gave everyone a chance to meet up and have a chat.

Because of its success last year, we hired New Lanark Youth Hostel again . Guess who is not doing the long walk this year. I went to bed after it and slept all evening. Got up to join everyone when it was their bed time! **Must get fit !**

After 30 years serving on Perth and Angus DA committee I feel the time is right to bring the gavel down one last time. It is with heavy heart and many fond memories that I have decided to tender my resignation from the committee at the AGM in March.

Happy Camping everyone and I hope to see you all during the camping season.

Iolanda



## Introducing your new Chairperson

For anyone who doesn't know me my name is Phil Grant.



I have been a member of the camping and caravanning club for 5 years. I quickly realised that Perth and Angus was the DA for me and I co-opted after only a few months. I have been Site Secretary for 2 years and Vice Chairman for 1 year. I have enjoyed both positions and now find myself elected Chairman which is a great honour.

I know I have big boots to fill with the departure of Iolanda but hopefully being only one size bigger I can squeeze into a pair of her heels whenever the occasion calls. I prefer white high heels if you have any Iolanda!

I look forward to the challenges ahead and can hopefully take the DA forward from the strong position we are already in.

I look forward to meeting all my fellow campers on the rally field.

My door is always open so please come and visit.  
(Not after 11pm Chris Johnstone)

Kind regards to all

Phil Grant

## Introducing your 2012/13 Committee & Office Bearers

Chairperson D.A. Rep to Region Sites Secretary Phil Grant	3 Law View Gardens Bonnybank Leven. KY8 5SW	07789 851560
Secretary Notes to Mag Sarah Martin	Coralbank Dunkeld Road Bankfoot Perthshire. PH1 4AJ	01738 787028 sarahmartin@padasec.fsnet.co.uk
Vice-Chairman and Webmaster John Johnstone	43 Kippielaw Road Dalkeith, EH22 4HZ	07889 126028 john.johnstone@tesco.net
Youth Leader Deputy DA Rep to Region Chris Johnstone	43 Kippielaw Road Dalkeith, EH22 4HZ	07792 256430
Asst. Youth Leader Mr. J. Little Lauren Abrahams	339 Cameron Crescent Bonnyrigg EH19 2PL	07769 326925
CCJ Youth Leader PRO Eddie & Julie Wright	1 Lochard Cottages Kinlochard Stirling. FK8 3TW	01877 387 311 elwright@tiscali.co.uk
Pennon Officer Mr R Russell	42 Lammerton Terrace Dundee. DD4 7BL	01382 453800
Social Convenor/ Entertainment Debbie Carcary	Coral Brae Dunkeld Rd Bankfoot Perthshire. PH1 4AJ	01738 787702 07713121677
Newsletter Editor Asst. Pennon Officer Julie Watson	22 McKane Place Dunfermline. Fife. KY12 7XD	07846 015648 01383 242261 julie.w@live.co.uk
Webmaster John Johnstone & Chris Johnstone		07889 126028 john.johnstone@tesco.net
Committee Member Billy Martin	Coralbank Dunkeld Road Bankfoot Perthshire. PH1 4AJ	07515 358595

28th—30th September 2012  
Gallowhill Farm—Kinross

**Feast of Lanterns**

## **All the Fun of the Circus**

Come dressed as your  
favourite Circus  
performer.

Decorate your unit and join  
the fun in the Barn on site.



### **Absent Friends**

Mike Wilson was an active member of the DA for many years. His death follows his wife Margaret who died a few months ago.

Our thoughts are with his family at this sad time.

## Halloween Meet 2011



Although it seems a long time ago the Halloween Meet was great fun and enjoyed by all.

The weekend started off on a sad note with Don McInally's funeral, which was well attended by his camping friends.

The meet had a good turn out, 21 'vans, with members from Perth & Angus, a few other D.As and also some wannabe Perth and Angus members (Colin and Louise).

Friday evening saw us all in the hall for a get together and a quiz. Ryan and Euan were on the music and kept us all going with some background tunes.



On Saturday evening there were a few witches and scary characters wandering about the caravans but that was only the adults! The kids went trick or treating and came away with lots and lots of goodies. Later it was back into the hall with music by our young DJ's again. Debbie did her usual good job getting us all up on the floor for some games, and then it was time for the pumpkin competition.



The winners this year were Sean Martin, for the kids, whose pumpkin was a very scary face, (modelled no doubt on his dad) and the adult winner was Norrie Lovell.



After a great spooky American supper we played the 20p Game. Euan and Anna won this but I'm sure Euan, somehow, ended up with all the 20p's!!

As it was time to put the clocks back we felt it was our duty to stay up until 2 am to make sure our mobile phones changed and yes, one by one they all changed, well nearly all.....

On Sunday morning there was the usual coffee morning where everyone got together for a chat and helped tidy the hall.

We also had our annual competition to design a pennon for our THS's. After all the votes were counted Debbie's design came out top, so congratulations to Debbie for the second year running.

We all said our goodbyes and drove away looking forward to returning the next week for Scottish Region Firework Meet!

*Louise*

## Firework Meet 4-6<sup>th</sup> November Lauren Abrahams

Our Firework meet at the Bus Museum was well attended this year, the hall was so packed. On Friday night we had a lot of fun playing games and catching up with friends.



Saturday morning the Youth were up bright and early to run a Breakfast Café for Youth funds. Everyone worked very hard and the food was enjoyed by all. Saturday night the Youth served dinner of pate for starter, sausage and beans for main and cake and ice cream for dessert. After dinner we all headed outside for a fantastic display of fireworks donated by everyone. Once we were all back inside and warmed up it was another fun packed night of games and dancing.



Once again the Youth were up early on Sunday to make breakfast. We had got the hang of it second time round. Things ran smoothly and everyone worked just as hard.

A great weekend was had by everyone and a good amount of money raised for youth funds. Thanks to all who contributed.

# Youth Ski Weekend 10-12<sup>th</sup> February

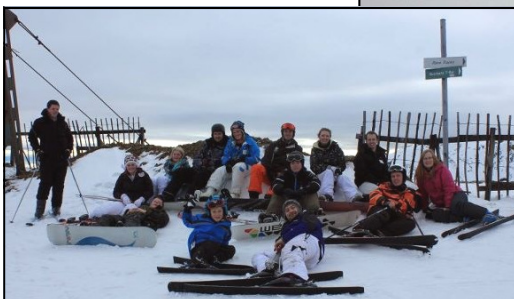
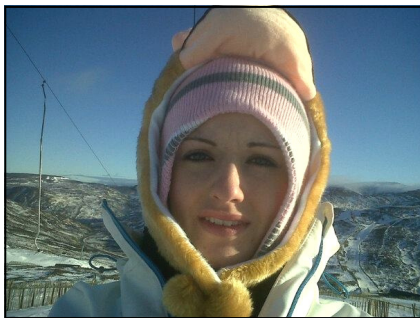
## Jamie Little



We arrived at Blackwater Scout Hall and the beans and sausages were simmering away in the pot ready for supper. As we waited for everyone else to arrive we played a few games like the Hula-hoop game and the After 8 game. After that everyone was ushered to bed as we had an early start for skiing.

At 8am all 60 of us headed for the slopes, a mixture of all ages and abilities. A great time was had by all. Then it was back to the hall for dinner and a few more games.

On Sunday most of us went back to the slopes for another fun-filled day of skiing/snowboarding. Then it was time to say our goodbyes and head home.



## Camping Club Juniors

By now all of the Christmas presents are open, money in the bank, and looking forward to this year's camping, So where are your requests to be Junior Youth!!?

Did you ask Santa or even your Mums and Dads for a new tent and sleeping bag?

Now is the time to start making sure your "kit" works and is waterproof. Is there enough pegs?

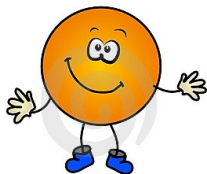
What type of roll mat do you sleep on? Is your sleeping bag warm enough? Can you read the Beano with your torch ?



Now is the time to contact your Youth Leaders, always there to help and looking forward to seeing you on the next site.

Eddie and Julie Wright  
07836 569 266





# KIDS KORNER

## Camping



BACON

BALM

BIKES

BUG SPRAY

BUNS

CEREAL

CHARCOAL

CHIPS

COFFEE

COKES

COMB

COOKING OIL

CUPS

DEW

EGGS

FORKS

GRILL

HOTDOGS

ICE CHEST

LANTERN

MATCHES

MOSQUITOES

PAPER TOWELS

PLATES

PRIVY

RACCOON

RAIN

SALT

SANDWICHES

SLEEPING BAGS

SMOKE

SOAP

SPOONS

STEW

TEA

TENT

TICKS

TOAST

TRASH BAGS

WATER





Extract from Edinburgh DA Newsletter (April '95)

The Birth of a D.A.

On the weekend of the 2nd - 5th June, Perth and Angus D.A. are celebrating their 21st anniversary and are hosting a Meet at Balado Home Farm, Kinross to which you are all invited.

When I first joined the Scottish Region, we had only three D.A's., Glasgow, Renfrew and Edinburgh. Then after some years, Edinburgh gave birth to Grampian.

During an F.O.L. organised by aforementioned D.A. at Pitcairngreen near Perth, a strange unofficial pennon appeared silhouetted on the perspex porch of a frame tent, it depicted a bird in flight and overinscribed was the legend "Perth and Angus D.A." The pennon was correct in every detail except it was illicit, no one had heard of Perth and Angus D.A., not even the parent unit (Grampian) and not even the Region Chairman, who was then the late Jack Sutherland. That was the conception of what we know now as Perth and Angus D.A. At the end of that year, I took over the Chair of the Scottish Region. Among the many projects I inherited was this maverick section. After much consultation and instruction between Grampian and this section on the right way to proceed, we settled down to await the normal process of the birth.

I, as the doctor and Jean Stewart (our long suffering efficient Region Secretary) as midwife, had much effort in restraining the impatient father from effecting a premature birth. However in the fullness of time the bouncing bubbling D.A. came into being, a state which they have never really lost. They have achieved much in their lifetime and have always been the soul of originality in all they have undertaken. Twenty one years have passed since that difficult labour and we congratulate them on this anniversary and wish them well for the future.

Bill Sangster.

20th—22nd April 2012  
Doune Hill Climb



The Doune Speed Hill Climb Course is recognised as one of the sports premier venues "The King of Hills" in Britain and hosts two rounds of the British Speed Hill Climb Championship and four rounds of the Scottish Hill Climb Championship annually.

Come and camp and watch the Hill Climb.



## **Jean Stewart Walk 18-20 May 2012 Muirkirk to Wanlockhead – Renfrew DA**

The last time I did this walk I took the first track (two run simultaneously), after a wee while and a couple of fences I realised I was wrong (I never said sorry – SORRY).

Leaving Muirkirk you follow the Old Drove Road South (trying not to make my mistake). It is a slow steady walk and sometimes in the forest (I am trying my hardest to remember). I would recommend good boots because of the hard tracks (again do not make my mistakes—I remember last years blisters).

We camped at Blackgannoch Cleugh next to a wee burn. This was where you have to watch the path across because it is littered with little potholes. I remember settling in for the night, the last time, after falling in the burn, washing my dishes. There was loads of sympathy (not). The banter between all the tents is great and makes the hours of walking worthwhile.

The Sunday begins with a wee climb and you are in the middle of nowhere, the peace is great. I can remember climbing (slightly) as you approach Wanlockhead and you can see all the remains of the mining industry. The area is now getting more populated but I still find it an eerie silence when you look at old disused houses and equipment.

Why not come and join in?

AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE  
COULD BE MY LAST  
YEAR, WHO IS GOING TO  
TAKE IT ON?

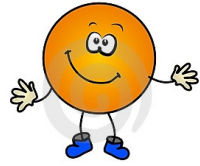
Hope to see you soon,  
Colin



Renfrew DA are camping at Lettershaws for this weekend



## Cross Words



Example:

BEST IN PRAYER (1 word)

rearrange the letters:

PRESBYTERIAN

1. MOON STARER (1)
2. A ROPE ENDS IT (1)
3. THEY SEE (2)
4. HE BUGS GORE (2)
5. HERE COME DOTS (3)
6. DIRTY ROOM (1)
7. CASH LOST IN ME (2)
8. LIES LET'S RECOUNT (2)
9. ALAS NO MORE ZS (2)
10. IM A DOT IN PLACE (3)
11. THAT QUEER SHAKE (2)
12. TWELVE PLUS ONE (3)
13. WOMAN HITLER (1)



## New Lanark Youth Hostel

**2—4 March 2012**

What a fantastic weekend!

We managed to fill the 63 bedded Youth Hostel. The Youth Hostel is a converted mill building in the acclaimed World Heritage Site. The cost for the weekend was £10 per person per night, with under 12's free. This included accommodation and food (except Saturday's packed lunch). We were all split into 4 groups for cooking meals and tidying up afterwards. This worked really well. Everyone mucked in and pulled their weight. On Friday evening after tea we had a game of Crazy Beetle Drive. It was quite noisy but really good fun—I ended up with a frizby, a bottle of wine and a travel mug. On Saturday, after a leisurely breakfast, some went for a lovely walk through Corra Linn and enjoyed a picnic lunch overlooking the spectacular 85ft waterfall. Some went to explore the town while some went to the nearby hotel to use the swimming pool and fitness suite. In the evening we played the biggest game of progressive dominoes—all had a good time—including the kids (they were the biggest cheats). On Sunday morning we all helped clear up and packed the cars and headed for home at midday. It was a really good weekend and I can thoroughly recommend it for next year.

Julie.



# Crail THS 2012

1st July—12th July



Annette and I are delighted to say Crail THS will be back on for four weeks this year as we have had some offers of help. Ann and Alan from our own DA are willing to give some help as are Dougie and Margaret McMurdo from Renfrew & Southwest Scotland DA and Bruce and Barbara McGarrie from Glasgow & West Scotland DA. We are really grateful for their offers of help.

We will hold our usual Wednesday games nights and our Saturday socials in the old tearoom with our usual American Suppers.

We would like to thank everyone who has supported us in the past and look forward to seeing you all during the period 1<sup>st</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> July this year.

*Janette Sandbach*  
Chief Steward, Crail THS



# Aberfeldy 2012

## June 9th—1st July

Balhomais Farm, Aberfeldy, Perthshire, PH15 2JE

Please see your Camping and Caravan magazine, sites for holidays for directions.

We have on-field entertainment during the week in the Pheasant's Rest.

There is a dance/social on Saturday evenings (16 & 23 June) in the Village Hall which is walking distance from the site.

Fees £4.50 pupn. Own sanitation essential.

For more information please contact:

Steve or Nancy Ruck:

01383 413339 home

0776 739 1484 mobile when on site.

E Mail address: [snruck@aol.com](mailto:snruck@aol.com)

Hope to see you soon!

*Steve and Nancy Ruck*



## (not so) Innocent Onlooker in Dalkeith



I am disappointed to see that Editorial judgment has sunk to a new level by the inclusion in the November issue of the story 'Danger in Dalkeith'.

Tom and Dick were extremely upset that a simple camping mishap could be blown out of all proportion. I was also there and believe the full facts should be known.

The lady who had volunteered to do that mornings stint with the tow rope ( I won't name her either, but lets call her Gem ) had been working so hard non stop for at least 15 minutes and had to stop for a rest. Dick (name still changed) had just arisen from a late breakfast followed by his mid morning nap. I must point out that Dick is a retired gentleman who tends to sleep late and consequently is not at his best before mid-day. To be fair to him he very quickly volunteered to stand in for Gem in her absence. Once Dick had changed out of his slippers and put his boots on he then proceeded to assist Tom.

Now I need to point out that Tom is one of the younger members of the Club and he respects his elders. In particular, in matters of things to do with camping he defers to the elder statesmen (or did) and regards every outing with them as being a learning experience, like being mentored by an expert. After all Dick has already been certified by the Club so what higher qualified person could Tom hope to work with.

It is true that the caravan had not been hitched to the car correctly. Tom points out it was Dicks car with Dick driving and Dicks got the certificate. Tom accepts that he was present but points out he was working with an expert and could not question what that expert was doing.

Tom also questions how far they got before the van fell off. He reckons it was 10 inches and not 10 yards.

On reflection Tom also realises that his comment to Dick about 'not using his mirrors' was uncalled for. A better comment might have been 'wished you had gone to Specsavers'

Tom would also like to point out that at no time was he irate. Indeed he feels that both he and Dick were calm, cool and collected. After all they did know where they had left the van and they recovered from the situation in a professional manner.

I would like to make the reader aware that both Tom and Dick know who were there that day and who is capable of writing the original article.

You have been warned!

Finally Tom was really appreciative that the names have been changed to protect the old and young. He was even more grateful that he was the Tom in the story and not the Dick.



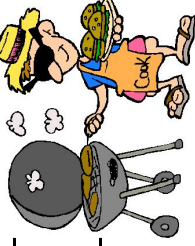
# North Berwick Entertainment 2012



8	Sun	Meet Opens	Welcome!
9	Mon	Ralph's Movie Night 8pm	Bring sweets and seats to the Marquee
10	Tues		
11	Wed	Caravan Drive (Just like a beetle drive) 8pm	Bring tables, chairs and pen to the Marquee
12	Thurs	Kids Craft Hour with the Julies' 11am	Fun for the Kids with Julie 1 and Julie 2
13	Fri		
14	Sat	Social 8pm	T.B.A.
15	Sun		
16	Mon	Ralph's Movie Night 8pm	Bring sweets and seats to the Marquee
17	Tues		
18	Wed	Bingo 8pm	Bring your Dabbers and £1 per book
19	Thurs	Kids Craft Hour with the Julies' 11am	Fun for the kids with Julie 1 and Julie 2
20	Fri		
21	Sat	A Night at the Oscars 8pm	Come dressed for a "Night at The Oscars"
22	Sun	Sand Castle Competition 3pm	On the Beach - judging at 3pm
23	Mon	Ralph's Movie Night 8pm	Bring sweets and seats to the Marquee



24	Tues	Surprise Birthday Party	SShhhhhh!!!!
25	Wed	Crab Race 3pm	On the Beach - 50p/crab winner takes all!
26	Thurs	Kids Craft Hour with the Julies' 11am &	Fun for the kids with Julie 1 and Julie 2
		Men' s Night Out	Transport leaving the site at various times during day.
27	Fri		
28	Sat	Race Night 8pm	Details to follow!
29	Sun	CCY BBQ 4pm-6pm	In the Marquee
30	Mon	Ralph's Movie Night 8pm	Bring sweets and seats to the Marquee
31	Tues	Lady's Day Out	Ladies get dolled up for a flutter on the GG's and a meal in Dunbar.
1	Wed	Crazy Card Night 8pm	Bring 3 prizes each— 1 valued £1.50, 1 valued £1.00 and the last one worthless and of no use to you.
2	Thurs	Kids Craft Hour with the Julies' 11am	Fun for the kids with Julie 1 and Julie 2
3	Fri	Dregs Party	In the Marquee (if its still up)
4	Sat		
5	Sun	Site Closes	See you next year!



Throughout the meet there will be a Treasure Hunt, Biggest Fish comp, and Driftwood Cup (golf) comp. Keep an eye on the Notice Board in the Shed for daily updates.

## Hidden Danger of North Berwick

I've camped from the start of North Berwick and been told many times by locals of the terrible rip currents that prevail in that area but have never seen or believed that they could be as bad as the one we witnessed last year!

3 people had a very lucky escape.

Storms in the North Sea (preventing our fishing fleet from venturing out for quite a few days) has caused unusually high waves making it great fun for surfers.

Michael and his son Craig had a wonderful afternoon playing in the sea and were on their way out when a local lad shouted over to them, "come on one last wave", "Okay" they replied but as they headed out to catch one last wave they got caught in the rip tide. It pulled them out to sea then into the rocks, then back out to sea again in a great big circle that they couldn't get out of.

Meanwhile back on site it was Party Night with entertainment planned and drinking games for the whole evening. Teams had turned up in their fancy dress. No one was left on the beach except one dog walker who came back and mentioned to Ralph that he thought there were still kids playing in the sea!

Ralph took his binoculars and went in search. Luckily he spotted 3 people floundering helplessly in the rip tide—the waves pounding onto the rocks then dragging them back out. We didn't know if it was children or adults. All we could tell is that 2 of them had wet suits on—the 3rd did not.

The Johnsons (not related) managed to launch a small inflatable boat with 30hp engine. The waves were enormous!



Somehow they managed to pluck Craig (age 10) from the sea into the small boat and got him back to shore. By now the small boat and engine were flooded and it was too dangerous to launch again but at least the young lad was safe.

2 adults remained battling against the waves.

The coast guards had been alerted, but not even the inshore life boat could get close enough to them. It was the helicopter crew that managed to winch 2 very tired and very battered men to safety. The helicopter crew later said they thought they would be recovering dead bodies.

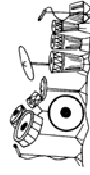
3 very lucky people caught out in unusual circumstances. One very relieved and happy campsite!

A very big thank you to everyone who helped with the rescue. Its still my favourite place to holiday. Just don't swim anywhere near the rocks and ALWAYS wear a wetsuit and life jacket. It might just save your life!



## Perth & Angus DA Meets 2012

7th January	Adam Smith Theatre	Kirkcaldy	Pantomime
2nd-4th March	New Lanark	Youth Hostel Weekend	Booking Req'd Limited Spaces
16th-18th March	Noah's Ark Golf Range, Perth		
17th March	AGM at 208 Hotel, Perth. 11.30am		
23rd-25th March	Cairnsmill Caravan Park	St Andrews	
30th 1st April	Linnwater Caravan Park	Join Fife	Region C/Meeting
2th-12th April	Kelso Showground	Join Scottish Region	Easter
13th- 15th April	Bankhead Frm Campsite, Leven	New Site	
20th - 22nd April	Doune Estate	Glasgow Joining	Hill Climb
27th-29th April	Riverside Caravan Park	Dollar	Join Fife DA
3rd - 7th May	Strathallan Games Pk	Bridge of Allan	Region Meet
11th- 13th May	Mill of Logierait	Aberfeldy	Cycling Festival in Aberfeldy
18th -20th May	Lettershaws	Join Renfrew	Jean Stewart Walk - Wan Loch Head
25th -27th May	Montrose Sports Ground	Montrose	Music Festival in Montrose
9th June - 1st July	Balholmals Farm	Aberfeldy	THS
1st-29th July	Bankhead Farm	Crail	THS



8th July-5th Aug	Scoughall Farm	North Berwick	THS
6th -19th- Aug	Dalkeith Country Park	nr Edinburgh	Join Scottish Region
16th - 20th Aug	Stockton-on-Tees	North East Reg	OL
24th - 26th Aug	Forth House, Upper Largo		
31st - 2nd Sept	The Haugh	Glendevon	BBQ Meet
13th-17th Sept	Newton of Nydie	Strathkinness - Fife Joining	Leauchars Air Show
7th—9th Sept	Riverside Caravan Park	Dollar	TBC
21st - 23rd Sept	Blackford	Join Fife DA	
28th - 30th Sept	Gallowhill Caravan Park	Kinross	FOL
5th - 7th Oct	Notts Goose Fair	Join Notts DA	
12th - 14th Oct	Forrester Seat	Join Grampian	
26th - 28th Oct	Scottish Vintage Bus Museum	Lathalmond	Halloween Meet
2nd - 4th Nov	Scottish Vintage Bus Museum	Lathalmond	Region Firework Meet
16th-18th Nov	Cairnsmill Caravan Park	St Andrews	(Phil's 40th)
28th Dec-2nd Jan	Scottish Vintage Bus Museum	New Year Meet	Booked Meet

