

### An historic oasis in the centre of Kinross

The garden in front of Kinross Parish Church of Scotland, 10 Station Road, and the graveyard behind provide an oasis in the centre of the town, available to all to enjoy. The graveyard served the parish of Kinross from the 1830s and recently has been tidied up by Perth and Kinross Council. This has revealed many interesting gravestones previously overwhelmed with vegetation. Why not explore this historic graveyard, full of the social and family history of the town and parish?

Occupations are frequently noted on the stones and many of the names of farmers remain those of farming families in the county today. One of the trades recorded is 'Surveyor of the Great North Road,' which passed through Kinross. Some names which would be rare elsewhere appear frequently: Beveridge, for example – the fifth most common surname in Kinross-shire in the census of 1901 but not in the top ten in any other county. Two stones of special interest are, on the north wall, to the Burns-Begg family, descended from a sister of Robert Burns and the celtic cross in the north-east corner to Rev. Ruthven, a local minister for 50 years.

If you need a rest from contemplating graves, the area between the church and Station Road is the church garden, maintained by the church itself and recently tidied up by church members. Relax and contemplate here, using the bench given for that purpose in memory of Tom Beveridge.

The church building dates from 1832 and is open to visitors Monday to Friday 10am – noon. If you've never visited yourself or are hosting visitors coming to Kinross this summer, pop in for a look around. There is a leaflet explaining the architecture and history of the building which, since renovation in 2005, is now frequently used as a venue for talks, concerts and exhibitions by groups from the wider community.