



# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 3 July 1991

## KILLIN SPORT & LEISURE CLUB TAKES OFF



Work has now started on the £175,000 Sport and Leisure Complex in Breadalbane Park; the old bumpy tennis courts are no more! This, the first stage of development, will soon see much building activity, leading to a flood-lit, all-weather surface for tennis, football, etc., - and that's just the beginning!

### The Public Meeting

At a public meeting on 19th June, the Steering Committee, under Davie Osier's chairmanship and effectively supported by Stuart Mackenzie of SDC's Community Services Department, gave a detailed and clear presentation of the financing of the "Killin Sport and Leisure Club" project, and answered most of the audience's questions satisfactorily. Financial backing to the tune of £95,000 has now been guaranteed by The Football Trust, The Gannochy Trust and the Scottish Tourist Board. The remaining £80,000 will be managed under a lease-rental agreement with SDC over a period of 21 years, costing £9,500 per year, of which SDC will meet half. The budget projections of income and expenditure, prepared in consultation with Angus Inglis, show this to be a viable undertaking. What it needs of course, is the continued enthusiasm of the various clubs and individuals to maintain and develop membership subscriptions and organise fund raising activities to raise the necessary annual cash income. But this they judge to be manageable, especially as it will be considerably topped up by visitor usage of the new facilities. To meet the costs of rental, wages, maintenance and servicing of the facilities, the Club will need to

raise each year, if the budgeting projections are accurate, around £10,000.

So much for the finances! May we remind you that what we get for the money will greatly enhance the village: the all-weather surface, all purpose courts, a much improved football pitch (may it see more goals for Killin!) and bowling green. To service the clubs and users of these facilities (and others), there will be an architect designed pavilion, roughly where the old bowling green hut is, with changing rooms, toilets, showers, locker accommodation and a club lounge with catering facilities.

### The Management Committee

The formal part of the meeting closed with the election of office bearers of the new Management Committee to run the Club. It says much for the Steering Committee's work up to this point that the meeting unanimously voted for David Osier and his immediate office bearers (Stan Mudd, Treasurer, and Felicity Campbell-Smith, Secretary) to continue in office, with the addition of David Main as Vice-Chairman.

There was then a happy and encouraging end to the evening when cheques for £500 each were presented by Dr. McColl for the Community Council and Mrs. P. Christie for the Show Committee.

## "THE GOLD IN THEM THAR HILLS"

Stirling District Council gave agreement in principle to the proposed Gold Mine at Tyndrum at a recent meeting of the Planning Executive Committee.

However, full go ahead will not be given until Fynegold Exploration Ltd., meet strict safeguards against environmental damage. Ennex International, the parent company, must lodge a financial bond to cover reinstatement of the site - monitoring of the development and the cost of any work to safeguard the environment.

Development is also contingent on a rise in the price of gold and exploration proving further reserves.

### New Hotel in Tyndrum

About eight weeks ago Millar Construction started work on a new 125 bedroom hotel in Tyndrum's village centre.

Mr. Ian Cleaver, owner of the Crianlarich Hotel, the Royal Hotel at Tyndrum and the Dalmally Hotel, took the decision to build some months ago, basing his judgement on Tyndrum's important geographical location. The village is already established as an ever growing tourist service centre supporting a labour force of double its own population! Many more jobs will be created by this new venture.

It is thought that this new hotel will be the largest built in this part of the West Highlands, during the last 100 years.

### More support for the Old Mill

While work proceeds to repair the fabric of the Old Mill, we hear that the ambitious plan to develop it into a tourist information point and heritage centre has received further support. Central Regional Council have agreed to allocate a £5,000 grant to the project. But much more is needed, and it is hoped that the Scottish Tourist Board can come up with a grant so that the second phase of the work can get under way.

## COMMENT

### The Sport and Leisure Complex

Things are definitely looking up for the village, steady progress at the Old Mill and now work starting on the new Pavilion and Sports Facilities in the Park. We recognise the part played by SDC and its staff in these developments and thank them for it; it is greatly appreciated.

#### Hard Task Ahead

But there remains a little unease! We hope the euphoria surrounding the new Sport and Leisure Complex will not blind the Management Committee to the hard task that lies ahead. The cash that needs to be raised each year is no small sum - around £ 10,000. It will take a lot of "managing" to raise this from usage of the facilities, and fund raising. The pockets of the villagers are too often in demand for one fund raising event or another. We hope that the budget predictions given to us at the public meeting work out and that we can afford the development. We wish the Management Committee all the luck in the world; they may well need it!

### Our Traffic Problems - A Plea for Action

Another tourist season is upon us - with the now familiar nightmare of traffic congestion in the Main Street and chaotic parking from Monemore with its space-age buses (that occupy the pavements!) all the way down to the Park. We appeal to the Regional and District Councils to get their act together and do something; make the necessary changes to the yellow lines; re-direct the buses to the other end of the village where there is space; put a stop to the careless and illegal parking that goes on just now. However unpopular it may be, the village police will need to crack down - and not just on visitors! But overall the Councils need to really focus on the problem and come up with solutions - but soon.

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## KILLIN AMBULANCE STATION GOES GREEN



Some of you may have noticed some figures in green overalls around the ambulance station in recent weeks. Is the ambulance station being repainted? Have the doors got stuck? Is it a new baseball team? Or a branch of MacDonalds? The answer to all these questions is "No", (I think). The green figures are our own ambulance persons Jock and Norma, resplendent in their new uniforms as "Ambulance Technicians". The new outfits are certainly more practical for road accidents and other work than the old suits, although I wonder who designed the natty wee caps. I'm sure we'll soon be used to the new-look and I'm sure the care and attention received by patients will still be up to the same high standard. "Big Mac" with French Fries anyone?

Dr. David Syme

## KILLIN SCHOOL BOARD

The School Board has now been running for almost two years. Boards were introduced to give parents a say in the running of schools and in the appointment of staff. Unfortunately, our powers in this regard are limited by the legislation under which Boards were set up. It sometimes seems that every time we try to put a question or make a point we are told that this particular topic is not within our remit. We have spent time worrying away at the Regional

Council on such topics as nursery provision, truancy and the recent National Assessments.

Members have attended courses run by the Region to improve our understanding of the technical aspects of our work. These courses are also a valuable source of contact with members of other Boards, who may well have faced similar problems to ours. More locally, we have formed links with nearby primary schools whose difficulties and opportunities are similar to our own.

The present Government are keen for schools to become self-governing and to manage their own budgets. This might be seen as an opportunity to free ourselves from the rather remote bureaucracy in Stirling and to make better use of our funding. There are all sorts of difficulties involved in such a transition, however, and the Board have not been encouraged by reports from England where such schemes have been running for some time.

The response from parents to our activities has been less than we might have hoped for, perhaps because we are seen as somewhat toothless. I am sure that attendance at Board Meetings would allow parents a greater insight into the background to their childrens education and I hope that more will feel able to attend in future.

David Syme



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## KILLIN TEAM IN HIGHLAND CROSS



The Highland Cross is an annual charity event involving a 20 mile run from Kintail through Glen Affric followed by a 30 mile cycle to Beauly. Over 200 teams (3 in each) took part this year and each team must raise at least £200 for charity. The Killin Strollers (above) performed magnificently and due to the generosity of Killin people reached their target easily.

The Killin team consisted of: "Fat Kevin" from Lix Toll (who went on a crash diet at Xmas and lost 5 stones!); Julia Bates, mother of three, who turned the heads of many onlookers with her multi-coloured strides; and finally the leader, David Blaney (one of the Killin G.P.'s) who led his team stoically from the rear throughout, coming in last.

### Local Gaelic Place Names

This occasional feature is intended to give new villagers some idea of the meaning of local place names, and some indication of pronunciation.

Gaelic placenames were descriptive, every field, bam and crag having a name, and others denoting a battle or some event. Since many were recorded by English speaking map-makers, they were frequently corrupted giving rise to controversy over the original meaning.

#### Killin

The emphasis is on the second syllable Killin. Controversial meaning - Professor Watson a noted linguist gave the meaning as Fair or Holy Church, or the Church of the pure i.e. holy one. Gillies in "Famed Breadalbane" give White Church the primary meaning.

#### Ardeonaig

Frequently mispronounced - Ardjóhnik or Ardrónaig but Arjóanaig meaning the point of Adhamnan, Ninth Abbot of Iona contemporary of our local St. Fillan, and biographer of St. Columba. He is also commemorated in the name of the settlement at Milton Eonan - Glen Lyon.

Alan Walker.

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## New Village Hall for Criarlarich

At the end of 1987 it was clear that our old and crumbling village hall needed extensive repair work and modern facilities. On 20th June 1988, however, it was decided to take the plunge and go for a new hall, as either way, huge sums of money were required.

To qualify for the necessary grant we first had to raise ourselves the sum of £17,500. A daunting prospect! However, the village excelled itself with a large variety of fund-raising activities throughout 1988 - culminating in a Gala Day and a Barn Dance, and a vast sum of money - and a totally exhausted hall committee.

After crossing a few more hurdles and a two year delay, the building is now well under way. Perhaps it won't be quite as lavish as we had hoped for, but it will be a substantial hall with roomy and pleasing accommodation - and the potential for improvement.

We are indebted to many people outwith the community for help and support and we hope to be able to show our appreciation when the new hall opens. Opening date? I dare not say. One gets used to hitches!

Mrs Mabel Ronald

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## LETTERS

Loch Tay Cottage  
Killin

Sir

As one of the objectors to the recent proposals for housing at the Mart, perhaps I might be allowed to comment. I wouldn't argue with David Graham about building technique so I accept what he says about timber-framing.

Our main objections were in terms of density and finish. Ten detached houses were to be built, some of which had only 1 metre between them. Why not 10 semi-detached? The houses were to be faced in buff brick, hardly in keeping with others around or with the character of the area.

If we're thinking in terms of energy conservation and keeping the cost down surely a Terrace of houses would meet both these requirements and be a traditional solution. There are two outstanding examples nearby if the developers need ideas.

Yours etc.

David Syme

Craignavie Road  
Killin

Sir

A vote of thanks for the timely appearance of Killin News. We read that it is not a campaigning group-but, clearly, some of the views already expressed therein cannot be classed as innocuous comment. (I would assess the remarks about "kit-built" houses as campaigning to the point of inflammatory.) With any luck - and financial support - we should see an expanded version on a monthly basis before long. Meanwhile, how about a sale column to help with the production costs?

My own beef is about trees. Perthshire is noted for its beautiful trees and Killin is

very characteristic of Perthshire. Yet the results of local butchery and desecration are a sad sight.

It takes far longer to establish trees than it takes to build houses. Yet fine examples of 500 years' maturity are casually hacked about to make way for a tarred pole or a concrete lamp standard - or sometimes, it seems for no other reason than the sheer masochistic pleasure of destruction. None is protected against the diseases which follow as a result. Surely there can be some control over those who are defacing nature in the name of industrial enterprise.

Yours etc.

Alan E. Jenner

214 San Felipe Way,  
Novato, CA 94945

15 May 1991

Dear Production Crew,

Greetings from California! What a superb job on your "first newsletter". As an American of Scottish ancestry from Killin, I find anything from the area of interest - past and present!

My cousin Betty McNab Wilson, sent me the newsletter because she thought I would be interested in reading about "The Old Mill Project". Many MacNabs in the States and Canada are interested. I am going to make a copy of the article so that it can be put in the Clan MacNab Society's Newsletter.

Congratulations to the students and their teacher for receiving the film award. I have read many stories about the legends of Loch Dochart and I'm familiar with the legend. It would be interesting to see, in writing, some stories about the surrounding area of Killin.

Yours etc.

Marilyn McNab McCarthv

## COMMUNITY COUNCIL

The composition of the new Killin Community Council is as follows:-

Killin: -Dr M McColl (Chairman), Mrs P Christie (Vice-Chairman), Mr S Aitken (Treasurer), Mr I McGregor, Mr A Walker, Mrs F Kennedy, Mrs M Inglis.

Ardeonaig: - Mr K Taylor

Crianlarich: -Mr W Anderson, Mr B Paulin, Mr P Kelly

Tyndrum: - Mrs M Clements.

The Council held its first meeting on 18th June in Killin dealing with matters left over from the previous Council. At times there was a sense of near despair at a considerable number of matters previously drawn to the attention of the District and Regional Councils on which still no action has been taken. Perhaps top of this list, by reason of their urgency, were requests for something to be done about parking problems and the traffic congestion in Killin.

During discussion of the Council's Financial Statement, the Treasurer pointed out that, starting this summer, the income from Breadalbane Park lets to Caravan Rallies, would be considerably reduced since the renovated football pitch could not be used. Such Rallies are now limited to a much smaller number of vans, as a consequence of which some clubs have cancelled. This is the main source of the Council's income and allows it to make donations and grants to various community enterprises. Without this income very little would be available for such donations.

Finally because there were so few nominations for membership of the Council, it was decided to co-opt two more members as follows:-

Mrs E Ingram (as Secretary) Killin, and Mr J Riley, Tyndrum.

The next meeting of the Council will be on August 8th in Crianlarich.

P.S. The three new benches in Breadalbane Park were provided by the Community Council.

Sinclair Aitken

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## A Passion for Pine Trees

Once the low land throughout most of the Highlands was covered with trees. From Killin to Kinlochewe and over much of the Grampians the dominant tree was the Scots Pine. The characteristic pine of the Highlands, with its broad crown and irregular trunk is much admired, but may be the result of centuries of selective felling of all straight trees. Few remnants of the original forest are of any size, with regeneration prevented by the ravages of excessive numbers of grazing animals.

The near total loss of the great Caledonian Forest has been lamented by many, but few take positive steps to restore even part of it. One man in Killin is quietly doing his bit to do just that. With dogged determination, Duncan Twigg has tramped the Killin area with this aim in view for some 15 years. While he is concerned with environmental issues in general, it is the pine tree that has aroused his most passionate interest. He has now planted some 50 pine trees in and around Killin. This may sound a modest number, but it requires considerable effort and commitment for one person working alone, for seed collection, growing seedlings in a nursery, then planting out in a spot protected from grazing. And there are few opportunities for seedling trees to survive because of the ubiquitous threat of being eaten by sheep or deer.

Success to Duncan in his mission to ensure that his favourite tree remains part of the Killin landscape for another generation.

David Mardon

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**May we wish the new newspaper every success.**

# CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

## Busy Bowlers

By the time this gets into print, the members will be into a very busy period namely, July. During the month they have the Dr. McColl Trophy, the 1st leg of the Alex Cameron Trophy between "Greens" and Carpet Bowlers, plus their Bric-a-Brac Sale. August will see them just as busy with matches against Aberfeldy, Crieff and Thornhill: on top of that they have their own club competitions to complete, and they say it's an old mans' sport! Ask any member, male or female, and they will tell you it can be quite energetic but also a very enjoyable sport to take part in.

The Club would like to extend a very warm welcome to any one who fancies taking up bowling as a way of keeping fit or by way of participating in the same. Advice and tuition will be gladly given. Please give it a thought, think of the lovely facilities - you will be using in the new Sport and Leisure Centre. Alex Chisholm, President.

## Football

Killin Football Club held their AGM in the McLaren Hall on Wednesday 12th June. The Committee was re-elected en bloc, except for Mr T. Hunter and Mr

W. Stitt who retired. Mr G. Smith and Mr R. MacPherson were voted on as replacements. The Club was, unfortunately, relegated to Division 4 at the end of the season, but we are hopeful for the new season; three of our stalwart players of past years are once again available, namely Mr L. Brown, Mr G. Munro and Mr T. Bickerton.

D. Osler

## Golf Club: Ladies Section

### Ladies Open: 1st June

Bridge of Lochay Salver (best local handicap): Mrs J. Chisholm (Killin) 63

Craigdochart Cup (scratch): Mrs C. Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 73

Killin Cup (best handicap): Mrs J. Nisbet (Dunkeld) 61

### Tay Valley Competition: 15th June

Tay Valley Shield: 1st - Killin. 2nd - Aberfeldy.

Tay Valley Trophy (scratch): Mrs C. Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 74

Tay Valley Jubilee Quaich (handicap): Dr E.M. McColl (Killin) 64

Hope MacDonald

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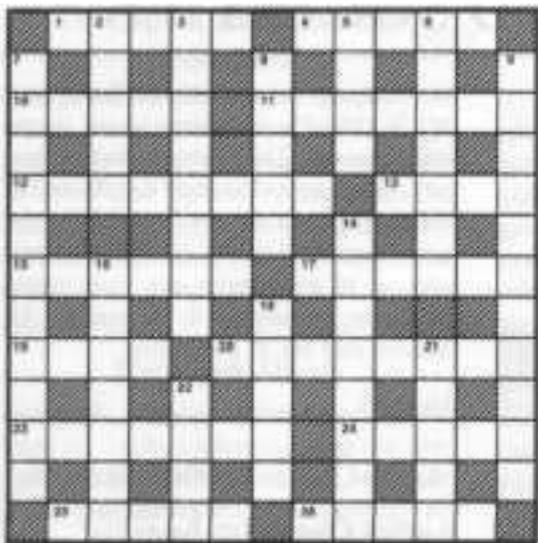


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## QUICK CROSSWORD By Crustacean



### ACROSS

1. *Drinking cake!* (5)
4. *Happens quickly in it* (5)
10. *A Greek beginning* (5)
11. *Hot card will make this local flower!* (7)
12. *A grand race* (8)
13. *Knock out* (4)
15. *A musical cave* (6)
17. *Al fresco meal* (6)

79. *Better than never* (4)
20. *Heads, she wins!* (8)
23. *Order a right lot of mountains?* (7)
24. *Anything but urban* (5)
25. *Unusually modest for a Scot* (5)
26. *How our best laid plans often go* (5)

### DOWN:

2. *What you put in* (5)
3. *When the weather's right* (8)
5. *Dochart, or Lubnaig or Tay* (4)
6. *Traps an awfully tough Greek* (7)
7. *Consult his stones for your health* (5, 6)
8. *Thoughts for a side ft Pre-Iron Age Rotary Club?* (5,6)
14. *Ling fair! What! In a fortified house* (8)
16. *Certainly not artificial* (7)
18. *He'll spend a long time inside* (5)
21. *Tender care* (5)
22. *Insect in foreign atoll* (4)

## Some Forthcoming Events

### July

- 20 Balquhidder, Lochearnhead & Strathyre Highland Games. 1.00pm
- 21 Boreland Gardens, Killin. Open 2.00pm - Cream Teas.
- 21 Words & Music for a Sunday Evening - Killin Church.
- 24 Pilgrimage round Sacred Spots - each Wednesday until 28th August - Killin Church - 10am.
- 24 Scottish Country every Wednesday - McLaren Hall, Killin. 8.00pm.
- 26 Show Queen Dance - McLaren Hall, Killin. 8.00pm
- 27 Fiddlers Concert - McLaren Hall, Killin. 8.00pm
- 28 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band - approx. 1.00pm
- 28 Gospel Singing in Killin Church. 7.30pm
- 28 Flower Festival in Killin Church. Open all day.
- 31 Stalls (various) Outside Church. 10.00am - 12 noon.

### Aug.

- 3 Killin Golf Club - Gents Open Competition.
- 4 Teas served daily 10.00am - 12 noon and 2.00pm - 4.00pm.
- 4 Musical Evening - Killin Church. 7.30pm.
- 6/7 Nearly New Sale - McLaren Hall, Killin. 10.00am-4.00pm
- 11 Killin Gun Club - Clay Pigeon Match - Open S.P. - at Luib.
- 11 Words & Music for a Sunday Evening - Killin Church.
- 16 Marquee Dance - Breadalbane Park. 9.00pm.
- 16/17 Display of Handcrafts, Baking, Floral Art, etc. - McLaren Hall, Killin. Friday 6.00pm - 8.00pm. Saturday all day.
- 18 Words & Music for a Sunday Evening - Killin Church.
- 25 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band - approx. 1.00pm.
- 25 Words & Music for a Sunday Evening - Killin Church.

## Solution to June Crossword

### Across:

1. Peter Ross. 8. Ontario. 9. Tirai. 10. Rain. 11. Semi. 12. Tea. 14. Signal. 15. Kendal. 18. Sow. 20. Path. 21. Eric. 23. Olive. 24. Inertia. 25. Enlighten.

### Down:

1. Putting. 2. Torn. 3. Roomer. 4. Outsider. 5. Sprat. 6. Tourist Shop. 7. River Lochay. 13. Campbell. 16. Dark Tan. 17. String. 19. Whine. 22. Cert.

## NOTICES

### Barbecue and Dance

to be held at Ardeonaig School on Friday 19th July at 8.30 pm  
Admission £2.00 Raffle All welcome

### Car Boot Sale

to be held at Ardeonaig School on Saturday 27th July from 2.00pm until 5.00pm  
£3.00 per car.  
Bringers and buyers welcome.

**BILLY HUNTER** wishes to thank all his well-wishers following his recent spell in hospital.

### Editor's Note

We hope to have the next issue out late August (fingers crossed!). If you have something you wish included, please let us have it no later than 5 August or earlier if possible.

Again we thank all those who have made donations, and please keep them coming. Every little helps us to keep going!

If you have friends or relatives outside Killin, or even abroad, who would like to receive the K.N., we'll be happy to send it to them. Please give us their address and (sorry!) a remittance of £1 per copy.

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