



KILLIN NEWS

FREE

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

No 5 Nov 1991

SPORT AND LEISURE COMPLEX READY TO GO



As many of you will know if you venture as far as the east end of the village, our new sports complex - Pavilion and all-weather, multi-purpose, flood-lit courts - is now just about complete. All that remains, at the time of writing, are the actual lights and a little more landscaping. Already the double court has been used for five-a-side football, and we are told, on good authority, that the tennis nets are on their way! But although the building looks splendid, both inside and out, nicely carpeted and decorated, many items are required before it will function as a Club centre. Additionally, the club will need small (and large) items of sports equipment. While the larger items can be bought using the Club's (fast diminishing) capital, many small things may hopefully be donated by the community. To this end we publish the following appeal from the Management Committee.

KILLIN & DISTRICT SPORT AND LEISURE CLUB: APPEAL

The Management Committee would like to appeal to the community for either the items listed or for donations towards their cost. Some of the things we require are as follows:-

16 tennis racquets, children's putters, crockery for kitchen, kettle, serving plates, cutlery, teatowels, waste bins, dustbins, set of curtains and curtain poles, vacuum cleaner - wet & dry type mops, buckets, brooms, external seating, door mat.

This list is by no means exhaustive and if you have anything that you think would be useful, please let us know.

The Management Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr and Mrs Dixon of Invertay House for their gift of a refrigerator and an urn. Also Mrs Frances Smith for two teasetts.

This clubhouse is for the community's use, please support us in our appeal. Cash donations can be made at the Bank of Scotland, Killin or to any committee member. Thank you.

Felicity Campbell-Smith, Secretary, Management Committee

Old Mill Development

The basic refurbishment of the Mill was completed on Friday 12th July, at the expense of the new Forth Valley Development Agency, with a completely new roof, doors and windows and repairs to, or replacement as necessary, of stairs, floors and external walls. The Contractors have done a thoroughly good job but no further construction will be undertaken until the spring.

To bring the project within realisation, extensive modifications have been made to the internal and external plans.

On present estimates which include viewpoints, landscaping, repairs to the lade and work on the Mill Wheel, there remains a cash shortfall of about £55,000. New sources are being approached - The Glenfiddich Award for example - 1992 is awaited with confidence.

Jim Sutherland

Anti English Graffiti

We note from the national press reports recently of an outbreak of anti-English slogans in the Crianlarich and Tyndrum areas, such as "English Out", "White Settlers Go Home" and "Free Scotland". Apart from the suggestion of bigotted racism, such graffiti do not exactly do much for the tourist trade, and it is not surprising that workers from Central Region erased the offending scribbles. We note also that some local businessmen offered a £500 bounty, publicised on posters, for information leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of the culprits.

St. Fillan's Stones

Traditionally, for over 1300 years, dead grass, carried down the Dochart, is collected from bushes and trees on the banks, and used as a bed for these Stones during the ensuing year. Collection takes place between midday and 6.00 pm on each Christmas Eve and is to be arranged henceforth by the Heritage Society.

COMMENT

We deplore the anti-English slogans recently found in the Crianlarich and Tyndrum area (see page 1) and we were pleased to note that the Regional Council staff were quick to erase them.

We would point out, however, that a similar problem exists here in Killin, although on a smaller scale. The three new benches put up in the Park by the Community Council have already been defaced by scribbled graffiti. They were covered with black scribbles which look like the work of the meanest intelligence; nothing as elaborate as anti-English slogans. In fact the content of the scribbles, if there is any, is difficult to detect, just initials, nicknames and some obscenity. It is deplorable to see such wanton destruction of local amenities. Any offers to clean them up?

Killin School Board

We would like to support David Syme's plea (on page 6) for two parents to volunteer to join the School Board. As he says, the only qualification necessary is an interest in your children's education. We seem to have a good school in this village, so let's keep it that way with a functioning School Board to look after its interest. You've got until 16th December. Surely there are a couple of parents willing to come forward. Come on! Don't be over-modest. The school needs you!

Parking

There are at last signs that the Regional Council are beginning to recognise our parking and traffic problem. We've now got a new stretch of double yellows in the Main Street, from Webster's shop for about 60 or so yards to the West. This should help to stop the traffic getting snarled up on that bend. *But only if people don't park on them.* Maybe the police should issue a few parking tickets!

Editor's Note

The Production Committee of the Killin News would like to wish all our readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We would also thank you all for your support and help over these learning months, and for not complaining too much over errors, mis-spellings, and just plain omissions.

Copy for the January issue (Yes : We aim to continue!) is required by 20 December, or earlier, if possible, so, keep it coming in!



SKY DIVERS DO THE BUSINESS

The sponsored parachute jump took place as planned. On 28th September Gavin Munro, David McLeod, Sheila Laing and Michael MacLaren leapt bravely (?) from a small aeroplane over Auchterarder from about 2,000 feet and landed safely. David Osler who accompanied them (but stayed on the ground!) was heard to say when he saw the plane "What! No doors! I'd need sponsored to go up in it, never mind jump out!" But jump they did and thanks to the generous sponsorship of village people nearly £1,000 was raised for the Sport and Leisure Club. The group handed over a cheque to Stan Mudd, the Club's treasurer, for £850 with still more coming in. Congratulations to all concerned.

KILLIN MAN HELPS IN ROMANIA

It has come to our notice that Stuart Harvey, of the Ardeonaig Outdoor Centre, joined a work party which went to Romania on the 8th October. The party consisted of 10 volunteers who took with them all the equipment and materials to construct a modern kitchen in one of the Romanian Orphanages. They did the job effectively in double quick time and were back in the UK by the 21st October. Our congratulations go to Stuart and the other members of the group for an outstanding humanitarian initiative.

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Community Council

A meeting of the Community Council was held on 10th October in the new village hall in Crianlarich with Dr Mairi McColl in the Chair.

The traffic problem has at last been somewhat improved: double yellow lines from Webster's shop up to nearly Breadalbane House will definitely improve traffic flow, creating a space for double road use. Hopefully there will be no more long traffic jams on this bend. But we still need double lines on Dochart Road to prevent parking on both sides of the road.

Numerous small matters were dealt with and it was helpful to have the District Councillor Mrs Penny Scott in attendance. Again the Regional Councillor, Mr McGrandle, was absent. We could do with his attendance at meetings to

help deal with matters which concern Central Regional Council.

The matter of some complaints about the Fair coming too often to Killin was considered. Some parents felt their children spent too much money and although someone suggested parents might limit their children's spending, it was finally and unanimously agreed to double the fee which is charged to the Showman.

The next meeting of the Council will be on Thursday 12th December in the McLaren Hall, Killin. At the request of new members from Crianlarich and Tyndrum, it was agreed that a major item on the agenda will be a discussion of the remit of the Council and the extent to which it is currently being fulfilled. It was also proposed that the existing Standing Orders which govern what may be discussed and how such discussion is handled, should also be considered.

A GREEN GUIDE TO GATHERING

Hill sheep are usually gathered in for handling four or five times during summer and autumn. Handlings include such operations as dipping against parasites, shearing and weaning.

Gathering the sheep in from the hill is the main job. It is the hardest, yet the most rewarding. For many reasons such as weather conditions, the nature of the ground or just the animals themselves, the sheep run well some days and only move with a gentle grudge on others.

Naturally, they prefer to be left alone, so take every chance to evade capture. To this end they employ their knowledge of the ground and their skill in suddenly altering pace and direction. There is usually a leader, an older sheep, who is the artful dodger! It is up to the shepherd to employ similar tactics. Knowing the ground and the run of the sheep is half the battle, for hill ewes can detect the least sign of slackness in shepherd or dog. Huge stretches of ground are covered at one time, which can involve a walk of twenty miles or more to take in one hirsle. A hirsle is an area of ground with natural divisions, stocked with a number of sheep according to the

amount of herbage available in winter and spring. Two sheep to five acres is a common stocking rate. The word hirsle is also applied collectively to the stock occupying the ground.

Gathering usually takes place early in the morning because the sheep run better when it is cool. It is the time of day when the rising sun reveals the unique beauty of grazed land, outlining every feature and emphasising the contour, colour, tone and texture and when the dew extracts specific scents from mosses, lichens, wild thyme, lady's mantle and other aromatic plants. Newly spun cobwebs grace thistle and scrub willow which is pruned by the sheep to its attractive miniature form. Tramping through waving fields of bog cotton and tall plants raises a multitude of earth coloured moths, and there are midges of course. They too seem to come in hirsles.

Rachel Hunter

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Killin Golf Club - Clubhouse Extension

The planning stage of the clubhouse alteration has now been completed with work due to commence early October. Much appreciated help in the form of grants has been made by the Scottish Tourist Board, Stirling District Council and Scottish Brewers.

Once completed the new clubhouse will have greatly improved locker-room facilities, a modern well-equipped kitchen, and a larger and more amenable lounge area with picture windows overlooking the river Lochay. To date the project has taken three years to reach this stage and has grown since the initial idea of simply enlarging the ladies locker-room into the total package now envisaged to cater for the 1990's and beyond. The overall cost is expected to be £56,000.

LOCAL DOCTOR MAKES SUPREME SACRIFICE

We congratulate Mrs Morag McNee of Killin for personally organising a drive to raise money for the Oncology Research Unit of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh.

Morag was motivated to take on this task because her grand-daughter, Lauren, was so well cared for by the consultants and staff of the hospital when she was seriously ill. Baby Lauren is now doing well. Morag thanks the generous donors who helped her, but we know she herself organised many fund raising events, resulting in a total sum of £2,600. This was added to in a final event held in the Clachaig Hotel when one of our local doctors, David Syme, offered to have his beard shaved off if enough money was put up. On the night over £130 was added to Morag's collection when Willie Allan came out of retirement to do what was required. Any other beards on offer?

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STARTING SOON

KILLIN SCHOOL BOARD

Killin School Board was established two years ago as a result of the School Boards (Scotland) Act, intended to give parents more say in the way that schools are run. A School Board consists of representatives of parents and staff and others co-opted for their special interests or skills. The Head Teacher attends as observer.

My reason for standing, as I believe was the case with others, was to prevent any interference in the way Killin School is run. The powers of Boards are limited in any case.

Recently there have been moves for Boards to take over the entire running of their school, being given a budget for this purpose. There has been a spectacular lack of interest in these proposals. We may well be obliged, however, to take a much bigger role in the management of the school. My feeling is that such proposals should be resisted.

But for effective resistance, a School Board needs to be in place. In Killin, two Board members who stood down have not been replaced. No parent could be found to stand for election. We have a second chance to find two parents. If no-one comes forward by 16th December the Board will be suspended till the next elections in two years time. Parents will be denied a say about changes in the way the School is run.

I can hear the cries now of "Too busy" or "Not qualified to take part". I am as busy as most people. If I can do it so could you. The only qualification you need is to be a parent who is concerned about their child's education. If you would like more information ring me on Killin 424.

David Syme



New Community Bus

The community bus committee wish to express their gratitude to everyone involved in raising money towards our new minibus. Contributions from Stirling District, The Prince of Wales Trust and the Wilbur Trust, exceeded £2,000 and raised our total figures to £9,000.

Further fund raising will be required to pay the balance amounting to approximately £2,000.

It would be preferable if garage accommodation could be found for the new vehicle, particularly from a security point of view. The committee appeals to anyone with a garage available in the village to contact the secretary, Mrs B. Gordon.

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LETTERS

Main Street
Killin

Decision Time for Killin?

Sir,

The opportunity exists at the moment for us to decide what we want as a future for what exists at the head of Loch Tay and the surrounding wetlands.

Osprey, Red Throated Diver, Great Crested Grebe, Gargany are only a few of the rare birds that find this habitat suitable to their needs. Salmon, Char, Yellow Trout and the especially delicious Black Trout still abound in the clear waters of the Loch. If only it distressing to say the least, to watch the insidious slow encroachment of urbanisation on this unique wonderful wild area.

The Outdoor Recreation Centre "Firbush Point" have anchored or positioned five yachts on moorings, right across the harbour bay in order, I feel, to lay claim to that part of the Loch as part of the "property".

They are either unaware of the wilderness, or they have failed to see the danger to this wild place in such a reckless act, because people from the village, followed by others from outside, have created moorings and have semi-permanently anchored pleasure boats to the west of the University Recreation Centre, encroaching on this natural wild area.

So what do we do in this age of diminishing wild life, the gene pool drying up and even the elements, the weather affected by man's activities? Continue with urbanisation and blatant disturbance of wild life?

I should like to see a bylaw to prevent mooring facilities being created and pleasure boats anchored as anyone sees fit in this special area, even Edinburgh University, who should know better. I am intending to get up a petition to try and achieve this end.

Yours etc.

Duncan Twigg

Jersey

Sir,

I was delighted to receive the first two copies of your interesting and informative newspaper thanks to the kindness of Mrs Judy Forster who knows of my great interest in all that "goes on" in Killin and district.

My family connections with the area extend back several centuries and though I have never actually lived locally I spent many happy childhood holidays there with my paternal grandparents and numerous relations, sadly now almost all gone. The time spell I remember best is from the 1930's through to the 1950's though I still do manage the odd visit, now and again, despite the ravages of arthritis. For many years it was my ambition to retire to Killin (another white settler?) though I more or less accept that my medical condition now precludes that.

Meantime might I take this chance to wish you and your editorial team every success with your venture. I enclose a small donation to help with your running costs and would deem it a great favour if you would post me the next few copies.

Yours etc.

Donald MacNab

London

Sir

How very kind of your Production Committee to send me two copies of the Killin News, which I found most interesting. The recollections of Mr Anderson were especially interesting as my uncle, Mr Miller, used to be the Inspector of Taxes for the district and lived in Dochart House. My first visit to Killin was in 1914 when I was six months old and I used to have a photo taken of me, my grandmother and my uncle and aunt taken on the lawn there. I had many holidays there from then on and the puffer used to stop at the crossing outside Dochart House to let us off. When I was about 7 or 8 and my uncle had been transferred to Wick, I stayed with my mother at Tayview when I was recovering from measles. The Mill was working at that time but you could even then walk along the wall above the Mill Lade.

Yours etc.

Mrs Sheila McNeil

Pearl Cottage
Killin

Sir,

Royal Blind Asylum and School

May I take the opportunity to thank the people of Killin for their generosity and the loyal band of collectors for their time and energy.

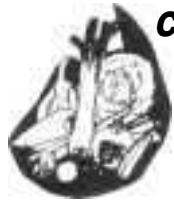
In spite of so many residents being away on holiday at the time of the collections, we raised the sum of £210.49, for a very worthy cause.

My thanks to everyone.

Yours etc.

Betty Martin, Convener

Gordon & Sheila Webster & their staff wish all their customers a merry Xmas & a Happy New Year



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CLUBS & SOCIETIES

Golf Club - Junior Section

The 1991 season was brought to a close on Friday 13th September with a video show, prize giving and sandwiches. Throughout the year, attendance averaged 26 juniors/Friday night - regardless of weather!

Appreciation was expressed to the Bank of Scotland, Killin and Clifton Coffee House, Tyndrum for sponsoring the golf balls given as prizes; George Smith, Jim Ferguson, Ian Ramsay and Trevor Taylor for fund-raising, coaching and general help throughout the year; and to Mary and Dick Lewis in the clubhouse.

The following trophies and prizes were presented:

Club Champion and Dochart Trophy - Scott Bergin, Runner Up - Simon Lewis.

Bert Yancey Trophy (category 1) - Scott Bergin, Runner Up - Simon Lewis.

McArthur Trophy (category 2) - Kevin McKenzie, Runner Up - Robert Ireland.

Anniversary Trophy (category 3) - Rory Waugh, Runner Up - Douglas Ferguson.

Junior Trophy (category 4) - Robert Waugh, Runner Up - Lee Douglas.

Most Improved Golfer Trophy Terry Douglas, Runners Up - David McCallum and Fiona Ramsay.

Golf Foundation Summer Eclectic Medals
Scratch Medal - Scott Farquharson,
Handicap Medal - William Chisholm.

Senior members both ladies and gents, were presented with their prizes at the Club's Dinner Dance held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel on 26th October. Names of prize winners will be published in the January issue of the Killin News.

MOTHERS & TODDLERS RAISE IN EXCESS OF £400

The children took part in a sponsored walk from Bridge of Lochay to Mone-more Car Park and wish to thank all who contributed towards this fund raising event.

Guides and Brownies

Thanks to all who supported the Coffee Morning on Saturday 12th October at which £281 was raised towards purchase of new uniforms.

A. McNee

W.R.I.

This year's "Children's Christmas Party" will take place on Wednesday 18th December 1991.

A. Smith

Scottish Country Dancing

Class will commence on Wednesday 6th November in McLaren Hall at 7.30 pm. We are a small but happy class and would welcome new members. Adults only from 16 years. We would be pleased to have some male members. Joining Fee £5.00 and £1.00 per night admission.

P. McKinnon

THE KILLIN PARENT TEACHERS ASSOCIATION

will host a family Ceilidh in the McLaren Hall on Saturday 30th November at 7.30 pm. A number of talented parents and friends of the school have been persuaded to offer varied entertainment. Light refreshments will be served.

Hopefully this will be an enjoyable social evening for young and not-so-young. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission: Adults £1.00, Children 50p. Please join us.



KILLIN FOOTBALL TEAM 1991/92

The above photograph shows the team resplendent in their new strip. They had a mixed start to the season; two good victories in Cup games, but still waiting for the first league win. Victory over Breadalbane at Aberfeldy was most pleasing after some of the comments made after previous games.

David Osler

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THE GREEN TEAM



Noise Pollution Hits Killin

You may have wondered what all the noise was coming from behind the school every Thursday evening during the summer. Believe it or not, it was all created by Killin's environmentally conscious youngsters!

Continuing the tradition from last year, the "Green Team" met each week in the school garden and carried out a variety of activities concerned with the local environment. These were sometimes based in the garden but occasionally we strayed further afield to look at particular topics. Activities have included making wormeries (the prize one can be viewed in the bakery!), learning the country code, counting bats and generally frightening away most of the local wildlife. A distinct mania for collecting wee beasties, dead or alive, developed throughout most of the team, but their enthusiasm for these "pets" wasn't always matched by parents! Other highlights of the summer have included a birds-eye view of the local nature reserve, thanks to Lakeside Helicopters, and an abseiling session with members of the

Killin Mountain Rescue Team.

Now that the nights are drawing in we will be unable to continue meeting in the evening, but hope to meet in the cold light of day every so often during the winter as there is still plenty to do. The Mountain Rescue Team have offered to do a session on mountain safety and we have a new pond to build thanks to several budding long jumpers!

Thanks must go to Mrs Frost for all her organisation and to Mrs Inglis, Sheena MacColl, Rosemary Simpson and of course to all the team members for making the meetings such a success and so much fun.

Helen Cole and Alasdair Eckersall

Badminton Club

Badminton season has now commenced. The club meets each Monday in the McLaren Hall at 7.30 pm. "Old" and "New" members and visitors will be made most welcome.

K. Riddell

Curling Club

The Club's Annual Burns' Supper will take place on January 25th 1992 in the Suie Lodge Hotel. Further details will be made available from Village Shop Notices in due course.

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Killin Gun Club

Killin Gun Club held their annual 50 Bird Sport Shoot on Sunday 11th August 1991. 97 Guns turned out to this very popular shoot on a good dry day. The shoot was sponsored by M. H. Patersons firm of Architects M.A.P. Edinburgh.

Main prize winners: High Gun Open - S. Atkinson, High Gun Ladies: I. Dornie, High Gun Local: I. Downie.

The Club ran a small shoot at the Killin Show. The winner of the Silver Tray was D. Robertson.

September 1st saw the Club holding its annual Open 50 D.T.L. 50 Guns turned out on a fine dry day.

High Gun Open: J. Welsh, High Gun Local: A. Wilbert. Team Shoot: J.W. Taylor.

G. Coyne, Secretary

Male Officers needed for B.B.

The Boys Brigade are looking for Male Officers to assist with the Company Section on Friday evening between 7.45 pm and 9.45 pm. No experience necessary. Please contact Christopher McLarty.

THE TIGHNABRUAICH HOTEL

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Reservations are now being taken for
our

Christmas Menu

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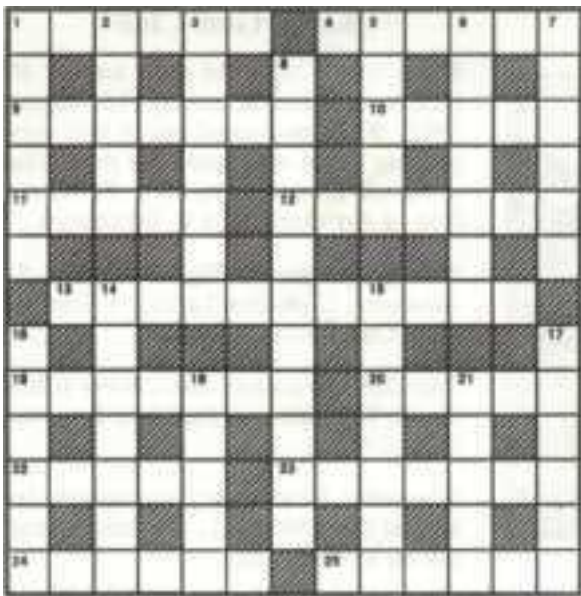
Followed by coffee and mints

Set Menu £15.00

Lunch Time from 12pm
Evening from 7pm

SMALL PARTIES WELCOME

Telephone Killin - 216
for Reservation and Menu



CHRISTMAS PRIZE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Often better than a stick to get your way (6)
4. Paltry, not worth much, say 25 cents (3, 3)
9. Concerning a performer at Hunterston (7)
10. Initially this is truly always new for a giant (5)
11. You'll need a lot to play this game (5)
12. Let hate out and he'll move fast (7)
13. Against the wasp's, the colours don't match (11)
18. The right place for a rubber duck (4,3)
20. It goes round both ways (5)
22. His belt twinkles! (5)
23. Sounds like making the bread you're wanting (7)
24. Musical insect? (6)
25. Fast Ernie's not making much headway (6)

DOWN

1. Seasonal airs; watch for them (6)
2. We'll do this to 15 down very soon (5)
3. One of the Empire's far away places? (7)
5. This night for one down! (5)
6. Some bird, like a heron (7)
7. Let's in to decorate the tree with it (6)
8. Ban bread and ale from this part of Scotland (11)
14. Fits a big one! (7)
15. They're for stuffing soon! (7)
16. A sailor's eye can soak it in (6)
17. This trail for the wagons (7)
19. In Kingston all the music's in the right key (5)
21. Rubbish food (5)

Solution to September Crossword

Across

1. Monemore. 5. Scud. 9. Train. 10. Docking. 11. Recognisable. 13. Extras. 14. Efface. 17. Draught Beers. 20. Interim. 21. Oasis. 22. Eire. 23. Recycled.

Down

1. Mate. 2. Nearest. 3. Munro baggers. 4. Riding. 6. Climb. 7. Doggerel. 8. Loss of Memory. 12. Headline. 15. Aerosol. 16. Stymie. 18. Actor. 19. Used.

(We apologise for the accidental omission of the clue to 6 down in the last issue. We hope it didn't spoil your fun. Editor).

The senders of the first two correct solutions opened will each win £5.00, generously provided by the **Bank of Scotland, Killin**. Solutions should be sent to Killin News Prize Crossword, c/o A. Walker, Barnacarie, Killin and should arrive no later than Monday 9th December. Winners names will be published in the next issue.

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CHURCH NEWS

Church of Scotland

Usual Services +

- 15th Dec. Nine Lessons and Carols
- 22nd Dec. Worship for all ages
- 24th Dec. Christmas Eve Service
11.30pm
- 25th Dec. Christmas Day Service
10.30 am.

St. Fillan's Episcopal Church

Services as usual over the festive season except that there will be a service on Christmas Day at 9.30 am.

Catholic Church

Semper Idem. Masses as usual during November and December. Customary special arrangements at Suie.



At the western entrance to Killin stands our War Memorial reckoned to be one of the finest of its kind in the country. The sculptor was the late Alexander Carrick, Edinburgh, and the Architect Mr William Duan. The statue was taken from a photo of a local soldier, Private Robert McLaughlan, Garden Cottage, Boreland, Killin (now demolished). The Memorial was unveiled on October 1920 by the late Gavin, Marquis of Breadalbane who was accompanied by Lady Alma. The service was taken by the local Ministers Rev. G. W. Mackay and Rev. Duncan McGregor.

The Memorial standing guardian overlooking the Acharn hills was so impressive and attracted so much attention that the Sculptor was commissioned to build one similar for the South African Scottish Church in Pretoria, South Africa and although much larger, bears a striking resemblance to Killin.

James Anderson

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Address: Glebe Cottage, Main St Killin
Telephone: Killin 358