# **KILLIN NEWS**

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

August/September 2021 Issue 176 Price £1

# **Killin News**

#### Editorial

Who would have thought when we issued our last Killin News that it would be 16 months before we were able to produce another one?

Many of the things we would have been reporting on have not taken place - the Highland Games, Agricultural Show, Pantomime to name but a few. Killin being Killin, however, other activities have taken place to help us keep going through Covid restrictions, for example the Great Sunflower Grow Off and an extremely active Gardening Group with much swapping of seeds, plants and advice. At Christmas we had the Living Advent which the school initiated, alongside Shine Bright Scotland which lit up the entire village. (Some thought Killin was probably visible from space!).

The Killin Care Group which was set up amazingly guickly at the start of the pandemic, long before other communities actioned similar schemes, proved a precious lifeline to the most vulnerable in our community. We have also been incredibly well served by businesses in the village - the Coop, NeighbourFood, MacGregors Hub and Post Office, Dani at the hardware store, Davidsons Chemist and our local hospitality venues providing tasty takeaway meals throughout have all continued to keep us going and reduce the need to leave the village.

The Killin Community Facebook page has also helped folks to keep in touch and the Past and Present pages have generated many smiles and fond memories, along with Iain Campbell's weekly online quiz causing much scatching of heads.

A massive thank you to all involved with those above, from all of us in Killin.

#### **Editorial Policy Statement**

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and businesses in Killin and district. The aim of those involved is to produce an informative, accurate and entertaining journal for those who live, work and visit in this area. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Production Committee and they reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any item. Contributions will be attributed to the author. Vested interests will be declared where applicable. Articles should be between 200 and 300 words, photos in high quality and the content should be original work relevant to Killin and environs. All personal emails are acknowledged by a reply. If you do not receive a reply please contact us by phone or drop the article in the office letterbox.

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#### **DEADLINES**

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**Front Cover** 

Photo Ron Allner

# 2nd Killin & District Scout Group Stirling & Trossachs



Like everyone else in the village this past year has looked quite different for 2nd Killin & District Scout Group! Staying true to Scouting principles we've adapted and changed a few things to keep all of the groups active even when we couldn't meet in person. All the groups embraced online meetings using Zoom and, when restrictions allowed, we have also been able to meet outdoors in all



sorts of weather! We would definitely like to thank the parents of our children, particularly the younger Beavers and Cubs, for helping to make the online meetings run relatively smoothly. Thanks to all who have helped in any way at our outdoor meetings where we require some extra pairs of hands! On a Saturday night in May 2020 we held an all section virtual sleepover and had the majority of our Beavers and Cubs build a tent or den at home and join in for an evening of fun activities, challenges and even some campfire singing! Some really keen beans even made shelters outside during the day or camped in the garden. The next morning we joined together again and got to hear all about the camping at home experience - many of the kids had made s'mores (melted marshmallow in a biscuit sandwich) at home which was a common highlight! We held online meetings in our groups in Spring and Autumn of 2020, and also in the first few months of 2021. Some of the things we got up to included scavenger hunts, Chinese New Year, Emergency aid training, puppet shows and even some baking! Lots of badges were

completed including the aptly named digital citizen. The leaders really liked the "mute" function and being able to control this! It was a really nice way to be able to bring the children together online when they weren't seeing each other at school or in other social settings. Eased restrictions allowed us as a youth organisation to hold meetings outdoors in the later part of 2020 and again since Easter this year. Thanks to the sports pavilion for letting us use the space there sometimes. The end of last year meant that the Beavers and Cubs meetings were mostly in the dark which proved great fun for the kids running around with their headtorches on (and possibly a bit more challenging for the leaders!!). The light nights of the last few months have allowed us to have some really great sessions: from shelter building, wide games up Sron a' Clachain, to learning a bit more about how we can look after our planet and making posters encouraging people to keep our village tidy which you might have seen up around the park. Scouts have been meeting on a Saturday morning allowing them daylight and a bit more time to go out and do lots of interesting things too. We look forward to things returning to a bit more normality and, whilst we'd prefer not to have to meet on Zoom, I think all the sections agree that we will be running more of our

meetings outdoors going forwards. There is a great campfire song that goes "We're all together again, we're here we're here" and we're looking forward to getting to sing that at sleepovers and camps when we get back to these too.

#### Laura Bathgate



2nd Killin & District Scout Group are looking to strengthen the Team. Enjoy the outdoors, camping, sharing your skills and learning new? This could be just the opportunity for you! Interested in finding out more? Email f2ndkdsg@gmail.com Or register an interest via www.scouts.org.uk/volunteer



# New Year Fireworks and Bridge Lighting

Hands up anyone who thought whilst we all celebrated the start of 2020 at the Falls of Dochart on New Year that the year would have turned out as it has?? We sincerely hope that you and your families have all managed to stay safe through this extraordinary time where we have learnt new words and phrases - social distancing, selfisolating and 'family bubbles'. The question we are being asked is whether the firework display is to be held to herald the start of 2022. The only answer is surely yes. We are constantly being told that having all been vaccinated we can get on with our lives. In August we shall apply for a licence to hold the fireworks and that will be the first hurdle so, fingers crossed!

Many of you will know that my coorganiser, Jinny Anderson became a mum in April 2021 with the birth of wee Fletcher. Jinny is now expecting her second child. Our congratulations go to Jinny and Andy though needless to say the little ones will take up a lot of her time and she has asked to step back from organising the fireworks. I shall miss her energy, experience and imagination, but hope she will continue to actively support the cause. Ron Allner, who I am sure most of you will know, has very kindly agreed to help, for which I am most grateful.

There will be no fundraising this year



except for the Killin calendar and the sponsored cycle ride planned for September.

Thanks must go to Ron and Sheila who have once again put together a lovely calendar for 2022. The calendar will grace any wall and make a great gift. They can be bought from the Post Office, the Killin Hotel, the Courie Inn, Escape in Killin and the Bridge End Mill. The prices have remained the same as in previous years. Because there are funds for the next firework display Ron and I wondered if there was another project which we could help with and maybe use some



of the fireworks funds. We agreed having spoken to a number of people around the village that the restoration of the lights at the Falls of Dochart Bridge and McNab's Island was a great idea.

To our knowledge (well Ron's anyway!) the lights have not worked for 10 years or so. Who was responsible for their maintenance and repair? When we contacted Stirling Council and the National Park we got a big fat, 'nothing to do with us' reply. As the bridge and island are subject of preservation we asked the Park Authority for permission to restore the lighting which they allowed provided we only replaced like for like. Rob Grant kindly carried out some

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work to establish the extent of the required work and helped select replacement lights. KAT have also agreed to pay for the electricity to power the lights from the Old Mill. Thanks must also go to Jamie MacNab and Donald McLarty for their help and support in looking to replace the lights on the island.

Funding for the project has been provided by KAT, a donation from the MacNab Clan in the USA which was secured by Lanny and Janie MacNab, the Masons and a local private donor. A £200 donation was secured by Charlie Grant from Mr Kenny Lyle. A grant application has also been submitted to Stirling Council. Any

shortfall in funding will be met from the fireworks fund.

However, our greatest thanks must go to Scott Semple of Scot Electrical Services Killin who has provided a quote for the work which has been accepted. Scotty works at the Crianlarich gold mine and the owners, Scotgold Resources Limited are volunteering 2 of their employees to help keep costs down for the local community. A start date for the work has yet to be given but the sooner the better.

We look forward to ending 2021 on a much more festive and colourful note than 2020. Wishing you all well.

Mike Beresford & Ron Allner

#### 2022 Calendars

The Killin 2022 calendars are now available. They can be bought from the Post Office, the Killin Hotel, the Courie Inn, Escape in Killin and the Bridge End Mill.

The prices have remained the same as in previous years. All profits go towards the New Years Eve Fireworks display.





We've all been there: when you want to do a quick DIY job but you don't have an electric screwdriver, your garden desperately needs a tidy up but you need some loppers or you have a great craft idea but just don't have the tools. So you hunt around for something that will do the job but it doesn't work properly - or you end up having to buy brand new tools that you'll only ever use a few times. That's why a group of us have set up RecyKillin, a tool library, that anyone in the area can join and then borrow items from whenever you need them. With support from Killin and Ardeonaig Development Trust (KAT), RecyKillin has been awarded a grant

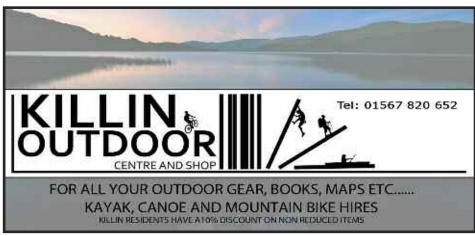
# RecyKillin - Tool yourself up

from the Scottish Government's Community Climate Asset Fund, for a wide range of tools, kitchen equipment, crafting items and garden tools, so that the local community can borrow these items rather than buy them or do without. Not only that, the items are all high quality and designed to last, thus contributing to the battle against disposable culture and climate change. The range of tools will expand as RecyKillin receives donations and funding from other sources, and the plan is to build on the tool library to create a remakery, where used and no longer wanted items can be upcycled and people from the community work together on projects, sharing skills and knowledge, as well as having some fun.

RecyKillin is currently looking for volunteers to check out tools and







receive returns, as well as carry out a bit of tool maintenance. Volunteers who'd like to be involved in the remakery are also being sought. If you're interested please email recykillin@gmail.com

It's simple to join RecyKillin: please go to RecyKilin.myturn.com and choose your membership option: £30 (standard), £10 (low income), or £40 (pay it forward) and the first time you borrow a tool, simply turn up with photo id and proof of address. You can also choose to pay when you first borrow a tool, rather than online. The team look forward to seeing you! **Elinor Jayne** 



07554119086



As with most organisations, the lockdown has proved challenging in many ways, however KAT has continued to meet online and progress plans in spite of the restrictions, and a number of key projects and issues are outlined below:

#### The Old Mill

We are delighted the Old Mill is now open again on Sundays 10-4. We have a shop stuffed full of great items so please come down and see us. Our honesty stall will also remain open throughout the summer, and we are looking at hosting a range of events under the gazebo. Keep your eye out for things going on!

We have been busy during lockdown, not only helping to set up RecyKillin (see their article on page 5), but also re-imagining the Old Mill Project. After looking at your views expressed in the Community Place Plan consultation we came up with the following vision:

"The Old Mill should be the gateway to the village; a community and heritage hub, where the threads of Killin's past and future heritage are gathered and woven together." To achieve this we will:

Repair and develop the Old Mill to its full potential, bringing the building in line with regulations and making it fit for purpose, whilst maintaining sensitivity to its historical character and position in the village, with the goal of bringing it into community ownership.

Advance, promote and celebrate Scottish and local heritage, with particular focus on the heritage associated with the Old Mill and the Healing Stones of St Fillan.

Build resilience, cohesion and wellbeing in our community, by promoting Killin's current heritage, local craft and artistic skills, cultural life and natural environment; giving meaning to Killin, as a place and a community, and developing the potential of the Old Mill as a community and heritage hub.

Act as an exemplar of sustainability, focusing on distilling the lessons of the past to inform the future, reducing waste and CO2, and promoting the circular economy. We will draw on relevant

expertise and ways of thinking from the past, and embrace new techniques and ideas to help us live more sustainably, with particular reference to heritage crafts, upcycling and skills for the future. We will be asking for your input on the future of the Old Mill soon. In the meantime, we would love to see you down at the Old Mill to volunteer. Keeping the thrift shop open is an important part of funding this vision, and we also need people to reorganise the rest of the building. Further volunteers for heritage, RecyKillin and events will be needed soon so do get in touch! Contact or ring/text 07902 973122 and leave a message.

#### Fundraising

Applications have been submitted to Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Green Recovery Fund and the Scottish Government's Adapt & Thrive Programme. KAT have been delighted to collaborate with Killin Community Council on an application designed to take forward the ideas outlined in the Community Place Plan (which is set to be published within the next few weeks). KAT is also supporting funding applications for new lights on the Bridge, as well as a Community Pride application for the new Friends of Killin Cemetery Group, which recently established itself as a sub-group of KAT

#### Co-op

Discussions with the Scottish Land Fund and the Scottish Government's Community Right to Buy team continue as to the future use of the current Co-op building and its potential in terms of community development.

#### Park

Continuing issues with maintenance and repair of the Play Park have been highlighted to Stirling Council and both KAT and Killin Community Council representatives met with senior Council officers to highlight the continued frustrations over poor maintenance. A small community fundraising group are continuing to move forward efforts to revitalise the Play Park. Please do get in touch if you want to be involved!

#### Sports Pavilion

After a wide-ranging discussion with the Killin & District Sport & Leisure Club, Killin Community Council and led by Active Stirling, it has been agreed that KAT will seek to take over the lease for the Pavilion. Discussions with Stirling Council on this are now underway. The need to improve local sports facilities has been consistently highlighted during the Community Place Plan discussions, and the partnership between KAT, the Community Council, Active Stirling and others are keen to look at how this ambition can be met. This includes ongoing work on cycling trail development and the possibility of a pump track, and discussions are underway with SportScotland on this

#### Youth Work

It is fantastic to be able to support the work that has gone into engaging with Callander Youth Project to re-establish a youth work provision in the village.

#### Allotments

A new Killin Allotment Group has recently been established and a formal request has been submitted to Stirling Council to look at possibilities around allotment/food growing space being provided within the community. Anyone wishing to get involved, register an interest and/or join the waiting list for a plot should get in touch.

#### Web-site

Plans for a new KAT web-site are moving forward. It is essential that the KAT membership and the wider community are kept fully up to date with our activities, and we believe a new and improved web-site is a vital part of this. In the meantime if anyone has any thoughts or questions on any of the projects above or any other issues please don't hesitate to get in touch at chair@killincdt.co.uk or theresa@killincdt.co.uk

# **Funding for Local Causes**



Colin Hay and Douglas McRobbie of the Killin & Breadalbane Angling Club present a cheque for  $\pounds1000$ for the Christmas Tree Lights to Andy Aitken of KCC



Alex Stewart from Lodge Breadalbane St Fillans No. 815 presents a cheque for £150 to David Riddell of the Cemetary Maintenance group



A representative from Provincial Lodge Perthsire West presents a cheque for £300 to Rona Foubister of the War Memorial maintenance group



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### Killin and District Volunteer

### Car Scheme

We are pleased to say that the Car Scheme is still running. We had to stop during the first Lockdown in March 2020, when all of our drivers who were over 70 had to step down. We had to put certain safety measures into place before we were able to get back on the road. By June we had fitted screens to the cars, to separate the drivers from the passengers and put PPE measures into place so that we were able to get going again, albeit with only two drivers, both of whom who were under 70.

Since then, we have taken on two new drivers and two of our original drivers, who have both been double vaccinated have also returned to driving for us. Others have said they would drive for us again once demand for transport increases. Thank you to those drivers who have kept the scheme running, especially as we have not had to turn down any requests for transport, and on many occasions they have supported their passengers over and above what is required of them.

Because we are a car scheme, we have to follow Government guidelines. These mean that anyone who travels with us has to sit behind the passenger seat in the back of the car, wear a mask and sanitise their hands before and after they get into the car. We ask people to keep their belongings with them and we prefer that any money is placed into an envelope and left on the back seat, as we are unable to handle money so cannot give change.

Unfortunately, this means that we are currently not able to take any passengers who are unable to get into the back seat of a car. However, we have been assured that the Scottish Ambulance Service will be available to transport them.

We are looking forward to a time when we can get back to how things used to be and have been thinking about the possibility of purchasing a wheelchair accessible vehicle which would enable us to carry passengers in their wheelchairs. This is something that would need funding, not only for the initial purchase but also to keep it on the road.

We are always looking for new drivers, committee members, coordinators and supporters, so if you can spare a few hours a week, please contact Don Fraser on 01567 820690.

We are particularly looking to recruit drivers in the Tyndrum/Crianlarich area, as we are currently having to use Killin based drivers for those journeys. The car scheme has a lot to offer both to our passengers and our drivers and is a lifeline for so many people in our community. We are not just here for hospital trips but also for those who need transport to support their wellbeing.

If you need to request transport please call 07988 280743

Alicja Fraser





#### **Wishing Well**



Mhairi Hunter and Douglas Allan reinstating the Wishing Well sign. The Well which was originally known as The Ladies Well is located on the left hand side of Pier Road between Finlarig Castle and the Power Station.



We now have a new Killin Community Bus which will hopefully be running by the end of August.....watch this space!

#### Callander & West Perthshire U3A



We are hoping to return to normal service as soon as possible, in line with Government guidance and u3a national advice of course. The committee has identified more than 20 groups and group leaders for the new u3a year, starting in the autumn. We are reviewing all the venues we use for meetings and considering how we can offer group meetings both in person and on Zoom.

Our AGM will take place by Zoom and email in August, with the Zoom meeting scheduled for 10am on Thursday 19th August. We also intend to hold safe meetings in villages throughout our area. This will provide an opportunity for new members to find out more about the wide range of groups, educational and social, which will be available. It's all about learning for pleasure and for fun, in line with the u3a motto 'learn, laugh, live'.

Please keep an eye on our website, Callander and West Perthshire u3a, for further information. We always welcome new members.

# Letter

I would like to thank all my loyal customers for their support over the past 43 years. As many of you know, Eileen and I have moved to Stirling and are settling into retirement! Although we miss our friends in and around Killin we are enjoying spending more time with our grandchildren. Thank you again and take care.

#### **Allan Grant**



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# Killin Comm

#### AGM

The Killin Community Council held an AGM in May. Your Community Councillors are: Andy Aitken (Chair), Colin Hay (Vice-chair), Amanda Clark (Secretary), Pamela Farquharson (Treasurer), Dave Fettes (Planning), Stuart Inglis, Charlie Grant, Ron Allner and Gregor McKenzie. Morag Felgate was appointed Minutes Secretary.

#### **Funding for Local Groups**

The past year has been a challenging one for all of us. Many community councils simply stopped operating, but the KCC persevered using WhatsApp initially, then Zoom. We were able to contribute, in our own small way to alleviating some of the distress and gloom of 'lockdown'. We obtained and distributed an early batch of hand sanitiser kindly donated by Deanston Distillery to key workers and vulnerable residents, and successfully applied for SSE pandemic relief funding of £1550, enabling us to give the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home £1000 for a new hoist and £600 to the KMRT for PPE. We also provided £600 towards the War Memorial restoration project, £200 towards the Killin Floral Association, and purchased two 'cardboard' policemen to patrol the village 24/7, but the less said about that the better!

#### **Traffic and Wild Camping**

Traffic congestion and wild camping dominated much of our time and energy last summer, and is likely to do so again this summer, though we are now co-operating much more effectively with Stirling Council, local groups and landowners. New and replacement signage has been agreed for the South Loch Tay road and the village car parks, though these are not yet in place. Speed limits have been adjusted to make the village a little safer, and the Pier Road speed limit has been reduced from 60mph to 20mph! Numerous reports of bad driving, appalling road manners and even road rage in the village and surrounding area were put down, perhaps too accommodatingly, to inexperienced city drivers who were more used to traffic lights, motorways and ratruns. Hopefully, their brief acquaintance with the rural environment last summer will have engendered a better sense of perspective and a little more courtesy and consideration. Speaking of which, there have been proposals that Killin follows a growing trend and introduces a 20mph speed limit throughout. We would like to hear your thoughts on this.

#### Parks

Following sustained pressure from the KCC, Stirling Council finally installed an effective drainage system for the children's playpark. Ongoing improvements are being pursued by ourselves, KAT and local residents. Stirling Council recently unveiled their "Pollinator Strategy' a plan to secure a viable future for bees and other insects by turning over large areas of council maintained land to wildflowers. Parts of Breadalbane park were deemed ideal for this initiative, which some of us perceived, perhaps unkindly, as a cost cutting exercise dressed in green

camouflage. At a recent meeting of the KCC, the decision was taken to defer approval of this proposal until next spring, when we will reassess its merits.

#### **Festive Lighting**

Last autumn, the KCC supported and promoted a nationwide, though informal, initiative to encourage festive lighting in front-facing windows, walls and gardens. This was so successful that the KCC established a working group to investigate the viability and funding possibilities of festive street lighting, the results of which are detailed elsewhere in this issue of the Killin News. Recently we were delighted to receive a donation of £1000 from the angling club to replace the lights on the village Xmas tree. We are also indebted to the local Fire Service for donations of money, expertise and the obtaining and erection of the tree itself. We are looking forward to a festive season this winter which will fuse all of these initiatives into one obscene extravaganza of light pollution. Bring it on!

#### **Community Action Plan**

The Community Action Plan, initiated in 2019, has suffered significant delays and interruptions due to the pandemic and the loss of key support workers provide by the National Park. Yet, extensive consultation within the community before and during this period enabled the CAP committee chaired by Amanda to complete the groundwork for the final draft, and with invaluable help from Paul Godzik of KAT we are back on track. The Action Plan, which has been





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# unity Council

renamed 'Community Place Plan' by the National Park, replacing the problematic word 'Action' with the rather anodyne 'Place', has now been drafted and will be published in the coming weeks. The KCC will, however, continue to press for action rather than place.

#### Flooding

The perennial flooding issues at the corner of Station Road and Lyon Road are finally being addressed after fifteen years of complaints and appeals to Scottish Water. Few of us who travel that route will be unaware of the raw effluent that floats regularly at that corner. Scottish Water, perhaps cognisant of the impending opening of the new Co-op there, have undertaken a full survey of the wastewater drainage system in Killin. Hopefully, this will lead to the necessary remedial work required to resolve this issue.

#### **Pylon Removal**

The SSEN Vista Project - the removal of pylons on Sron a' Clachain, and the underground routeing of the transmission cables

 is due to start this month. This will involve some disruption over a period of around two years and will be exacerbated next year when work starts on the replacement of the transformer substation in Glen Lochay. The KCC in association with KAT has put the case for a community benefit from this work, and this has been positively received by SSEN, though actual figures are yet to be discussed.

#### **KCC & KAT**

The past year has seen a very high level of co-operation between the KCC and KAT and this has brought many positive returns. Recently, we applied, jointly, to the National Park's Green Recovery Fund for funding to progress elements of the 'Place Plan'. This funding would be for feasibility and development studies for two specific elements of the Plan; cycling provision and opportunities to develop the Old Mill and surrounding area. We are currently collaborating with Sports Scotland, Edinburgh University and the National Park to extend the local cycleway network and to provide

cycling opportunities for both residents and tourists. We hope to receive funding from SSEN and other agencies to realise these ambitions. We are also actively supporting the development of the Killin Sports Hub and the creation of a pump track - a cycle and skateboarding course - in or near the park.

#### **Future Meetings**

Killin Community Council is there to represent the views and interests of the local community. You can express your views and/or concerns to any of the elected members or by emailing us at communitycouncilkillin@gmail.com

Meetings are open to members of the public, recently on Zoom, but soon, hopefully, in public at the Primary School. The next meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

Andy Aitken



Timber and composite decking Bespoke timber fencing Rubber flat roof installation uPVC roofline (fascia and gutters)



lan McPherson

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07887 757290

# **Killin Festive Lights**

After what can only be described as the strangest Christmas and New Year any of us have ever experienced due to the Covid pandemic and the restrictions that followed, it was good to see many people in the village put in some extra effort to brighten up the festive season in 2020. It did make a real difference to how villagers felt about the times we were going through.

Some of us in the village have thought for some time that Killin's Main Street would look great if only we could do what so many other local communities in our area had done which was decorate our lamp posts with lights to celebrate the festive season. Until fairly recently our lamp posts were not suitable to have light features fitted, but that had changed with new posts. A Facebook survey of villagers during January had shown there was 96% support for the idea.

In January this year the issue of fitting festive lights to our posts was raised and discussed at the Killin Community Council meeting. It was decided to form a sub-group to research and explore the possibility of buying festive lights. The subgroup comprised Amanda Clark, Ron Allner and Mike Beresford. We set about raising the possibility with Stirling Council who needed to give approval and who were broadly supportive. Quotes were obtained from a number of festive light suppliers and a target was set at £8,000 for 2021. We recognised that everyone in the village, including local businesses, had suffered over the past year and so it was decided to set what we thought was a realistic target to enable the Community Council to provide festive lighting for half the Main Street this year and then raise funds to cover the other half in 2022.

We set about trying to raise money from a variety of sources - 'crowd funding', local businesses, grant funding schemes and a raffle draw with prizes donated by local shops, hotels and individuals. Below we have listed some of the very generous donations that have so far been made or pledged. Scottish and Southern Electricity, Power Transmission - £2000 Breadalbane Tourist Circle - £1,000 Stirling Council – Community Pride Grant - £1,500 The Capercaillie, Tigh Muileann (Mr M Chennells), the Masons, KAT,

Davidsons Chemists, Killin Medical Centre, The Studio Killin, Coopers Cottages and Killin News. Our sincere thanks go to them and to all the individuals who have donated to other initiatives.

We are approaching our target for this year and as we write we have bought 12 festive lights, completed structural surveys of the lamp posts and are now waiting for the council to fit sockets in the lamp posts to facilitate the light features.

If you wish to donate, please pay to the account of the Killin Community Council. Bank of Scotland Sort Code 80-05-91 Account number 00551562. Please reference the donation, 'Festive Lights'.

We will continue to try and raise funds to reach our targets for this year and the next. We hope you will continue to support this cause which will light up our lives and those of our visitors throughout the festive season.

Amanda Clark, Ron Allner and Mike Beresford

# Davidsons Chemists - We're here to help!

Your local pharmacy, Davidsons Chemists is committed to caring for you and our community in Killin.

#### NHS PHARMACY FIRST SCOTLAND

If you have a minor illness, your pharmacy is the first place you should go for advice and treatment. The pharmacy team will give you advice on how to manage your condition and, if necessary, supply you with NHS treatment or arrange onwards referral to another healthcare professional. Any treatment prescribed can be delivered to your local collection point just like your prescriptions.

Our regular pharmacist Laura has also undergone additional clinical training to become a Pharmacist Independent Prescriber. This means she is able to provide advice and treatment for a wider range of common clinical conditions.

We can provide telephone or video consultations but there will be some circumstances where we would need to see you in person to ensure safe treatment.

#### **Prescription Notification Service**

Did you know that we can now send you a text message or e-mail to let you know when your prescription is ready to collect? Give us a phone or speak to us next time you are in to find out more.

#### THANK YOU!

The team at Davidsons Chemists in Killin would like to give a special thanks to all of our patients and customers for all of their support and patience during the pandemic.

Davidsons Chemists, Myrtle Grove, Main Street, Killin Tel: 01567 829006 killin@wdavidson.co.uk



# In the Firing Line



The Magazine



Target Area



Perthshire Highland Rifle Volunteer



1901 6 inch map

By a bend in Allt an Airgid, south of Auchmore Wood, is the shell of a small stone building, its roof gone and little to indicate its function (pic 1). This is forestry land, recently felled and replanted, and not easy walking, but head upstream and east over the burn and you may stumble on further signs of past activity – a jumble of rusted steel scattered among the old stumps and young trees. One heavy steel plate catches the eye and gives a clue as to where I am – it is pitted with bullet impacts (pic 2).

I'm in a target area of a rifle range, probably used by B Company (Killin), 5th (Perthshire Highland) Volunteer Battalion (pic 3), founded in 1859 as the 3rd Perthshire (Breadalbane) Rifle Volunteer Corps. B Company (which had detachments at Crianlarich, Lochearnhead and Kenmore) had its base at a new *Drill Hall* on *New Street* (now Main Street), as shown on the 25-inch OS map of 1901. The hall, then attached to the *Literary Institute*, is now



occupied by Grants Laundry. *Regulations for the Volunteer Force*, first published in 1861, included: "174. A rifle-range must extend to 200 [yards], but it is desirable that it should extend to 900 yards". By 1907 the 5th Battalion had 17 rifle ranges. In addition to that at Killin, there was another on the north side of Loch Tay, near Carie, upslope from the *Smithy* (now Bridgend Cottage). Although 10 miles from Kenmore (but only 6 from Killin) the Carie range may have been used by B Company's Kenmore detachment.

It is unclear when these ranges were built. Neither appears on the 1861 OS map, but both are on the 1901 revision. For the Killin range, the 6inch map indicates the locations of the *Magazine* (the stone building), the firing points and shared target of the 100-yard and 200-yard ranges, and the firing point and target of the 500-yard range (pic 4). The firing points are identifiable mainly by their level and slightly elevated positions offering lines of sight toward the targets, but the two target areas are still very much in evidence. That for the 100- and 200-yard ranges has suffered badly from the forestry operations, but that of the 500-yard range, which sits on a raised earthen butt on the edge of a mature plantation, has been deliberately avoided and still has upstanding steel backstop plates on which circular target marking are faintly visible. (The Carie range had a single target area, and firing points at 200, 500 and 600 yards.)

These ranges are examples of a class of historic monument which has received little archaeological attention. However, recent surveys of similar sites have shown their potential to throw light on both local history and military developments of the 19th and early 20th centuries, and they are certainly features of Killin's past worth preserving.

Andrew Powell





## **Killin Prim**



Class 1 have really enjoyed their Oceans Topic this term. We have been learning about sustainability and protecting our ocean creatures.



All the staff and children would like to say a final farewell to our wonderful Primary 7s. Good luck on your journey at McLaren High.



A great addition to our playground this year has been the loose parts play equipment. All classes have loved being creative and imaginative in their outdoor play. Thank you for all your kind donations especially William Stitt who let us loose in his yard!



Another welcome addition was our Outdoor Classroom which will be used for lunch time and after school clubs next session. Thank you to the KPP for applying for the Co-op



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# ary School





We were delighted to hear that we have managed to retain our Green Flag. We are now in the process of completing our Action Plan ready for our next Green Flag Adventure.





We can't wait to greet our new Primary 1s after the summer holidays



Outdoor Classroom



The sun was shining for our sponsored walk this year. We walked around the Kinnell Loop then headed to the Head of the Loch for some team challenges. Thank you to all who have sponsored our children. We have raised over  $\pounds$ 900 and counting. Amazing support!

# **Shops in Killin**

A recent conversation in Shutters about the new Co-op building led to discussion about where the Co-op had been previously and then on to where in Main Street other shops had been at different times.

In the days before easy travel, Killin people could shop for most things in Killin and there have been clothes shops, a shoe shop, a toy shop, a dairy, butchers, bakery, craft shops and many more.

- Where were these shops and when?
- Was the newsagent always there?
- How many places have housed the Post Office?
- Where was the sweet shop?
- What other businesses were there?

It would be interesting to have the history of all the buildings in Main Street which were once shops or businesses and to know what they have been at different times.

The idea of a record being made of past shops and where they were and when was suggested to Killin Heritage and Killin Past and Present who are both interested in this being taken further. What form this record would take is not yet clear and all sources have to be investigated.

The main source, however, will be the memories of Killin residents so please start searching your memories of old shops you knew or heard of from previous generations and we hope there will be more details in the next Killin News.

Margaret MacIver

#### **Breadalbane Play Park Fundraising**



This has been set up by a group of concerned and frustrated parents.

The JustGiving page opened on the 6th May after a piece of old broken equipment was removed by Stirling council from the play park. Within the first month over £1,000 was raised.

Breadalbane Play Park has received a much welcome boost to the continuing fundraising appeal to upgrade and refurbish the ageing equipment. Above, Killin and Breadalbane Angling Club present a cheque for £1,000 to boost the JustGiving page. The total raised thus far is £2280. The Breadalbane Play Park JustGiving page remains open if anyone wishes to make a donation. Please visit the page or scan the QR code in the park. https://www.justgiving.com/crowdfunding/bplaypark?utm\_term=EdBR9j6w5

#### **Fiona Boath**





# Killin & Crianlarich Nurseries





This has been a very different academic year for the nurseries, with a lot of changes due to COVID19 and Elizabeth Hancock's retirement, but we have come through it.

The children have shown their resilience and have continued their learning with enthusiasm and laughter. We have been experimenting, learning to care for living things and exploring the natural world. Our new outdoor classroom at the pavilion, which Steven and Andy our peripatetic janitors erected, means the children can continue to have sessions in the community with an option of a sheltered space. We have some new resources to promote creativity, exploration and discovery and our thanks go to Jeanette and her grandson, Oliver, for their donation of £50 towards these.

We continue our links with the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and the children have been sending letters and visiting their garden to chat with Lewis Capaldi – he's a sheep! Transitions for children have had to be met in a variety of different ways to our norm; outdoor visits, photo books, video chats, eLearning Journals, Facebook and information videos of the settings. With the wider community, a video link was established with a Spanish school to support one of our preschoolers who will attend there part-time.

We were very fortunate, due to our small numbers, to hold leavers' ceremonies in June, and we wish them all well as they continue their learning journeys at Primary School. And finally, thank you to all our families for their understanding, involvement and support, for what has been a very unusual year.

#### Alexandra Tigwell







# Stories in the Stones

There goes an old legend from the Dark Ages, of how the Irish missionary Adamnan stayed the plague in Glen Lyon. He isolated the sick, sent the healthy into the mountains and is said to have bored a hole in a rock to capture the evil spirits of pestilence. Today a stone cross marks the spot where he stopped the spread.

All this sounds rather far fetched, but it's a story that resonates in the Covid era. For while our methods and understanding have changed over time, our resilience and will to survive has not. As we patiently await the next vaccine, we can shudder comfortably at the thought that in the not so distant past, people had only a handful of home remedies and big dose of faith to see them through a pandemic. And stones: we took a great interest in them too, convinced of their healing power. Largely forgotten, there are

many stones or artefacts in the area on which the history of disease is written. Down the road from Adamnan's cross, in Fortingall, is Clach a' Phlaig or The Plague Stone. Standing in a field across from the village, it bears the evocative text: "Here lie the victims of the Great Plague of the 14th century, taken here on a sledge drawn by

Contraction of the second seco

a white horse led The Well of the Whooping-Cough, or Fuaran na Druidh Chasad, Killin. in the way of understanding

woman." Presumably she was the only survivor.

Another so called 'plague pit' exists by the lochside at Morenish. The small overgrown enclosure was a traditional resting place of Clan They were believed to cure costochondritis (inflammation of the chest) and women travelled long distances to the graveyard to use them. This practice originated in ancient Mesopotamia and remarkably, still exists today in psuedoscience circles. St Fillan, founder of Christianity in Breadalbane, was also an advocate - his healing stones were used as recently as the 19th century. The last keeper of the stones was an old lady from Killin who was given rentfree lodgings in return for her curing services. That other famous relic of the Saint, the Quigrich, even found its way to Canada and was inherited by early Scottish pioneers to cure diseased livestock. It seems that even in this new land, the old ways prevailed.

Some of the area's more obscure artefacts were used for curing illness in children. A 'Whooping Cough Well' is believed to lie in the woods at Auchmore, or rather a large boulder with a water-filled cavity. Sick children were taken here to drink but I suspect the custom did more to hinder than help recovery! It's

kindred stone the Measles Stone at Fearnan - was used as a "sovereign remedy for that disease" according to old accounts. It's probable that use of both stones is still in living memory. Scoff as we might, these traditions are an important part of our local heritage. At best they can offer much understanding

a lost culture. At worst they give us comfort in the knowledge that while times are strange, they could be stranger.

**Michael Gardiner** 



MacDiarmid, but a sinister poem reveals its other purpose: "The burying ground of Kildavie/'Twas there I laid my nine as three". On the only gravestone that remains there was once two quartz stones.

18



### Lampreys and Fresh Water Pearl Mussels in the Teith

The Forth Rivers Trust was renamed from The River Forth Fisheries Trust to reflect its broader interest in the total range of wildlife including fish, invertebrates and mammals. At our SWT February meeting Jo Girvan of FRT covered these and two fascinating local specialities; lampreys and fresh water pearl mussels.

The river Teith in Callander is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), primarily due to its Atlantic salmon but secondly for the **three species of lamprey**; river (Lampetra fluviatilis), brook (Lampetra planeri) and sea (Petromyzon marinus) which require the same conditions as salmon and trout. The brook lamprey is the smallest at 25cm long / up to 5g, the river is up to 50cm / 150g with the chunky sea lamprey up to 120cm / 5kg. All have a life span of around 6 years and are Priority Species under the UK Post-2010 Biodiversity Framework.

Lampreys are an ancient species, around since well before the dinosaurs and among the first backboned animals to evolve. In folklore they are called "nine-eyed eels" from the seven external gill slits plus one nostril and one eye, along each side of a lamprey's head section. They have a remarkable ability to heal even after severe nerve damage so are of medical interest for potential healing of spinal cord injuries.

They are found in coastal and fresh water in most temperate regions but not the tropics, the (ammocoetes) having a low tolerance for high water temperatures. Their distribution is adversely affected by overfishing and pollution so cleaning rivers is restoring their spread, along with bypasses for dams and other constructions that obstruct migration to spawning grounds. While brook lamprey remain in fresh water, river and sea lamprey migrate from the sea to the upper reaches of a river from Spring to the end of June, spawning in pairs or a 'tangled mass' and laying eggs in scrapes in gravel.

Having spent several years burrowed in high organic sandy silt beds, feeding on algae and bacteria, the young metamorphose to adults before migrating downstream. There are good numbers of river lampreys between Callander and the sea, seen near Deanston distillery and in Loch Lubnaig tributaries. River and sea lampreys develop a toothed, scarylooking sucking mouth used to move gravel (*lampetra* may mean "stone licker"), however, its main use is to attach to fish, rasping away the skin and sucking bodily fluids, to the detriment of the fish. Sea lampreys range far and wide and have even been found hanging onto basking sharks. There is a non-migratory population of river lamprey in Endrick Water that, unfortunately, feeds on the rare powan fish.

Lampreys have long been food for humans: they were highly appreciated by the ancient Romans and in the Middle Ages were widely eaten by the upper classes throughout Europe on account of their 'meaty taste and texture', especially during Lent when eating meat was prohibited. King Henry I is claimed to have been so fond of lampreys that he often ate them late into life and poor health, against the advice of his physician due to their richness, and is said to have died from eating "a surfeit of lampreys"! They are still consumed in Finland (pickled in vinegar), Sweden, Russia, Lithuania, Estonia, Japan, and South Korea but in Britain are mainly used as bait for catching Northern pike, perch and chub.

Fresh Water Pearl Mussels have been a protected species since 1998 and are on the IUCN Invertebrate Red List. Most of their UK's 41 protected sites are in Scotland but they are not included in the Teith SAC designation. Although a 'forgotten population', a recent SNH/FRT survey did identify a number of small juveniles, suggesting a strong population. They are very vulnerable to disturbance and, as they are filter feeders, can only tolerate a limited amount of silt in water. They live in river beds of coarse sand, fine gravel and larger stones where they are generally sedentary but can move and reattach to stones. They take 10-15 years to reach maturity, many in local rivers are 70 years old but they can live to 100 years old – all adding up to a very vulnerable population which will not recover quickly if damaged. They are therefore a wildlife crime priority. Before dwindling populations led to their protection, they were legally fished by families in Callander, housed in what is now Pearl Street. Local rivers and lochs may also contain similar sized swan and duck mussels, many seen at Endrick water in 2019, but the FWPM is heavier and blacker.

They mate in June/July, not exactly amorous as the males eject sperm which is ingested by females via a syphon. The microscopic larvae (glochidia) have a high mortality with just 6 days to be inhaled by juvenile trout or salmon, they 'snap shut' on to the gills where they live in a high oxygen environment. They don't appear to harm the fish and the following spring, before the fish return to the sea, they drop off as a small mussel but must end up in the right gravel to survive.

Fresh water pearl mussel populations can be increased by assisted or captive breeding but water quality is essential. River environments can be improved by fencing out cattle and stabilising river banks, both of which reduce silt and nutrient input. This can also be reduced by construction of ponds and wetlands to intercept run-off and river beds can be seeded with gravel.

For details on the range of wildlife in and around our rivers, see

http://forthriverstrust.org/riverswildlife/learn/wildlife

#### Lesley Hawkins



# Scenes From Lockdown In Killin



#### The Village That Lit Up Christmas

The village of Killin was asked to light up to cheer up, in this year of sadness. The residents stepped up to the plate with barely a household without lights and some super displays on view. The drama club brought extra cheer by delivering selection boxes to the householders over two nights, complete with Santa and his hard working reindeer.



Duncan McKinnon playing his pipes (or was it Santa?)







### MacGregor's Community Hub Limited

You probably know MacGregor's Community Hub better as the Post Office, Papershop or General Store. Eighteen months ago I thought that the Papershop/Post Office was something to do with KAT (Killin and Ardeonaig Community Development Trust) and had no real appreciation of what it is all about. Then I was approached to see if I would consider applying for the post of Company Secretary so I needed to find out as much as I could about MacGregor's Community Hub.

MacGregor's is a Community Benefit Society. This doesn't mean that it is a charity, but it does mean that it aims to make profits that are either reinvested in the society for the benefit of the community or used to develop facilities for the residents of the village. There is a link with KAT, but only in that KAT owns the shop MacGregor's trades from. As with any business, Macgregor's Community Hub needs to make a profit to survive (and pay corporation tax and VAT like any other business). It is a community shop, there for the village and relies on the support of the local community. During the pandemic, MacGregor's and its wonderful staff

have done their utmost to provide for the needs of the village during very trying times. While the demise of the bank is a shame, Macgregor's has managed to fill the gap admirably; a great example of a community shop. I thought that the Post Office meant that a salary was provided. This is wrong. The Post Office does provide MacGregor's with payments, although these are commission, i.e. a percentage, based on the transactions that take place at the Post Office, but it doesn't cover a wage. Please use the Post Office as much as you can when it is open as this helps the business as a whole. Described recently as an amazing shop where you can get all sorts, MacGregor's sells specialist and local foods, basic everyday food items, a range of stationery, confectionary, toys, greeting cards, books, maps, fishing permits and tackle, and more. You can help Macgregor's Community Hub to develop by shopping there, even by using any of the Post Office facilities. You can also help by becoming a Member of the Society. Membership is open to anyone over five years of age who supports the aims of the society and believes in

the concept of a community shop by subscribing to a minimum of one  $\pounds 1$  share.

MacGregor's Community Hub Limited is managed by a committee elected annually by and from its members. The shop is run by the dedicated team of Katy, Fee (aka Fiona), Janet, Angel, Val and Emma. Please go in and say hello to them, and have a look around.

Over the last thirty or so years of visiting Killin, and then living here, I have marvelled at the success and quality achieved by people in the community. We have (normally) incredible Highland Games attracting visitors from around the world, there is the Killin Agricultural Show, a fantastic Hogmanay firework display, the Killin Music Festival and some amazing events at McLaren Hall, as well as the Killin News being one of the highest quality local magazines that I've ever seen.

The Post Office/Papershop/General Store is also a Killin achievement to be hugely proud of and to support.

**Mike Duncan** 



Local food, wholefoods and fruit and veg







When will they ever learn? In the words of the sixties (was it really that long ago?) song it asks "Where have all the flowers gone, Young girls picked them every one, When will they ever learn?" It's not so much about the flowers at the moment with the welcomed reduction in roadside grass cutting, everyone doing their lockdown gardening and the growing awareness of the vital importance of pollinating insects, as other issues over which we appear to have little or no control. We have recently spent a week back north in Sutherland and were interested to see the changes from when we lived there almost fifty years ago, our last visit being about three years past. There are far fewer sheep, fewer people (and it was pretty sparsely populated before) but more trees, some in the process of being planted. Forty years ago the government made the terrible mistake of giving grants to already wealthy people in the South to plant trees on so called useless land in the far North that these folk had never seen, and never intended to see. This was the planting of the Flow Country. The peatland was ploughed up, drained, the deer fenced out and planted with foreign species better suited to Canadian shores. Of course they didn't grow well being in the wrong soil and the wrong climate and many died of disease. When the remainder were ready for harvesting the ground was too wet for machinery to reach them and the narrow single track roads wobbled (yes, wobbled on the peat) into disrepair and some had to be repaired by relaying them on used tyres. Thankfully there's always plenty of those in the Highlands! Now that the great gods of climate change and carbon capture have spoken the trees are being felled and

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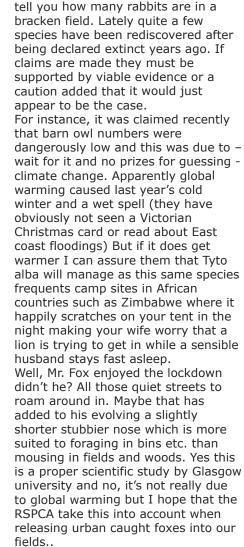
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mulched as the remaining Flow captures more carbon than all the forests of Britain combined. So the curlews, greenshank, golden plovers, merlins, hen harriers, scoters, wheatears etc. can look forward to reclaiming their land. The RSPB has cottoned on to this and built a hideous viewing platform at Forsinard which successfully ruins the area as the locals, what's left of them, did try to point out beforehand. So why are they still planting on the peatlands? On the Loth hill road (or track for those of you with posh low cars) from south of Portgower to Kildonan (once a gold rush town, oh yes there's more history to the north than the clearances) we saw a good deal. So when will they ever learn? Even Mr. Packham says that they are still planting the wrong trees! At last something we agree on! At least the fly fishing was very busy bringing in wadges of cash to the area and the stalking looks set to be busy again this year. Not only bringing in cash but they do actually preserve the habitat. But a stalker's life is not being left alone by our deer hating government. The extension of the shooting season of female deer is being met by condemnation in the profession and there are even worries about the mental health of workers. Maybe some of our anti. protestors should move their attention to those who make these rules. There is news of many more jobs in "the nature sector" coming. Let's hope that we get actual scientists in the scientific jobs. While there are the dedicated hardworking scientists who

do things like spending Christmas working on a Covid vaccine, some are not worth their salt. They claim to know how many of a rare insect or bird are left in the Amazon rainforest



when I doubt anyone could accurately

If you have never been to the North then please go. Don't dash around the North Coast 500 scaring the few sheep left but take a week or longer and go along the straths, picnic all on your own in silent remote.spots and put a little into the local economy as well. **Tim Frost** 





# Strathfillan by the Way



# Ą

The Trust has been busy over the last 18 months during covid restrictions. The Board has been meeting regularly virtually to ensure that projects are progressing. Here are some of the things we have been up to:

#### AGM

We held our AGM on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November, virtually. We kept the meeting simple as it was the first time we had held the AGM in this

format, we had 27 people in attendance. Our new board that were elected by the members are: Theresa Elliot, Kelda Platt, Billy Ronald, Margaretanne Brown, David West, Ellen Cattanach, Dawn Skelton, Colin McGeoch. Officer bearers were elected by the Trustees at the our first meeting following the AGM are

Chair: Theresa Elliot Vice Chair: Kelda Platt Treasurer: Billy Ronald.

#### **Community Place Plan**

We have carried out consultations with businesses, residents and young people virtually over the winter. From the information gathered at these meetings we have a draft Community Place Plan document which will be available online and as a hard copy. We are nearly ready to have the document published.

#### **Crianlarich Community Gardens**

During lockdown residents were looking for somewhere to put a poly tunnel for community use. The Trust already lease a bit of land from Stirling Council which would be an

#### Strathfillan Community Development Trust

ideal place to develop a community garden. After some community consultation planning permission was applied for and was given. We received funding from Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park and have started clearing the site, the poly tunnel has been erected and a shed has been delivered and waiting to go up. There is still a lot of work to be done, but it is starting to take shape.



#### **Strathfillan Community Rangers**

We applied to the Better Places Fund to fund 2 seasonal rangers posts to cover the area of Strathfillan, our application was successful. In June we employed 2 local people to carry out the role and who will have a present in the area 7 days a week. Our rangers are: Gavin MacNab and Clare West. They have been doing a great job, litter picking and ensuring the hot spots are kept clear of rubbish, talking to campers and reminding them about the countryside code, building up links with the National Park rangers and Stirling Council employees working in the area. They have only been working a month and you can already see the difference in the area compared to last year, well done Clare and Gavin.

The Trustees would like to thank our Development Officer Kelly Clapper-Bates for keeping us right and working right through the lockdowns with such easy. She has had to

adapt to working from home, juggling childcare and home schooling, shielding and training us on Teams and Zoom. She has kept our projects on target and moving forward throughout these challenging times, without her I don't think we would have been to keep going so successfully. Thank you Kelly.

Contact: if you want to get in touch with the Trust for any reason we want to hear from you. Office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30am to 2.30pm. Kelly is currently working from home, but hoping to return to the office

at Crianlarich Hall at the end of August, subject to covid restrictions. You can email Kelly anytime at kelly@strathfillancdt.org.uk, or phone 07707044484 during office hours.



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#### **Musings From The Manse**

#### **Rumours And Rock Pools**

A few weeks ago, the word "rumour" came to the fore for me. First, I decided to listen to the classic album "Rumours" by Fleetwood Mac whilst making dinner. Now cooking and music is never a good combination if you don't want to burn the onions; the wooden spoon too easily becomes a virtual guitar! It certainly did on this occasion. Nonetheless it was a great trip down memory lane and a reminder that the "old" stuff still has resonance and power today. A bit like the Christian faith! Secondly, I recently came across a great book title "Keeping alive the rumour of God when most people are looking the other way." (Martin Camroux). Wow! That describes the situation of the contemporary church exactly!

It was the great Victorian Matthew Arnold who penned the famous poem "Dover Beach" in 1867 to describe what he perceived to be the situation in the 19th Century. Faith is described there as being like a retreating tide with a melancholy roar. Well, the tide has taken a while to go out but 154 years after he penned these words the landscape is definitely one of ebb tide for the church. This has been exacerbated recently by the Covid pandemic which has hit the churches dramatically.

I have used the illustration before of

the churches being like rock pools. The tide may be out, but there is residual life in these rock pools which at first glance seems dormant. Of course Arnold's poem only illustrates an ebb tide. However, intrinsic to the metaphor is the possibility of the return of the tide in due course. A brief survey of Christian history indicates the ebb and flow of faith at various times in history. At the heart of Christianity after all is the belief in death and resurrection. We are not finished yet!

In the meantime we "keep alive the rumour of God when most people are looking the other way."

As we emerge from the restrictions of lockdown the landscape has changed in many ways. Many businesses have gone under and more will continue to struggle. The church is not exempt from this. The National churches of both Scotland and England have taken huge hits and many buildings in both Scotland and England will be closed and there will be a significant reduction in the numbers of clergy. The Church of Scotland hopes to reduce its own number of Ministers by 200 (or more) in the next five years. The numbers of church buildings which will close their doors permanently will also be considerable. In the light of this challenge, Killin and Ardeonaig

church has embarked on an ambitious project called Forward in Faith. The first step in this is to secure the use of the building for the future. Discussions and proposals for a revamp of our facilities has been in progress for at least the last ten years and the crisis of last year was a stimulus to boldly make a start to this. The pews have been removed and new seating will be installed. We have also returned the direction of the sanctuary to its origin focus. This has transformed our worship and offers us greater flexibility for the future. Hopefully we will be able to have the church open again on a daily basis so people can come and see what we have done in the sanctuary although it is in many ways an unfinished project.

I was supposed to retire in April this year but have delayed it to try and help navigate Killin church through these difficult times of change and reconstruction locally and nationally. Despite all that we face, I am encouraged and enthused by the conviction, and commitment of the small band of faithful people who keep our church going. Long may that continue and long may there be a church presence in our historic village.

#### **Russel Moffat**

### **Changes in the Church**

The parish church in Killin has stood where it is for nearly 300 years. There have been many changes to the building and in the congregation during that time. Who would imagine there was once an outside staircase where the front door is, or the main entrance was where the memorial window is?

Significant changes took place in 1831-1832 when the building was altered and enlarged and in the 1890s the inside was reorientated and the pews rearranged to face the way we all became used to. That's right nothing much had changed for 130 years....until now.

In order to make better use of the building and to provide more flexibility in how it is used we have undertaken a feasibility study to help us plan for the church to be effective and useful for the next decades. Making all the changes in the feasibility study will take time and money that we don't have yet.

But there are things that can happen in the meantime. The most obvious one is that the pews have been taken out and replaced by chairs. This has meant the seating could be reoriented to face the memorial window and restore the original experience of using the main octagon shape of the building for Sunday services.

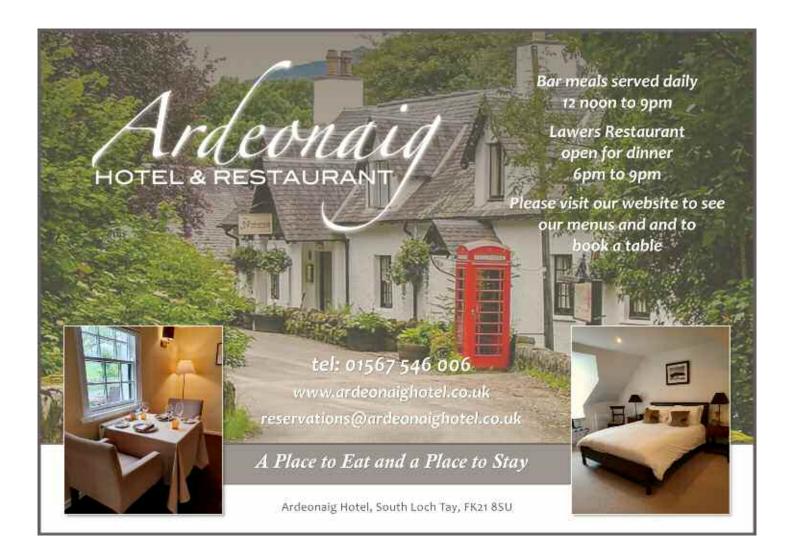
An informal survey of church members from different parishes showed their priorities in a building to be warm halls/sanctuary, toilets and places to meet. Our plan is to provide all these things in the church. The sanctuary will be within the central octagon and additional flexible spaces for meeting will be provided at either side.

All of this is in the feasibility study available on the church's website at

https://killinardeonaig.church/forward-in-faith

This is an ambitious plan and it will take time to come to fruition. Please bear with us and look forward to a church building that is true to its history but ready for the 21st century.

> Phil Simpson Session Clerk





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### **Killin Medical Practice**

#### Announcements

I'd like to introduce myself, my name is Ann Massey and I'm very happy to announce that I have been appointed as Practice Manager of Killin Medical Practice. I took up the position in November 2020. I am very pleased to have been given this opportunity and look forward to meeting many of you.

Over the last year we have seen the retirement of Linda Kerr. Linda has been a huge support to me in my new position and we wish Linda a long and happy retirement.

Dr Mill has returned to the practice after the birth of her son, who is nearly 18 months old!

We are pleased to announce that Sheena MacColl joined the admin team back in August 2000. Many of you may have already have met Sheena and we are delighted to have her working as part of our team.

We are delighted to welcome Caroline Robertson, a mental Health practitioner who will be working at the surgery. The GPs will be able to refer patients who have mild to moderate mental health issues to Caroline for further support and management.

#### **Ann Massey**

#### Practice Nurse News

Thank you to all the patients who attended the practice for their Covid 19 vaccination. We appreciated all the words of thanks and people keeping in touch so that we could help facilitate a small fraction of the vaccine programme here in the village.

We are currently encouraging any person who has missed an appointment here at the surgery to attend the drop in clinics across Forth Valley, information found at:

https://nhsforthvalley.com/covid-19-drop-in-clinics-extended-in-forth-valley/

#### NHS Forth Valley – Covid-19 Drop-in Clinics extended in Forth Valley

Drop-in clinics for Covid-19 vaccinations in Forth Valley will be open longer over the next two weeks as part of ongoing efforts to vaccinate as many people as possible across the area during July and August 2021. nhsforthvalley.com

Sessions at Forth Valley College's campuses in Falkirk, Alloa and Stirling will now run from 8.30am until 7.00pm every day, including weekends, until Friday 13th August 2021.

Anyone aged 18 or over who has not had their first vaccine and anyone who has had their first dose at least nine weeks ago can also pop in for their second vaccine. No appointment is necessary.

We have no information on booster Covid 19 vaccination at his time. However we will soon be looking towards flu vaccinations and we will be in touch when we know exactly what is going to happen.

Other vaccinations that we aim to address are pneumococcal for the over 65s, this is a one - off vaccination often referred to as the "pneumonia" jag. Also the shingles vaccine for those between 70 and 79 years of age. The shingles vaccine is a live vaccine, so has been temporarily halted during the pandemic.

#### Long Term Condition Reviews

We are slowly working through the long term condition reviews and appreciate that this has been concerning for all people expecting a yearly review. Asthma and COPD reviews can be completed over the phone or via the Near Me video consultation service, so if anyone with asthma and/or COPD is eager for review please contact the surgery and ask for an appointment with myself otherwise we will contact you in due course.

#### **The New Normal**

It has been a very difficult 18 months for everyone and I hope you are all keeping safe and well. We want you all to know that we have never stopped seeing patients face to face in practice, however we have adopted a new model of consultation in which every patient who requests an appointment is triaged first with a telephone call. We know this can be frustrating but we have had to change our way of working since the arrival of Covid 19 and we will continue to work this way to keep you all safe.

**Jamie Anderson** 



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## **Killin Floral Association**



This group is now operating under KAT's umbrella, which means we can still do the work we like to do but without having to run AGM's, committees with office bearers, Constitution etc.

Quite a few members of the old style Floral Association have been replaced by others, so things are simply run differently from previous years.

There will not be any competitions for best garden, best floral displays etc, because we just do not have anyone willing to organise this. If you would like to do this, we are happy to assist.

Also, if anybody is willing to take part in maintenance or watering of the village tubs and planters, please get in touch with me on 01567 820068.

**Anneke Mayo** 

#### Making Killin a Cycling Friendly Community

The Countryside Trust has been working with several communities in the National Park along the NCN7 (National Cycle Network Route) to help them achieve the Cycle Friendly Community Award from Cycling Scotland. Aberfoyle and Callander have already received their silver award and have created local active travel plans to help guide future sustainable travel projects in The Trossachs. With Drymen recently completing their plan they are looking set to achieve a silver award soon creating a Cycle Friendly Corridor along NCN7.

Each of these communities has gone on to progress their own cycling aspirations and we have seen the emergence of #Gravelfoyle located in Aberfoyle as a gravel riding destination; the continued growth of the Callander Meander Cycling

Group with its regular sociable led rides and Drymen who will be launching an ebike trial and loan scheme shortly.

We would love to hear from any community group's in Killin who are interested in making Killin more Cycling Friendly.

For more information please contact our Active Travel Officer Jim Riach by sending an email to jim.riach@lochlomond-trossachs.org and discover what support the Trust can provide.

Alternatively why not visit our website for more details http://trustinthepark.org where you can also sign up to our monthly E-News for regular updates straight to your mailbox.

Marie Harvey

### Scotgold Resources Ltd.

Scotgold Resources Ltd are offering support to the Dochart Bridge Lighting Project in Killin to install a new state of the art lighting system so as to best showcase the white-water cascade in the beautiful village.

Next to the island which is the ancient burial place of Clan Macnab, the Falls have long required an upgrade to the lighting system and Scotgold Resources Ltd are happy to be working in conjunction with the lighting project in ensuring the Falls can continue to be enjoyed by all who visit.

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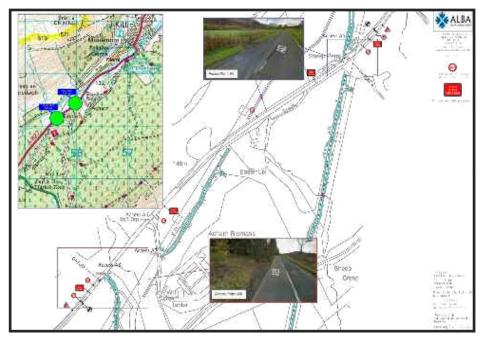
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#### SSEN Transmission Killin VISTA Project

I am writing to provide an update on the SSEN Transmission Killin VISTA project. Our Principle Contractor, Morgan Sindall Infrastructure, in the coming weeks will begin to set up their site compound and commence enabling works. The site compound will be situated off the A827 which you can see from the attached image, highlighted in blue. We also recently applied to Stirling Council to restrict the speed on the A827 to 40mph from approximately 830meters north east of the junction of A85 / A827 at Lix Toll, extending 969 meters towards Killin. These restrictions will come into place from 16 August 2021 and will remain in place until 23

December 2022. The traffic management drawing showing where the signage will be placed and the area that the speed restriction applies to is attached. The reduction in speed limit is required to ensure the safety of the general road users and of the construction workers during the Killin VISTA project works.

SSEN Transmission and Morgan Sindall Infrastructure apologise for any inconvenience and disruption that these activities may cause to the local community and thank you for your patience and understanding. If I can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me directly louise.anderson@sse.com





#### Eureka £ Shop

We would like to say a big thank you to Hazel for "running" the £shop for 29 years and 8 months.

Thank You to all our customers over the years.

We would also like to wish good luck to Chris with his new dental practice.

#### **Dani and Mick**



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Sadly, since we last published, Killin and surrounding areas have lost some of their well-known residents. We include on the following pages obituaries which we have received. Below is a list of those of whom we are aware – hopefully we have not missed anyone but appreciate this may not be a full list.

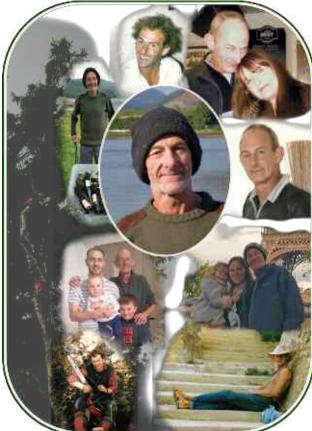
If family or friends of any of these would like an obituary to be included in a future edition, please send it to us, with photos if available, and we will be happy to publish as soon as we can.

| Jan 2020 -<br>Jan 2020 - | Hector Hall<br>Kate Winton    | Jun 2020 -<br>Sep 2020 - | Annie McDairmid<br>Paddy McKinnon | Jan 2021 -<br>Jan 2021 -   | Duncan MacKenzie<br>Cathy Gravent |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Mar 2020 -<br>Mar 2020 - | David Robertson<br>Irene Hall | Oct 2020 -<br>Oct 2020 - | Jessie MacLeod<br>Helen Skelton   | Mar 2021 -                 | Douglas Willison                  |
|                          |                               |                          |                                   | May 2021 -                 | Duncan MacGregor                  |
| Apr 2020 -               | Patty Hope                    | Nov 2020 -<br>Nov 2020 - | Johana McNee<br>Jenny Lambert     | June 2021 -<br>June 2021 - | Clem McEwan<br>Donnie McLeod      |
| May 2020 -               | Christine Buglass             |                          |                                   |                            |                                   |
| Jun 2020 -               | Fiona Kennedy                 | Dec 2020 -<br>Dec 2020 - | Jan Willison<br>Edith Dowling     |                            |                                   |

#### Donnie MacLeod -2nd August 1956 - 15th June 2021

Perhaps for a change, pictures can tell the story of a man who loved his family, loved life, worked hard, always had a smile and a kind word for everyone, was generous with his time and knew how to listen and support those that needed a friend to talk to and a shoulder to lean on. He was known by so many people for so many different reasons and no doubt there are more stories that could be shared than could ever possibly be written. He will be missed by so many and he leaves a huge hole in the lives of his wife Emma, his three children Jillian, Connor and Euan as well as his beautiful grandchildren. As you did in life Donnie, keep climbing those heights!

#### On Behalf of all the Family







David Robertson 30th January 1944 - 4th March 2020

Davy Robertson moved to Killin from Glasgow in 2006 with Anna, following her retirement. Within a few months, they had effortlessly slotted into the life of the village, supporting various local activities, participating in most significant village events, and generally taking an interest in Killin's dayto-day 'goings-on'. You might say they had simply become 'locals'. And Davy was certainly geared up to make the most of it, because he was already well acquainted with the Highlands people, towns, villages, pubs, history and geography (including a whole lot of wellhidden, wee corners that would be completely unfamiliar to most people).

Over many years, his job and his interest in climbing had taken him all over the Highlands; he had driven the roads, walked the hills, climbed the mountains (had a few drams along the way) - and had taken the time to capture the best of it all on camera. The stunning images hung around the walls of his home in Grey Street speak volumes about his intimate knowledge of the Highlands, his natural eye for a great picture and his technical ability with a camera.

Prior to his arrival in Killin, Davy had a highly successful, award-winning career in Scottish journalism, where he was very highly-rated for his photographic skills and was extremely well-liked as an individual amongst his colleagues. He'd travelled a great deal, witnessed some significant events, met many interesting people and consequently had an abundance of stories to share - often humorous, sometimes serious, and always interesting. Following retirement, Davy kept a close eye on the world around him current affairs, political events, cultural issues, sport etc.; he never lost the interest, often held fairly strong views on various issues and was always game for a good discussion over a dram.

But he wasn't just about company and socializing; Davy was very much a 'people person' in many other ways, always prepared to put time



and effort into making things better for those around him. It might be something as simple as providing support for local causes/charities or generously offering his services where a lift was required to the hospital or airport; on a far bigger scale, most Killin locals will be aware of Davy's involvement in the Scout movement through his successful efforts to establish the 2nd Killin & District Scout Group - now a thriving organisation; having joined the Falkirk Scouts as a nine-year old, he had remained very active in the movement for some sixty years earning a Medal of Merit for outstanding service to the organisation.

It may be less well-known to local people that over a period of many years Davy had also been a very prominent figure in the Trade Union movement in Scotland, through his various roles in the National Union of Journalists - most notably, during the mid-eighties when the NUJ was engaged in a pretty acrimonious dispute with the long-discredited Robert Maxwell. Needless to say, Mr. Maxwell would have been no great fan ... which bothered Davy not in the slightest!

To his many friends, Davy was an easy man to spend time with and it would be hard to imagine anyone spending a few hours in his company and not feeling the better for it. Davy himself enjoyed nothing more than being around people, joining in the banter and the craic, and he was certainly a man who could throw his head back and have a right good laugh ... as often as not at himself. He had a natural warmth and easy style that made people around him feel comfortable. Whether they were good friends, casual acquaintances, total strangers - no matter - Davy just had the knack.

On a personal level (and I'm sure all of his friends would recognise this), I find it remarkable that throughout a friendship of fourteen years, during which I spent a fair bit of time in his company, I don't recall ever seeing Davy

in bad form nor ever hearing him speak unkindly to or about another individual. However, it is completely unremarkable that over the same fourteen years, I can't remember a single instance of anyone ever saying a bad word about him; Davy had a friendly, easy-going outlook and a sense of humour that made him immensely likeable ... and genuinely liked. Or put another way - I'd say that it would have been extremely difficult not to like the man.

I'll miss Davy for sure, as will all of his close friends; but I'm certain he will also be greatly missed by a far wider circle of people around the local area. No surprise there ... Davy Robertson just happened to be a special kind of person. And Killin just happened to be very fortunate to have him.

Finally, on behalf of Anna and Davy's family - a deep-felt thank-you to the many local individuals who kindly offered and provided support and practical help in so many ways during his illness and after his passing; also to all those who generously donated to various charitable causes in which Davy was interested. A word of gratitude from Anna is especially due to Dave Osler, Pat Gibson, Jean Faichney and our minister Russel Moffat - quiet heroes indeed.

> Gerry McCarron April 2020

Kate Winton 9<sup>th</sup> September 1941 – 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Kate was born in Rotten Row, Pollockshaws in Glasgow in 1941 and was part of a large family. She first met her husband, Stewart, in 1970 in Germany, where he was in the army and she was visiting her brother Klaus, also in the army. A blind date was set up for them, and that, as they say, was that. During this time, Kate was living in Haddington, working as a light engineer with Ranko Motors. She enjoyed living there and often spoke of it with fond memories. When Stewart completed his long army service and became a shepherd, he and Kate, along with sons Richard, Glen and Stewart, moved to the remoteness of Glen Lochay. Kate often spoke of how she loved the life there, although not the long trek with the boys in the winter snows for them to be picked up and taken to Killin Primary School. As with most shepherds' wives, she enjoyed the challenge of feeding all 'the men' who would arrive for breakfast, lunch, dinner and whisky after working very long days with the sheep gatherings. She loved cooking and baking for them all and she especially loved 'the craic'.

Further house moves, linked with job changes, saw her and the family moving to Glen Dochart, then to Auch Estate and finally to Inverhaggernie, where visiting them involved a scary drive across the railway and over a rickety wooden bridge. Wherever they lived, Kate threw herself into her busy country life. Her other jobs included bar work at hotels in Killin, especially enjoying her time at the Clachaig (now the Falls of Dochart Inn). She also worked as housekeeper at the Bridge of Orchy Hotel. One of Kate's passions was cake baking and decorating. She baked cakes for many special celebrations in the local community, as well as for weddings of friends all over the UK. By the time she was no



longer able to do this, she had a photo album packed with pictures of all the cakes she had made. I remember David and I volunteering to deliver a wedding cake for her to Oxfordshire, as we were visiting relatives down south. It was a careful drive! Around the time of CB Radios, Kate adopted the name 'Ma Baker' as her 'handle'. She managed to buy the old charabanc, of 'Take the High Road' fame, which Stewart converted to a mobile kitchen for her. From her bus, beside the loch near Crianlarich, she served breakfasts, lunches and home baked cakes to her regular lorry drivers who used their CB's to radio ahead with their orders. This business, known as 'Kate's Bite', also became popular with locals and visitors alike. I only got to know Kate in 1984 when she moved, with Stewart's change of job, from Innishaurach in Glen Lochay to Leskine farm in Glen Dochart, where they became our

friends. She and I enjoyed two holidays together, visiting the Dutch bulb fields and later, a wonderful week in Malta. In Killin, Kate was in the WRI and also helped with the Killin News. Whilst living in Leskine, Kate became very ill with meningitis, which left her struggling to see and to walk. She recovered well over the coming months, only to be faced with a diagnosis of MS a few years later. Her love for her family, her positivity and her determination, enabled her to continue leading a busy and full life for many years. We attended their renewal of wedding vows in the wee church at Tyndrum on their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and, despite her serious medical conditions and disabilities, Kate had last year been secretly planning another special service for their forthcoming 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary and 80<sup>th</sup> birthdays in 2021, but sadly, that was not to be.

As her illness progressed in later years, Stewart retired, enabling them to move to sheltered housing in Oban. He converted an old ambulance into a mobile holiday home for them, complete with hoists and all facilities. They were able to enjoy many happy times, travelling all over the UK to see friends and family. In Oban, Kate was a member of the Community Council and she campaigned, fiercely and with some success, for better disabled access to shops, and for wheelchair friendly pavements. She never lost her cheery smile and greeting for everybody.

Kate's ashes were scattered at her favourite spot by the riverside at Innishaurach, with her family and close friends attending. She is greatly missed by them all.

#### **Liz Howard**

neighbours and very good

#### Annie McDiarmid 1st March 1940 - 29th June 2020

Annie was born at home in Ardeonaig on the south side of Loch Tay on 1 March 1940. Annie was the middle daughter of Hamish and Mary MacKinnon.

She grew up enjoying life on the croft and the many cousins and family visitors to Ardeonaig.

Annie left school at the age of 15 and went to work at the Ardeonaig Hotel. She worked there for many years and learned her thorough cleaning skills for which she was renowned. Deciding it was time to leave home she took a position at Grandtully Hotel working for the Moffat family. She always enjoyed the local dances when she was young and she met Donald McDiarmid a local farmer. They married in 1968 and went to live in Fortingall at Glen Lyon House. Here her hospitality skills were put to good use looking after 4 children (Hamish, Peter, Elizabeth and Donald), many farm workers and family helpers/visitors as well as countless pet lambs and other animals.

The family moved up Glen Lyon for a year before settling at Ben Lawers Farm where Annie lived for the rest of her life keeping a watchful eye on



all the farm goings on. Baking and making soup were daily rituals and the many visitors at the farm were assured of a cup of tea and some home made fare. Latterly the baking had to be replaced by bought in equivalents but the same standard of hospitality remained, always finding time for a cup of tea and a chat.

She enjoyed many visits from her grandchildren who all lived nearby - Anna, Duncan, Tessa, Fiona, Stewart, Ben and Darcy.

She remained best friends with her sisters Johan and Marion and they enjoyed many happy times together and more importantly supported each other through the difficult times. Since Donald's death in December 2017 there had been a gap which was never filled. Annie passed away peacefully in Ninewells Hospital on 29 June after a short illness. Annie's family thank all friends and neighbours for the many cards and messages of sympathy received. It was great that Annie and her family were able to celebrate her 80th birthday earlier this year shortly before lockdown. It was a happy day despite the weather and will have lasting memories for all.

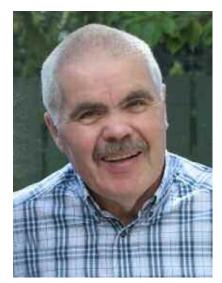
**Elizabeth McDiarmid** 

### Thank You From The Family of Ian Ramsay

Ian came to Crianlarich from Aberfoyle in May 1984 to take over the role as local bobby and thoroughly enjoyed his role in the community. Mountain Rescue was also a big part of work that he loved, it was like an extended family. The RAF mountain rescue helped the team on many occasions



and friendships were formed, in particular with "Heavy" who became a family friend. Both Ian and Heavy enjoyed golf and each year an outing was arranged with RAF members, and Heavy was always there to take Ian - "a true friend". Ian also enjoyed his golf at Killin. Latterly he struggled but still tried to make the effort, helped by his buddies there. When Ian's health started to deteriorate, we were so lucky to have so many caring friends who helped during this difficult time. Sadly, Ian lost his brave battle on the 2nd of January. We lost a wonderful husband, dad, papa and friend to many. We were overwhelmed with the amount of family and friends who came to give Ian a final farewell. An amazing sum of £1473 was collected for the Killin Mountain Rescue Team. The family would like to thank Ross and Kevin for taking care of all the funeral arrangements in such a



Russel Moffat for his comforting service. Thank you also to the Killin Hotel for their warm hospitality, it was very much appreciated. Finally thank you to everyone for all the cards, phone calls, visits and continued support - it has been a huge comfort to the family.

Irene, Graeme & Fiona

caring manner and the Reverend



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|-----------|------------|
| Balfron   | Drymen     |
| Buchlyvie | Gargunnock |
| Callander | Gartmore   |
| Deanston  | Killearn   |
|           |            |

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### Neighbourfood

#### We're Still Here!

Think back to March 2020. Something was coming, but who knew how strange the next year would be? When Scrumptious Garden wrote an article for the last issue of this paper before it stopped, we thought all we were doing was promoting our new online market. A taster event at The Old Mill was planned, and immediately cancelled. In fact, we cancelled all our promotional



activities deciding it was more important to launch straight away.

NeighbourFood combines the best parts of online shopping with the best bits of visiting a farmers market. To use it customers go to www.neighbourfood.co.uk/killin where they can see a range of delicious produce all grown and made by small Scottish businesses and local people. Place your order online and then pop into the Post Office on a Friday between 4 and 6pm to pick up your shopping basket. You can also bring a container to fill from the bulk supplies of essentials sold by the Post Office.

When we brought our launch date forward, we thought lockdown would mean vulnerable people might need food delivered and we wanted to be ready. We did do deliveries for people selfisolating, however. As well as us supporting our community, our customers carried our producers through unprecedented times. With farmers markets and restaurants closed, our producers lost their main incomes overnight. Suddenly the people buying through NeighbourFood were critical to their survival.

18 months later, we're still going strong, and thanks to our customers, so are all our producers. From eggs to jam, and from salads to wool, not only did all our suppliers make it through, we've picked up a few new ones along the way!

Go to www.neighbourfood.co.uk/killin to learn more and sign up.

Emerging from discussions around the new Community Sports Hub a group of local parents are seeking to re-establish a local youth group and provide youth services locally. Working together with KAT and the Community Council discussions are now well advanced with Callander Youth Project, who consulted senior primary and secondary pupils in the last weeks of the last term, and so the creation of a new Killin Youth Project is now underway!

#### New Local Youth Group

CYP are currently providing training and arranging PVG checks with volunteers and plans are in place to (hopefully) launch an initial youth club offering after the summer holidays. There is however a need for a few more volunteers (especially male volunteers!) to help run the sessions.

We know from the discussions with local young people that there is a real demand for youth services locally. There's a huge amount of energy in the project and it's been great to have the support of Callander Youth Project and Youth Scotland in getting off the ground and established. However, without a few more male volunteers we will struggle to provide the kind of service we think is needed. If you would like to get involved please email either gilliangoode@live.co.uk or

sara.jarvis74@btinternet.com Sara McPhee

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# Walk in the Park

#### Keeping Calm and Carrying on Walking

We can all agree that the last 18 months were somewhat challenging. All our favourite activities and pastimes were brought to a halt, and we had to find creative ways to stay connected with our friends and family.

This also applied to the popular Walk in the Park Health Walking group who usually met every Wednesday.

As most of our regular members know, this did not stop our Walk Leaders and Coordinator, Cathy who did her best to embrace the steep learning curve of Zoom and moved the walk and chat to the web.

First of all, it was weekly group Zoom chats, then Cathy set up Walking at Home (A 1 mile walking aerobics class to the bouncy tunes of Jimmy Shand!) and Strength and Balance sessions, which continued right through to April this year, when group walks resumed.

Our lovely Killin members continued to support each other during 2020 through '1-to1 buddy walking' to try and keep folk socially connected as well as active.

The weekly Zoom chats were well received, with quizzes, themes, and even musical performances from some local talent! Following 2 weeks of pilot walking with our volunteer walk leaders, we were delighted to be able to resume our weekly Health Walks on Wednesdays from May and have been having regular group numbers of 15-17 walkers each week.

#### Goodbye And Hello ...

If you are aware of the Walk in the Park project, you will have met the lovely Cathy Scott, who has been the Senior Health Walk Project Coordinator for almost 10 years, developing and leading the popular Health Walks and Strength and Balance sessions in Callander, Killin and Aberfoyle

We said goodbye to Cathy at the end of November 2020 when she started her well-deserved retirement and said hello to Beverley Clarke, who, with our other Senior Coordinator Fran Crumley, will continue to develop and promote the Walk in the Park project, supporting the walkers and invaluable volunteers. We sincerely thank Cathy, for all her dedication and commitment to Walk in the Park and promotion of active health. Sadly, we were not able to have the big party and send off that Cathy deserved, but hopefully we can have a belated event one day soon.

#### **In Step With Nature**

As you are well aware, we have all found ourselves spending more time outdoors in the last year and as a result have been appreciating the wonders and positive effects of nature. We are blessed that we live in an area where we can access or see nature quite easily. At the start of this year, Walk in the Park developed a new project to encourage its members and supporters in sharing their appreciation of nature experiences

- In Step With Nature. This has been especially important to keep our walkers across the Park socially connected while our Health Walks are not able to take place. Through a series of simple weekly challenges and prompts, we have been asking our members to notice certain things in nature, maybe in different ways and share their thoughts, photos, and experiences. It has now been running for over six months and we have had some fantastic contributions of videos, photography, poetry, and audio



pfkcallander@btconnect.com

recordings through our dedicated WhatsApp group.

If you would like to see what our members have discovered or take part in the any of the challenges, please visit our Facebook pages to find out how to get involved (all details below).

Our Health Walks meet every week at 10.20am on Wednesdays. Due to carsharing not being permitted as yet, our walks are all based locally.

If you would like to join us for a 1 hour walk and chat, please get in touch (details below) or keep an eye out for the Walking Schedule posted round the village.

Contact Walk in the Park Coordinator, Beverley Clarke about the Health Walks or joining our online sessions. Call 07803933046 or email

beverley.clarke@lochlomondtrossachs.org

Website : www.trustinthepark.org Twitter : @trustinthepark Facebook : https://www.facebook.com/trustint

hepark

No need to book in advance, but due to the ongoing uncertainty please contact the organisers via the means listed above.

# The Coach House Hotel

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of August The Coach House will cease to be a hotel and become our family home. We would like to thank all those who have supported us over the last 16 years and look forward to having the time and leisure to enjoy community life.

# Local Planning Applications

#### Sirling Council

#### Thu 18 Feb 2021

Proposal: Proposed construction of 2No. jetties Location: Ardeonaig Hotel Killin Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin Application Type: Full Decision: Unknown

Fri 07 May 2021 Proposal: Single storey extension to the rear the dwelling house Location: Stag Cottage Killin Applicant: Mr Mark Stroyan Application Type: Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness Decision: Approve with Reasons

Thu 27 May 2021 Proposal: Extension to rear of dwellinghouse and decking Location: West Brae Cottage Killin Applicant: Mrs Jenny Boyd Application Type: Full Decision: Unknown

#### Mon 21 Jun 2021

Proposal: Extensions to side and rear of dwellinghouse Location: Ardeonaig Lodge C107 From Access To Firbush Point Field Centre To Council Boundary Ardeonaig Stirling Applicant: Mr G Deakin Application Type: Full Decision: Unknown



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Festasar) och Tav Highland Lodges & Ghanning Park, Milton Moronish, Estate, Killin UK21 8TY Wenshe www.lochtay-vacations.co.uk to malar a recervation call 01567 820 853 or coult the boathouse alochtay vacations.co.uk

#### **National Park**

#### Thu 03 Jun 2021

Proposal: Proposed change of use from Class1 (retail) to Class2 (dental practice) Location: Laurelbank Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr Chris Barrowman Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission Decision: Current

#### Tue 22 Jun 2021

Proposal: Erection of street furniture including: wall with seating, benches, planters and cycle stands Location: News First Main Street Killin Applicant: Katy MacLeod Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission Decision: Current

#### Tue 22 Jun 2021

Proposal: Change in the use of ground floor commercial unit (Class 1) to 2 bedroom flat with disabled access (Class 9) Location: 1 Morenish Place First Floor Left Main Street Killin Stirling Applicant: George Hogg Trust Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission Decision: Current

#### Tue 29 Jun 2021

Proposal: Proposed extension and alterations to dwelling Location: Leirsinn Mhor Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr P Paxton Application Type: Listed Building Consent Decision: Current

### **GRAHAM GRANT** DECORATING



07876772609 g.grant61@yahoo.co.uk **Painting and Decorating Ames Taping Plastering** Tiling

#### Perth & Kinross

#### Wed 05 May 2021

Proposal: Erection of 4 holiday accommodation units with raised decking, formation of access road, parking area(s), landscaping and associated works (in part retrospect) Location: Duallin Farm Lawers Aberfeldy Applicant: Ms Tania Chow Application planning permission local Decision: Awaiting decision

#### Wed 05 May 2021

Proposal: Erection of a replacement extension Location: Schiehallion Fearnan Aberfeldy Applicant: Ms E Melrose Application planning permission local Decision: Approve the application

#### Wed 26 May 2021

Proposal: Alterations and extension to car park, formation of hardstanding, landscaping and associated works Location: Ben Lawers Car Park Killin Applicant: National Trust For Scotland Application planning permission local Decision: Awaiting decision





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# Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

For the past 6 years 'Killin' Distinguished Gentleman's Ride has raised the wonderful amount of over £44,340 in aid of Prostate Cancer and men's mental health. Due to covid restrictions, 2020 and 2021 DGR rides saw smaller numbers of riders - despite this due to generous donations both raised over £7,537.

This is a tremendous amount in what has been an extremely difficult 15 months for everyone due to the Covid Pandemic. Thanks to Myra and all the staff at The Capercaillie Restaurant, Wee John (our all important recovery driver), also to Gordon and Sheila Aitken for the use of their gazebo. Of course, our thanks also go to all the riders and everyone who kindly donated to this worthy cause. Yet again I am blown away by the

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Your copy of Killin News

Just a reminder that copies of Killin News are delivered free to most households but anyone outside normal delivery routes who does not receive a copy can pick up one from the Library.

Would you like to join the KILLIN NEWS Mailing List or send copies to your friends? If so please please send your details to us. (See above) Annual cost: UK £15: Outside UK £35 Please make cheques payable to Killin News In view of lockdown, existing subscribers will not be due to renew their subscription until July 2022. support for what is affectionately referred to as 'Tom's Ride'. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one for keeping the DGR and Tom close to your hearts, and for your continued support.



Mobile Banking Vans - Killin

**Royal Bank of Scotland** operate weekly on a Wednesday between 10.50 and 11.20 at the Coach Stop.

**Bank of Scotland** operate every two weeks on a Wednesday between 10.45 and 12.45 at the Mclaren Hall. August 9<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and September 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> September.



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# What's On In Killin And District

#### **Regular Activities**

#### <u>Monday</u>

- Flow Yoga, 7-8pm,
- Community Rooms
- Gentle Yoga, 8.05-9.05pm Community Rooms
- Juniors P7 Badminton, 6-7pm, McLaren Hall
- Adult Badminton, 7-10pm, McLaren Hall
- Junior Badminton, 6pm, Crianlarich Hall
- Bridge, 7.15-9pm, Killin Hotel, ٠ contact Marion 829027
- Indoor Bowls, 7.30pm, Lesser Hall ٠ (winter months only)
- Outdoor Green Bowls, 6.30pm, Bowling green (summer only)

#### Tuesday

- Killin Craft Group, 10ar .2pm, Community Rooms
- Internet Cafe, drop pbetween 11am-1pm, Killin Grary Adult Badminto -10pm, McLaren
- Hall
- Beavers, 7pm, Lesser Hall
- Cubs, 6-7.0pm, Lesser Hall (every other Tuesday)
- Choir, 7.30pm, Church, contact Franny 829048
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- U3A Art, 2pm, Killin Hotel
- CAB drop-in session, 10:30-12:00, MacGregor's Market, 1:00-2:00, Killin Library Wednesday
- Strength & Balance, 1.30-2.30, Killin Hotel
- Quilters, 2pm, Community Rooms
- Highland Hustle, 6.30-7.15pm, McLaren Hall
- Metafit, 7.30pm, McLaren Hall

| Which<br>Satur   | n bin?<br>rdays                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 7th Aug.   | 14th Aug                           |
| 21st Aug   | 28th Aug                           |
| 4th Sept   | 11th Sept                          |
| 18th Sept  | 25th Sept                          |
| 2nd Oct  | 9th Oct                            |
| Grey = gr<br>blue<br>Brown = brown<br>Green = bro<br>green | bin<br>bin + blue box<br>own bin + |

- Scouts, 7-9pm, Lesser Hall
- Explorers, 7-9pm (last Wed of month ), Lesser Hall
- U3A French, 2.30-4pm, Killin Hotel

#### Thursday

- Women's Guild, Com (3<sup>rd</sup> week of month), Falls of Dochart Retirement tome
  Running Sto, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpart
- carpar SWIO.30pm (1st Thursday of wenth, Lesser McLaren Hall)

# Friday

- U3A Bridge, 2pm, Killin Hotel
- Yoga, 10.30-11.45, The Big Shed

#### Sunday

• Killin Gun Club, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sun of month March-December. Contact Stuart Ogston 07999 510014 Henry Paterson 01567 820354

#### **Church Services**

#### Parish Church

- Sunday 10am, Morning Worship, Killin Parish Church
- 2nd Sunday of the month, 3pm, Falls of Dochart Retirement Home
- Episcopal Church
- Wild Church 2-4pm Wednesday 18th August
- Sunday Service 10am 29th August
- Roman Catholic Church
- Sunday Mass 3pm 4th Sept. Regular Sunday Mass in Callander at 11:30am.

#### **Recycling Centres**

#### Callander

Monday-Friday: 5pm-8pm Saturday: 10am-2pm Sunday: Closed

> Aberfeldy **Tuesday and Thurday** 9am-7pm Saturday and Sunday 10am-5pm

Crieff **North Forr, Brioch Forr** 

**All Year** Monday–Friday 9am–7pm Saturday & Sunday 9am-5pm

#### Coming Soon !

August

#### September

14 KCC meeting, p10

#### Killin Library

Now open for Select and Collect and computer use.

Mondays 10-2pm

Tuesday 2-6pm

Wednesday 2-5pm

Friday 10-2pm

Please call 01567 820571 or email killinlibrary@stirling.gov.uk to make an appointment.

Details correct at time of going to press.

# **Mobile Libraries**

Due to COVID-19 restrictions the mobile libraries are running a limited service on a temporary timetable. The information below was correct at time of printing but is subject to change. Please see the council websites for any updates.

> Tyndrum/Crianlarich **Three Weekly Fridays** Aug 6, 27, Sept 17, Oct 8

Crianlarich Police Station 11.45-12.05

Tyndrum Green Welly 12.15-12.35

**Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig** Fortnightly Mondays Not currently running

Perth and Kinross Fortnightly Tuesday Feb4, 18, March 3, 17, 31 Tombreck 16.40-17.00



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