

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Killin News

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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pdf versions of the paper can be viewed on the Killin News website

Front Cover

Photo Ron Allner

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Killin New Year Fireworks and Festive Lights

Ron and I would like to wish everyone a very Happy New Year and hope that you all enjoyed this year's fireworks display which heralded the New Year. Personally, I thought the display was brilliant and Midnight Storm, who presented the display, did us all proud once again.

When all is said and done there would have been no display but for the generosity of the residents and local businesses of Killin, so thanks once again for your support throughout 2023. On the night of the fireworks those attending donated some £1,271 whilst those who went to the ceilidh on the 1st January kindly donated a further £203. A truly generous amount.

Our thanks also go to the volunteer marshals on the night of the display who helped to safeguard those attending and rattled the collection bins. Kay Riddell, Margaret Galloway, Barrie McPhee, George and Jane Calder, Jan Duncan, Rikki Craig and



prizes.

I hope you also enjoyed the festive lights on our Main Street which brightened up our dreary December. Having hired a 'cherry picker' to put them up there was no way Ron or I were going up in it!! At fairly short notice Rikki Craig stepped in and up in the machine to fit the lights. Thanks Rikki, you have our undying gratitude. I just hope you feel brave enough when it comes to taking them down.

As you all know, each year we publish a calendar as part of our fund raising. Whilst most of the photos for 2024 were Ron's, in years gone by many of the photographs were provided free by David Paterson, a nationally known professional photographer and Killin resident. Sadly, David passed away just before Christmas and our sincere condolences go to his widow, Mayumi. He will be missed.

Finally, while you have generously contributed to giving us a good start in funding the next New Year's Fireworks display, we hope you will all continue to support our fund-raising efforts in the coming year.

Mike Beresford and Ron Allner



my son, Nick. Kirstine Inglis, Ted Inglis and Phil Younger of the Killin Mountain Rescue Team once again provided First Aid cover and fortunately their skills were not needed. Nevertheless, their presence was a great comfort to me and Ron, so thanks once again.

When I last penned an article for the Killin News I referred to the raffle which we ran in aid of the fireworks. We were pleased to have raised £711 as a result and this sum helped a lot. However, in thanking the prize donors I forgot to thank the Killin Hotel who very generously donated a meal for two at the hotel and Gregor MacKenzie for tickets to the Music Festival. So apologies to them and thanks for their generous





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10th Killin Hogmanay Lantern Workshop and Lantern Walk

2023, another year of amazing, unique lantern making.

Thank you to all who came along, supported us and made wonderful lanterns. Our Walk, "The Ribbon of Light", which grows in numbers each year, went well with the assistance of PC Frickleton and PC Legget who took time to escort us to the Dochart Bridge.

Huge thanks to EVERYONE who donated to Killin Hogmanay Lanterns and who helped us this year. Also thanks and kind wishes to our main sponsor TAYFITNESS.

Happy 2024 to you all.

Alma and family



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Local Planning Applications

National Park

Perth & Kinross Council

21 Nov 2023

Proposal: Tree works within a conservation area - removal of one Spruce
Location: Burnbrae Cottage 6 Clifton Road Tyndrum
Applicant: Mrs Rena Baillie
Application Type: Tree works application
Decision: Approve

11 Dec 2023

Proposal: Erection of ancillary building and installation of ground mounted solar array
Location: Capercaillie Chalet Main Street Killin
Applicant: Mr Colin Mackenzie
Application Type: Householder Planning Permission
Decision: Current

19 Dec 2023

Proposal: Erection of pergola to partially cover existing outdoor seating, extension to paved area, alterations to recycling facilities to accommodate 2 no. disabled parking bays, insertion of 2 no. doors and alterations to fenestration
Location: The Real Food Cafe Tyndrum Crianlarich
Applicant: Sarah Heward
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Approve

10 Nov 2023

Proposal: Formation of forestry track
Location: Land 800 Metres North West Of Bridgend Cottage Lawers
Applicant: Leslie Benzies Trading As LPBZ Farming
Application Type: Prior Approval Forestry
Decision: Awaiting decision

Stirling Council

31 Oct 2023

Proposal: Two storey extension to dwellinghouse
Location: Duncroisk Killin
Applicant: Mr & Mrs Mark and Henrietta Stroyan
Application Type: Proposed Certificate of Lawfulness
Decision: Awaiting decision

05 Dec 2023

Proposal: Installation of a 25m high lattice mast accommodating 3No antennas; 4No 0.6m transmission dishes and ancillary equipment and development within a compound surrounded by a deer fence enclosure and gabion wall with fence on top, on-site drainage, engineering operations, complete with gate accessed using a new 230 metre compacted stone access track
Location: Land 300M North West Of Glenlochay Schoolhouse Killin
Applicant: Three UK
Application Type: Full
Decision: Awaiting decision

Congratulations



Freddie Harvey Palmer, born 17th December 2023, weighing 8lb 9oz, son of Amy Blake and Alby Palmer.

Thank you for all your kind words and beautiful gifts for the arrival of baby Palmer.

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Killin Mountain Rescue Team

A Round-up of 2023

Killin Mountain Rescue Team responded to 40 callouts last year, equating to over 1400 volunteer hours.

To break down some of these numbers, our longest callout occurred in January, involving 18 members who were out for over 10 hours.

A rescue helicopter was involved in 9 rescues.

The team worked with neighbouring mountain teams on 5 occasions.

One incident involving a search on behalf of Oban Mountain Team, took place over 3 days, covered approximately 10 square kilometres of hillside involving at least 7 different agencies and teams.

April was our busiest month and Ben More our hotspot hill with 5 rescues closely followed by Ben A'an at 4.

In total, 50 persons were recorded as needing our help including one successful sheep rescue.

2022 and 2021 were our busiest years with this year being somewhat similar to 2019.

These numbers are only a snapshot of the statistics collected from our incidents which are recorded and supplied to Scottish Mountain Rescue to aid mountain safety.



In addition to this, up to 30 days of training has been spent keeping our skills up to date.

A large amount of time has also been spent managing the charity and other administrative duties such as looking after equipment, vehicles and personnel.

We have welcomed 3 new trainees to our membership. 4 probationary members have joined our callout list and several long standing members have retired. To these valued former members we send our thanks and best wishes.

We also attended at over 20 events ranging from the First Aid cover at the Killin 10K, Killin Agricultural Show and Hogmanay Fireworks as well as talks for schools, scout groups and visiting walking groups. A core part of the team purpose is to educate in Mountain safety and we hope that in attending such events we contribute



to reducing the number of incidents on the hills.

Members are volunteers, most work full time and have families and otherwise busy lives. Contributing to the ongoing operation of the team requires considerable time and effort from our members who will no doubt continue to work just as hard in the coming year.

Winter and Mountain Safety

After the wet and stormy weather of the festive period we have been treated to some beautiful blue sky winter days with plenty of snow, ice and cold temperatures. You could be mistaken for believing you were in the Alps with these fine conditions.

The joy of these experiences is unfortunately tempered by the resulting increase in callouts for seriously injured persons in the mountains due to slips, trips and falls. There are multiple causes but a little more planning and forethought before venturing out can often prove lifesaving. There are many good quality and free of charge resources out there from the likes of Mountaineering Scotland and the ThinkWinter website. If in doubt, seek the advice of professional mountaineers through courses and guided days out.

If you do have any questions or queries, do please contact the team via email at:

secretary@killinmountainrescue.scot

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Secretary

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An advertisement for Killin Outdoor Centre and Shop. The top part shows a scenic view of a lake and mountains at sunset. Below the image is the text 'KILLIN OUTDOOR CENTRE AND SHOP' in large, bold letters. To the right of the text is a logo featuring a mountain peak and a person climbing. Below the logo is the text 'Tel: 01567 820 652'. At the bottom of the advertisement, it says 'FOR ALL YOUR OUTDOOR GEAR, BOOKS, MAPS ETC..... KAYAK, CANOE AND MOUNTAIN BIKE HIRES' and 'KILLIN RESIDENTS HAVE A 10% DISCOUNT ON NON REDUCED ITEMS'.

Killin and Crianlarich Nurseries

Killin Nursery – Thistle Room

We would like to welcome back all our children and families after Christmas and New Year, and also extend a warm welcome to the new families who have recently joined us and started on their nursery journey. Our staff and children would also like to thank everyone who attended and donated to our Christmas craft fayre and Christmas carols, at which we raised £781.

A few children have transitioned through from the Heather Room to the Thistle Room and are being supported on this journey as they build new relationships with educators and their peers.

The children in the Thistle Room have settled back into nursery and have been learning about the Chinese New Year. They have been participating in a range of different activities to support this such as lantern making, stories and zodiac signs.

We will continue to learn about a variety of different festivals and celebrations throughout the coming months to deepen the children's knowledge in this area.

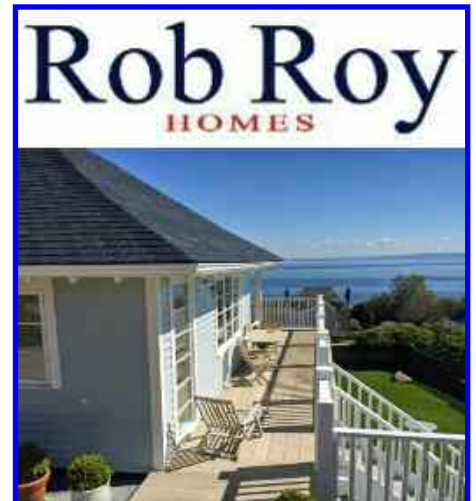
As always we value parent and family's participation in their children's learning and continue to thank you for your contributions to their E-learning journals.



Killin Nursery – Heather Room

The children in the Heather room are learning about the different celebrations between January and April. Currently we are looking at how we celebrate Robert Burns night in Scotland. The children have enjoyed listening to Scottish music and will be trying our traditional cuisine of haggis, neeps and tatties for a snack on the 25th of January.

This term will see the educators focusing on developing the children's fine motor skills by providing a range of opportunities and experiences through sensory and water play, as well as developing our self-help skills at mealtimes. Recently we have reintroduced a welcome song that encourages the children to learn about themselves as individuals as well as recognising how they express their feelings and emotions.



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Breadalbane Heritage Society

The Breadalbane Heritage Society is continuing with its series of monthly illustrated talks for 2024, with a talk by Dr Sharon Webb on the Archaeology of Kilmartin Glen. The talk will be presented on Zoom on Friday 16th February at 7.30pm. Dr Webb is the Head of Collections at Kilmartin Museum. Breadalbane Heritage Society is planning a three-night excursion to the Kilmartin area in August, and the talk will link to this visit. To receive the Zoom joining details contact Ian Stewart on bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com Kilmartin Glen is one of Scotland's most important prehistoric landscapes with many important burial and ritual sites, including cairns, rock art sites, standing stones and a stone circle. Many artefacts of international significance have been found here also. A new £7.8 million museum facility opened in September last year to celebrate this special place, and to care for over 40,000 archaeological artefacts from all over Argyll. This talk will give an outline of the archaeology and some insights into its meaning and importance.



BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY OSCR
'Archaeology of Kilmartin Glen'
Presented by **Dr. Sharon Webb**
Head of Collections, Kilmartin Museum
Friday 16th February 2024
at 7.30 p.m. on Zoom

Temple Wood, Kilmartin Glen
Kilmartin Glen is one of Scotland's most important Prehistoric landscapes with many important burial and ritual sites. Many artefacts of international significance have been found here, and this talk will give an outline of the archaeology and some insights into its meaning and importance.

To receive the Zoom joining details, you must register by contacting Ian at bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com

From March onwards talks will be held at 7.30pm at the Breadalbane Community Campus. Talks are always held on Fridays, and doors open at 7.00pm for those who would like to come early and look at the displays. The talk in March will be on the Scottish

Crannog Centre, the opening of which is eagerly awaited this year, and the talk in April is by Donald Riddell on Glen Lyon and its folklore and history. This talk has been rescheduled from October 2023, when the Breadalbane Community Campus was unavoidably closed due to the storm. The BHS's website features a video of local scenes of interest, and provides up-to-date information about talks and activities, events and publications. Ongoing Society projects include the maintenance of the Killiehasie private burial ground in Strathtay, and the recent publication, in association with the Aberfeldy Museum Group, of an illustrated leaflet, The Aberfeldy and Weem Heritage Trail, with a trail map and information on the many places of interest in the area. QR codes with information at each of these sites are currently being installed. The BHS also provides a free service of assistance with family history research. Recordings of all the recent talks are available on the website.



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Killin Youth Project

Youth group sessions have had a long Christmas break after some truly amazing Christmas events. With panto season being in January, we start back on the 24th January to allow the young people to concentrate on their performances which were outstanding! December saw youth group busy enjoying all that the festive season entails. Our first job was to plan and design our advent window which was very creative. We had a discussion around our favourite things to do in sessions and the winner by a country mile was water fights. No surprise there. We gave this a winter theme and our advent window was a stained glass group of little gingerbread men having a....



Christmas party, lots of dancing and games to end a wonderful year.

At Killin Youth Project we have been focussing recently on our outcome of "The youth community are able to connect and engage with the wider community to have their voices heard, increasing feelings of support and connection". With this in mind we have taken part in various local events. The Christmas Fayre for example was a huge success for the group, and after the most generous donations of cakes and baked goods, Youth Group managed to raise £381. We cannot thank the people of Killin enough for their generosity. It was a very enjoyable experience for the young people involved and they definitely felt a sense of connection.

As for our next session block, we have lots of ideas, and once we get back to sessions the first thing we will do is discuss and decide as a group what we plan to do. We do have a session planned around a mini zoo with creepy crawlies and interesting creatures which will be amazing. During the February break our senior group are heading to Stirling for a few days to take part in the Media Matters course, a 16 hour course that gives young people the opportunity to learn skills in planning, production, podcasting and sound engineering. We plan to do the course over 3 days. There is still space, so if you know a young person who is not already attending Youth Group, who

would be interested in joining the course, then please get in touch.

Over on Killin Youth Project's Facebook page you can find details of upcoming sessions, timings and registration details and see some of our amazing session pictures.

As always it cannot be highlighted enough how thankful we are for our Youth Work Volunteers and the work they do. We always welcome anyone who is interested in volunteering no matter how little time you can give or if you would like to find out more about the project contact:

carla@killincdt.co.uk

**Carla Finlay
Project Manager Youth and Sport (KAT)**



snowball fight. All of the young people showed excellent skills in working together, problem solving and huge creativity. Our next festive session was Christmas movie night. Thanks to the trusty projector, the youth group transforme the pavilion into the Killin Picture House, complete with popcorn, jelly sweets and showings of Christmas films. We ended our Christmas block in the only way you should with a



With that, discussions were had over what to do with the money raised and the young people decided to donate some to another community project they are involved in, the Senior Citizens Burns Supper. The Burns Supper is a fantastic opportunity for them to give back to the community and we are immensely proud of them!



Start-Up Stirling

Bus Trip to Stirling

Our friends from the community hub used the local community bus for a trip to Dobbie's Garden Centre in Stirling on Tuesday 21st November to enjoy an afternoon tea and a wander around all that Dobbie's has to offer during the pre-festive season.

Thanks to everyone who came along, and the staff who helped make it a lovely afternoon, and especially to George Calder who drove the community bus.



The Community Hub is open on Thursdays between 12.30-2.30pm in the Killin Pavilion, Main Street, Killin, FK21 8TN. Gail and her volunteers have a light lunch and a warm welcome for all, an opportunity to catch up with friends old and new.

Pop in anytime between 12.30-2.30pm.

For more information contact Gail MacDonald on 07951 013470



Christmas Party

Christmas arrived early at the Pavilion when our friends from the Community warm hub enjoyed a festive party, joined by some children from the Primary school who came along to sing their wonderful Christmas carols and songs.

We also had a surprise visit from Santa before he headed off on his travels.

Thanks to everyone who came along on the day.





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Patient Participation Group

At our last meeting on Dec 6th 2023 we heard that KDVCS are still very busy with this much needed service but more drivers are needed, especially in the Tyndrum and Crianlarich areas.

Patients are reminded that all vaccinations now take place in the nurses clinic.

The Wellbeing pilot scheme is working well, and you can be booked in through the surgery.

The council reported that all carers in the area were council staff not from agencies and that all was going well. If you have any comments on this, please let us know. If any locals wish to be considered for becoming part of the care team, please contact the council.

'Townbreak' dementia support should be coming to Killin shortly, but this is not certain.

The next PPG meeting (open to all) is on Wednesday February 14th at 12:30 in the surgery.

Linda Frost

Killin Medical Practice

Happy New Year to you all.

We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas as we did. We managed another lunch again, which was very enjoyable, it was nice to all be together.

A very big thank you for all the lovely gifts and cards that were handed in for us over Christmas, it was very kind of you. Stay safe and well.

All at Killin Medical Practice.

**Ann Massey
Practice Manager**



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





Community Meeting and AGM

Thank you to everyone who attended the Community Meeting and AGM on December 4th, 2023 in the Tyndrum Inn.

We had a great turnout for the Community Meeting to discuss the proposed land purchase and development in Tyndrum, with some very lively discussions.

The Trust is keen to ensure that any proposed developments are wanted and supported by the community. Therefore, we will be working with the Tyndrum community in the future to identify the developments and improvements they would like to see.

Our short AGM followed and Dawn, the Trust's chair, gave an interesting presentation on what the Trust has been doing over the past year.

We said 'goodbye' to Billy Ronald from the Trust's Board. We will miss him and the support he has given us over the years.

The remaining Trustees stood again and were elected to the Board. They include Dawn Skelton, Rena Baillie, Theresa Elliot, Ellen Cattanach, Margaretanne Browne, Vesna Podrzaj, and David West.

We still have two spaces where we can co-opt Trustees onto the Board, so if anyone is interested in getting more involved in the Trust, please drop an email to the address below. We would like to give a big thank you to the Tyndrum Inn for hosting our AGM and providing some delicious refreshments, including a finger buffet, tea, coffee and wine.

A Big THANKYOU to Kelly

We are really sad to see Kelly, our Development Officer for 9 years, go. She has a new exciting job and we wish her all the best.

Kelly has been fantastic and has enthusiastically started and overseen many projects within the Trust and will be sorely missed.

We couldn't have done what we have done without you Kelly.

We are on the lookout for a new Development Officer, especially with the success of our Wild Strathfillan Landscape Project, and have had a few interesting CVs in, so watch this space.

Bike Skills Park

The Trust is working towards opening the Red and Blue Bike Trails in Spring.

There are a few little tweaks that need to be made and the signage updated, but hopefully we can get them open for the Easter Holidays. Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for updates.

We are looking for further funding routes to realise the Green Route and Jump runs for the less experienced.

Tyndrum to Killin Cycle Path

The Trust is currently working with various partners to progress the Tyndrum to Killin Cycle Path, and are part of a steering group including Sustrans, the Countryside Trust, KAT, and Active Stirling.

We have secured funding from Sustrans to undertake a Feasibility Study to identify a plausible route, consult the local community, and before Christmas commissioned LUC

Consultants to undertake the works. We plan to hold community, business and landowners consultations over the next couple of months, so please keep an eye on our social media and your email if you are a members.

Wild Strathfillan Landscape Project

This project is focusing on restoring nature across Stathfillan and encouraging people to engage with their natural and cultural heritage. We have seen some great progress in this area, with the Countryside Trust securing funding from both NatureScot's Nature Restoration Fund and the National Lottery's Heritage Lottery Fund.

This will mean that many of the community projects and activities we have been aspiring to will be delivered. These will include much needed works in our Tyndrum Community Woodlands, our Strathfillan wide Community Heritage Project, and the proposed boardwalk and interpretation boards in Crianlarich Community Garden. If you are interested in getting involved in Wild Strathfillan or the Strathfillan Community Heritage Project, then please get in touch by emailing the Trust at the details below.

Strathfillan Community Garden

Locals with outdoor and indoor beds have planted winter greens, onions and garlic but otherwise it's a quiet time for the garden.

A couple of the outside beds are being given up so if you are interested in growing your own veg or plants in the community garden, please contact Dawn.

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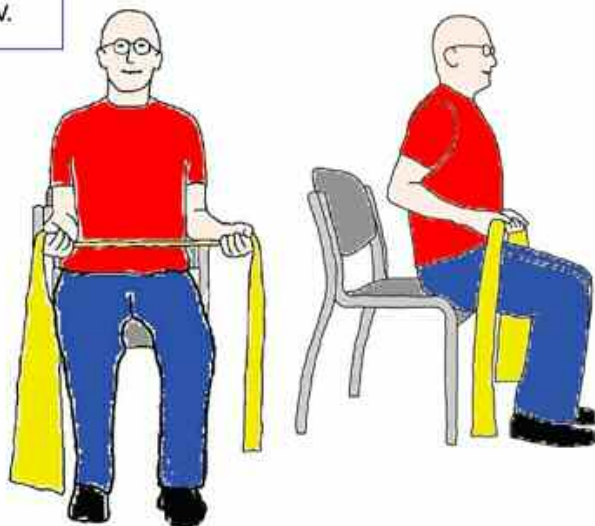
Keeping Strong and Balanced at Home

The focus on home exercise this month is strength. We have all sat about enjoying the festive break and watching those box sets or indulging in sedentary hobbies, probably with not the best posture - so now is the time to build up some muscle again. Did you know that one week in bed can lead to a loss of up to 10% of your strength?

facing upwards and your wrists straight. Pull your hands apart then draw the band towards your hips and squeeze your shoulder blades together. Keep the band low (near your belly button) and shoulders down. You should feel some strain in the muscles in the middle of your back. Hold for a slow count of 5 whilst breathing normally.

TIP:

Do whilst watching TV.



Upper back strengthener

If you have a wide exercise band then use this, if not use a thick pair of tights, a bicycle inner tube, or even a tea towel.

Release, then repeat 4-9 more times.

Have a go and let us know how you get on.

Sit with good posture towards the front of a chair
Hold the band with your palms

Getting in touch

You can contact the Trust directly by emailing us at

admin@strathfillancdt.org.uk.

The Trust office is temporary closed while the Board seek to employ a new Development Officer.

If you are interested in becoming the Development Officer for Strathfillan Community Development Trust, please check out our Facebook Page or email Dawn at dawn@strathfillancdt.org.uk.

For updates on projects and activities you can check out our Facebook Page -

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2495715407394997/>

And for more information on our projects and what we do, have a look at our website:

<https://www.strathfillancdt.org.uk/home>

RG ELECTRICAL & CONTRACTING

New Scottish legislation for Fire and Smoke alarms – Are you covered?

All homes in Scotland are required to meet the new legislation by February 2022.

Scottish legislation has changed. Introduced in February 2019, the change applies to all households in Scotland and must be met by February 2022. The new Scottish legislation states that an interlinked Fire and Smoke alarm system must be fitted in a property and that there should be adequate Carbon Monoxide protection.

We are certified AICO Expert Installers and can provide FREE advice and quotations to get your property up to the new required standard.

Should you require further information or would like to find out more, please get in touch.

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A massive thank you to the Killin S.W.I. for an amazing Christmas Party. The children and staff had a wonderful afternoon.



Out and about with the National Trust, learning about water!



Well done to all our Spelling Bee Winners!



Our sell out Christmas Show - Baarmy Bethlehem



Christmas Jumper Day!

******* Are You A Tesco Shopper? KPS Needs Your Help! *******



Thank you to Jeremy who has started Chess Club on a Monday afternoon with Class 3. We are learning lots of new moves and are really enjoying it.
Jamie, P6

We are delighted to let you know that our application to the Tesco Stronger Starts has been accepted and if successful, we will be able to develop the front of the Primary School to provide a community growing space, which will enhance the mental health and wellbeing of all generations of the community.

The winning project with the highest number of votes will receive £1,500, the second placed project £1,000 and the third placed project £500.

To vote, you will need to make a purchase within store of any value. You will receive one token per transaction. Cast your vote as soon as you receive your token or pop them into school and we can drop them in for you. Only submit Stronger Starts tokens to cast your vote.

Please see below a list of stores taking part in the voting on our project. To help support us, feel free to share this list of stores amongst your family and friends.

- 2430 Dunblane Small unit FK15 9AE
- 2482 Callander Express Small unit FK17 8AL

Voting will end at the end of March 2024.



We had a lot of fun making the Community Bags for the kind and deserving people of Killin. We really enjoyed delivering the bags and it was so nice that we got to see everyone smiling when we appeared at their doors!

Maddison, P7



Thank you to everyone who used the Christmas Village Post service. We thoroughly enjoyed sorting and delivering all your mail. (We managed to clock lots of steps!) The school raised over £200 which will go towards our Community Bags for next year.

Isla, P7

A Message from the Killin Parent Partnership

Thank you to everyone who attended the fabulous Nativity, Baarmy Bethlehem! The raffle raised £120 in total and teas and coffees raising £210.26. We are always grateful for help; setting events up, baking a cake or packing up. (Chairpersons: Fiona Syme and Kimberley Crooks)

Please save the date for our Rock 'N' Roll Bingo Night, a joint fundraiser for the School and Nursery Parent Partnerships...



What: Rock 'N' Roll Bingo - Bingo, but not as you know it! Replace the numbers with all your favourite songs...

Where: McLaren Hall, Killin
When: Friday 22nd March, 6pm- 8pm
Who can come: All families, friends and the wider community.

Why: To raise funds for the school and nursery parent partnerships.

On Saturday 6th January 2024 Killin SWI celebrated their 100th Birthday with past & present members, friends and invited guests at The Killin Hotel. After lunch Killin Drama Club provided an excellent showcase of Music, Fashion and special events from 1920 to 2024.

Killin SWRI held its first meeting in January 1924, by 1925 there were 110 members. Records show the first committee 1925/26 was;

President, Mrs Willison. Vice president, Miss W McAlpine, Secretary, Mrs Robertson, ass. secretary Miss McIntyre, Treasurer, Miss Mitchell, Magazine Secretary, Miss Ella Walker, General Committee, Mrs Hood, Misses Carmichael, King, McDougall and Maxwell.

A lot has happened in the 100 years since that first meeting.

Here are a few highlights through the years.

Meetings were first held in Killin Public Hall (now Tralee & Grants Laundry). In 1936 meetings moved to the newly built McLaren Hall.

During the war years meeting were held on the week of the full moon to cope with the blackout restrictions.

In 1926 the first children's treat (Party) was held in November to mark armistice day, 120 attended that party and were entertained by a ventriloquist from Perth. In 1936 the treat changed to what we now know as the SWI Christmas Party. This tradition continues and in 2023 there were 53 children from Killin Primary attending.

In 1927 the first whist drive was held to raise money for St Dunstons (now Blind Veterans UK). These continued until 2011.

Through the years there have been varied guest speakers, our archives have some syllabuses dating back to 1950.

Until 1974 Killin SWI 50th Anniversary there was a Burns Night in January. For the rest of the 70's this became a social evening and from the 1980's it became The Birthday Party.



2023/24 Committee Members;
Hayley Kennedy, Fiona Boath, Kay Riddell, Ellen Stewart,
Asst Secretary Linda Kerr, Vice President Jean Faichney, Secretary Ann Watson,
President Elizabeth Wood, Treasurer Sheila Aitken



Special recognition is well deserved for these 8 members, between them they have over 400 years membership to the SWI.



Killin Drama Club showcase

100th Anniversary

In 2015 SWRI Scottish Woman's Rural Institute was renamed SWI Scottish Woman's Institute but remains to be known affectionately by many as "The Rural".

In the last 20 years many of our fellow institutes have closed. Prior to the pandemic in 2020 Killin's membership had fallen to around 20. When we restarted, the decision was taken to move to a smaller hall, the church community rooms fitted the bill.

Going into 2024 we are pleased to say our numbers have increased and we have had to move back to the McLaren Hall. We now have 34 members and won the trophy for most NEW members.

We hope our institute continues to go from strength to strength and continues to welcome members old & new, along with visitors who wish to attend our meetings.



Killin Institute Past Presidents
Kay 2017-2019, Elizabeth 2010-2013 and 2019 to present,
Mairi 2001-2004, Lynne 2015-2017, Liz 1995-1998



Past and present members of Killin SWI & Friends

100 Years

The year is 1924
A long, long time ago
When country women stayed at home
To cook and knit and sew.

But some of them had gotten news
That this need not be so
The WRI had started up
About 7 years ago

So once a month, at full moon time
They met up with each other
To learn new skills and remedies
And to compete with one another

Home and Country, became well known
And members quickly grew
There were so many things to learn
And lots of things to do.

The women brought their daughters too
A splendid time was shared
With trips and shows and drama nights
Then wondering how they'd faired.

The time then came, Alas
With jobs for many women
They had tellys in their houses
Less need to meet with other women.

The year 2024
A hundred years have gone.
The good news is that we're still here
And the "RURAL" is not done.



Elizabeth Wood (President Killin Institute) & Cathie Reid cutting the Cake

Killin Community Council

The Community Council meeting on January 9th was exceptionally well attended, with nearly twenty members of the public in attendance as well as two Stirling Councillors, industry representatives and police.

Windfarm

The meeting was attended by two members of the Glen Lednock Wind Farm Development Company, who briefed the community on the progress and scope of the project and took questions from those attending. The wind farm proposal is at the point of submission for Scottish Government approval and, if successful, is likely to be under construction over the next two or three years. The visual impact of the turbines is unlikely to be felt in Killin, though some impact will be felt on higher ground – from Sron a Clachan to Ben Lawers. Whether this will have an effect on tourist footfall in the village is yet to be seen. Some 25 turbines of 220-230 metres in height will generate around 160 megawatts of power. This could mean a Community Benefit of £800,000 per annum, the bulk of which is likely to go to Comrie and St Fillans, but as the wind farm directly abuts our own CC constituency border and some negative impact can be expected locally, we shall argue robustly for a share of this pot.

Police

Following a spate of burglaries in the village, the meeting was attended by the Area Inspector, Andy Bushell and our two local constables. Inspector Bushell was very apologetic about the recent failure of police response to direct calls for help and assistance. He accepted that poor decisions had been made and the community had been let down. He praised the community spirit and the active involvement of the Fire and Rescue

Services, and assured everyone that lessons would be learned from this debacle.

Council Budget

Stirling Councillors Martin Earl and Gene Maxwell were both in attendance, and gave sobering reports of the Council's financial difficulties and proposed remedies. There will be a £13 million shortfall in the Council's finances over the coming financial year and a number of services are likely to be affected by necessary cutbacks. These include the closure of public toilets and libraries and reduction of support for public transport, educational services, children's and youth services, community support grants and road maintenance. These issues are currently being addressed through Stirling Council's Big Conversation and by a caucus of rural Stirling community councils led by Strathard Community Council, in which our own CC is a very active participant. There will be an important budget meeting at Stirling Council on the 29th February at which many strategic decisions are likely to be made. We are keen to ensure that rural services and facilities are as protected as possible.

Public Transport

The public transport service to Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum, via Strathyre and Lochearnhead has been the focus of a small collective of local Community Councils and affected organisations led by Killin CC. The current contract with a local service provider has been cut back significantly over the past few months, and is due to end completely at the end of March this year. Stirling Council is currently looking to recruit an alternative provider, and is even considering providing this service itself, though financing such an undertaking would be a challenge in

normal circumstances, never mind in today's financially straightened times. We will keep you updated on the progress of these discussions.

Roads

Following the partial repainting of village street lines and markings, the roads department has apparently given up on Killin and most of rural Stirling. The state of our roads is frankly appalling. There are huge and dangerous potholes appearing everywhere, collapsing verges, uncleared drainage ditches and the never-ending, tortoise slow efforts to clear debris from the Glen Ogle road. In fairness, not all of this is Stirling Council's fault. As part of the Bute House Agreement between the SNP and Greens, total road traffic volumes are targeted to be reduced by 20% by 2030, and this aspirational folly is to be matched by a 20% reduction in road maintenance over the same period. Indeed, there has been a precipitous decline in transport infrastructure investment since 2017, both in terms of capital investment and basic maintenance. Hence the cancellation of several major projects such as the dualling of the A9 and A96, and the steady deterioration of most of the rural road networks throughout Scotland. This matters because many road accidents are caused by badly maintained roads, and large potholes obscured by puddles can pose lethal hazards to cars and motorbikes. Go green, go canny – or just don't go at all!

Next Meeting

The next Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 5th March in the Lesser McLaren Hall at 7.00pm. As ever, members of the public are always welcome to attend and participate.

Andy Aitken



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KAT Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

Belated Happy New Year, and we're already racing through January! At -10.5 it's been a bit chilly hasn't it, did you see the frozen Falls? Brrr!

Re-Use Shop & Tool Library

What better time to pop into the Re-Use shop, our winter opening hours are:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday 12:00 – 3:00

Tuesday 10:00 – 1:00

Saturday 12:00 – 4:00

Sunday 11:00 – 2:00

We're planning to increase our opening hours in March and with the exciting move to the new shop, we are looking for volunteers. We have hours and jobs to suit everyone. Pop into the shop to discuss opportunities.

Our card machine is now up and running (yay) with a minimum £1 spend but no maximum (lol)

New year and thoughts turn to Spring cleaning and DIY. To help you we have new tools in the tool library, check out our Facebook page or library.

As always with Spring cleaning come donations. Just now, we need good quality bric-a-brac, unwanted gifts, adult winter clothing, small electricals, board games. This list changes all the time, so please check with the shop before donating.

We are hoping to be able to accept small pieces of furniture in the new shop... watch this space.

Lastly, a huge thanks to all the shop, tool library and community fridge volunteers for their hard work in 2023, and to all our customers who purchased, borrowed or saved from land fill, thank you.

The Old Mill

Casting your mind back to Christmas, there was a great turnout for the Re-bedding of the Healing Stones at the Old Mill. It's good to see so many people still interested in this ancient ceremony and in keeping it alive. Thanks to all who came!

We'll be reopening the Makers' Market in the Old Mill at Easter, keep an eye out for further announcements and developments, especially on the heritage front.

We are always looking for more local artists and makers to feature in our shop. We charge fair rates, have an excellent location, and provide

advice on presentation, stock turnover and pricing. Contact Raina@killincdt.co.uk for details.

Staff

It is our pleasure to announce Cheryl will be joining us a permanent team member this year, with Kerri also coming on board. A big welcome to them both, we're so very happy to have you on the team!

The Old Co-op

You may be wondering what is going on at the old Co-op. We have finally received our building warrant. What a great New Year present. We didn't have time to celebrate as the contractor site meeting coincided with our return to work. So a very busy start, but one that we couldn't be happier to do.

Our contractors are MacGregor's Building Services, a local company from Callander.

There have been some concerns that the pavements might get obstructed. As all deliveries should be unloaded within site boundaries, pavements should remain clear. Occasionally, there may be larger vehicles or material deliveries that need to unload from the road. If this happens, the pavement will be closed for a short period.

Overall timescales are about 14 weeks, which is really not long for all the work required.

So, what is KAT doing with the building, you might be thinking? Good question!

As you are aware the old Co-op has quite a big floor space, so we can split the building up into different areas. Essentially there will be four areas:

1. Reuse Shop and RecyKillin (Tool Library & Community Fridge)

You might be wondering why we are moving the Reuse Shop. We have a few reasons:

The premises that we currently use is rented, so costs us money. The space is too small, and we really struggle with storage and displaying. It means we can do more activities to learn about upcycling / remakery.

2. Business and Learning Hub

This will be a new project, so we will be developing it over time. Essentially it will be a multi-use space.

A space where people can rent a

desk, use a printer, and for video conferencing.

We will be hosting or facilitating workshops, activities, and learning. In the future we will be developing an employability project from here.

3. Commercial Unit for lease

We are in the process of defining how we will go about finding a tenant for this unit. Once this is decided, we will advertise the space being available for potential tenants. Keep an eye out on Facebook and posters around the village.

4. KAT offices

Just now several of us work from home as there is not enough room in the Old Mill for everyone. Also, this space isn't conducive for individual conversations as we are based in a public area. The new offices will give us a bit of privacy and mean everyone can be together which is better for the team.

The Old Co-op will become our headquarters and formal company address.

I hope this helps with some of the queries you may have. If you have any questions, please email me at theresa@killincdt.co.uk and I will do my best to answer them.

Breadalbane Park

We still need funding for the next phase of the Breadalbane Play Park. This piece of equipment will cost around £13,000. If you would like to donate you can do it here:

<https://www.givengain.com/campaign/breadalbane-park--play-park-development>

Youth Project

Last, but by no means least, head over to Carla's update on the Killin Youth Project.

As usual, the young people have been incredibly busy and post-panto are planning a host of new activities.

From everyone volunteering and working at KAT, thank you for your unwavering support. We look forward to sharing more news about all these exciting developments to make our beautiful village an even more fabulous place to be.

Bridget Saddler
chair@killincdt.co.uk

Killin Drama Club - Ali Baba



Scheherazade and the Sultan



Sheikh me Shammy's oil wealth



Ali Baba and Marjana



Mustafa and Fatima



Princess and Prince Haroun

Killin residents turned out in great numbers to support the recent Killin Drama Club annual Pantomime.

Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves, by Alan Frayn, was a truly spectacular show, with countless highlights and jokes, some very topical and others traditional.

A large cast of talented adults were well identified by the audience, and each one fulfilled their role admirably. The enthusiasm of the 23 youngsters involved was a force to be reckoned with, and in one scene they emerged from a superb cave and somehow managed to reach the magic 40 thieves number.

There was an impressive special effect scene, involving UV lighting, which left the audience baffled, and all the backstage and technical skills were of the usual high standard by the club, as was the scenery which is all created by club members.

Of the 3 night production, there were 2 full houses and 1 very close - and it was surely a record attendance year.

The Club sends their thanks to all who assisted with this outstanding production - so many volunteers stepped up to the mark - Oh yes they did!!!

Aladdin and the Forty Thieves



Supporting Chorus



Asbad and Mustafa



Asbad and Alsatia



Prince Haroun and Grand Vizier



Grabbit and Bashim

It's been a busy January for the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Countryside Trust! Here's a roundup from their team!

**LOCH LOMOND
& THE TROSSACHS
COUNTRYSIDE
TRUST**



Grace Curtis, Health Walk Coordinator shares what has been happening - Killin walking group rounded off a wonderful year with a final walk out to the head of Loch Tay, followed by a Christmas celebration at the Killin hotel, where they were also joined by members of the strength and balance group. It was a wonderful occasion with a delicious meal and plenty of merriment!

Join us for a walk in the park!

As the new year rolls in, why not try something new? If you've not joined us for a walk in the park before, now is the perfect time to get involved. The walking group meets weekly to head out for a one-hour, volunteer-led walk which aims to be accessible for everyone. Our regular walkers find that the walk has enormous benefits, from improving health and fitness, to the social benefits of spending time with the group. Walkers also benefit from time spent in the beautiful surroundings that Killin has to offer, and between them they have substantial nature knowledge which makes the walks an opportunity for learning as well! One of the regular walkers, Lynne, says:



"It is always a pleasure to enjoy our beautiful environment with good company and conversation, often making interesting discoveries in the natural world"

**JOIN  FOR A
Walk  KILLIN
ON WEDNESDAYS  Always
10:20AM**

Date	Meeting Place	Walking Route	Gate	Bus
14 February	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Lochay from Moirlanich		
21 February	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Pier Road/Finlarig Castle		
28 February	Capercaillie	Kinnell Circuit		
06 March	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Balquidder—Lochside walk		
13 March	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Loch Circuit/Old Railway		
20 March	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Ogle to Viaduct		
27 March	Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Tyndrum		
03 April	Capercaillie	River Dochart & Old Railway to Memorial		

No need to book, just turn up.
Walks are followed by optional refreshments in a local coffee shop/hotel
For more information contact: grace@trustinthepark.org
Or visit www.trustinthepark/walk-in-the-park/

 Walk in the Park welcomes people living with dementia, and their carers, on our walks. Routes identified with this logo are suitable for most abilities. Please contact us for more details.

Walk in the Park is a flagship project of Loch Lomond & the Trossachs Countryside Trust. Registered Scottish Charity No. SC262264. Company Limited by Guarantee. 523487

Thanks to Fiona B for these lovely images taken during Killin's first walk of the year:

If you're interested in joining us, please do get in touch by email:
grace@trustinthepark.org

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In Step with Nature

On the topic of interesting discoveries, our In Step with Nature project encourages people to get in touch with their surroundings by focusing on different

elements of nature in line with the seasons. You don't have to be part of the walking group to get involved! Recently we've been looking at different types of frost and ice and how they form.

A rare type of ice that has been spotted around Killin is **hair ice**, which forms on rotting wood when the temperature is just below 0 degrees Celsius, and the air is moist. The ice looks like hair or candy floss, and requires a specific fungus, *Exidiopsis effusa*, to be present in the wood for it to grow. Thanks once again to Fiona B for this perfect example discovered during a local walk



Strength and Balance Day Away Day

Our Strength and Balance Killin participants had a special away day for their first session after the festive break, with a social catch up with the friends they have made through the class. Nine of our participants wrapped up warm and enjoyed a lovely walk at Callander Meadows with lunch. Thank you to the Killin Community Bus for transporting the group safely on their day out.



Our Strength and Balance exercises are a great way to increase your confidence, mobility and help improve your social wellbeing. Strength and balance exercises are a simple and enjoyable way to improve balance, increase strength and boost your confidence in movement. 80% of our participants advised they have noticed benefits to their physical wellbeing from attending one of our sessions and their social wellbeing has improved too - "I enjoy the interaction with others" and "I have made good friends".

Our weekly Strength and Balance sessions are held every Wednesday at 2pm in the Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church. Our volunteer led sessions are important to help maintain and improve our overall health and wellbeing.

If you would like to find out more, please contact fiona@tustinthepark.org

Wild Strathfillan – We are hiring!



Recruitment began last month for a new **Education & Engagement Officer** to join our Nature restoration team. An exciting new role to deliver education and engagement activities as part of our 'People and Nature of Wild Strathfillan' project. The role will enable more people to engage in and learn about the cultural

and natural heritage of Strathfillan. Activities will be based in Crianlarich, Tyndrum and Killin so this role is ideal for anyone local who is a highly effective communicator, educator and facilitator with a keen interest and skill in engaging people in nature and creating cohesive communities. If this sounds like the role for you, we'd welcome you to get in touch with questions to info@tustinthepark.org. Details about the role and how to apply are on their website <https://tustinthepark.org/about-us/vacancies/>

Closing date for applications Monday 19th February at 9am.



Cycle in the Park - by Jim Riach, Active Travel Officer.

Work continues behind the scenes to improve cycling in the Killin area.

Working with Killin Sports Hub, we are looking to create a network of six waymarked gravel trails in Acharn Forest. Dr Bike Sessions are planned for **Feb 13th**, and **March 14th**. We will also have some "e-bike come and try" sessions alongside these and opportunities to take part in a proposed e-bike loan scheme. So, lots going on behind the scenes, watch this space for more info or contact jim@tustinthepark.org

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COUNTRY HOUSE

We would like to express our gratitude towards the Killin News- team and their great work!
Mona & Brian

If you would like to support your local crafter, please check Facebook for the opening times of "The Nook".
Our local honey can be bought from our new honesty stall.

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Peatland restoration on Meall nan Tarmachan

Since late September DC Restoration Contracts Ltd have been busy on the southern slopes of Meall nan Tarmachan, on the National Trust for Scotland's Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve, carrying out peat restoration work. This involves blocking ditches and gullies, created in the past to drain the area, reprofiling hags and revegetating bare peat across 90 hectares of blanket bog and is scheduled to finish by the end of the year. This project is supported by the Scottish Government's Peatland ACTION Fund delivered in partnership with NatureScot and other agencies. The main aim is to reduce the amount of carbon emissions to the atmosphere. The peat in Britain's bogs and fens holds far more carbon than our woodlands do, with a bog in pristine condition storing carbon as the peat slowly accumulates. However, when damaged by drainage or erosion, the peat becomes a carbon source rather than a sink.

There are also benefits to biodiversity and the site is one of the first to be included in Peatland ACTION's Restoration Monitoring Network, which will detect changes to the vegetation over the next ten years.

We're looking back as well as forward, with Phil Gould, an archaeology student from the University of Glasgow, having taken a 3-metre peat core from the restoration area.

Peat stores pollen dating back thousands of years, enabling the study of the wider vegetational history of the area and details of the ecology of the bog. The deeper the peat in which the pollen occurs, the older it is.



Photo credits for all pictures: © Colin Castle/NatureScot



For more info on Ben Lawers go to www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/ben-lawers

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Tombreck Market Garden

Things have been feeling pretty arctic at Tombreck lately.

Outside jobs have been limited to harvesting the remaining veg and then finding things you can do while keeping warm, eg: barrowing manure, fetching bracken for compost building, digging over beds in the polytunnel, cutting firewood etc.

We've planted out several hedges which will eventually serve as windbreaks as well as providing useful materials and habitat for wildlife.

The broadleaf ones (mainly hazel) involve de-turfing, rotovating the



ground and protecting the young saplings from nibbling creatures with tree guards.

Willow is much simpler, pushing cuttings straight into the ground where – in theory! – they readily take root and can put on 2m growth in a single year.

Otherwise it's a time for planning the upcoming season, ordering

it's slowly beginning to feel like home.

Thanks to our supporters and best wishes to all for 2024!
<https://tombreckmarketgarden.co.uk>

seeds, and taking care of all the little odd jobs.

Somehow the to-do list never seems to get any shorter!

Veg boxes are now paused until around June, though some produce will be available earlier in the Tombreck Farm Shop and at MacGregor's in Killin.

We've been here a year now, and

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Claire Thompson has a busy 2023 with ho

What a great year 2023 was for local athlete **Claire Thompson** and her Scottish Masters Hockey W60 Team. They started their competitions with the Home Nations in June at Glasgow; coming second to England by goal difference only. Their best result against England with a 0-0 draw.

This gave them great confidence to go to the World Masters European Hockey Championships in July at Valencia, Spain.

Scotland won their pool, losing only one goal. Through to the final, in the Spanish heat they battled their final against England. Scotland went 0-1 down early in the first quarter of the match. They continued to work hard



and whilst not getting a goal they didn't concede another goal. A great crowd was cheering the team on and Scotland dominated



in the last quarter. This good pressure resulted in a penalty corner and Scotland scored to level the score 1-1. Scotland continued the pressure but the final whistle blew. It was all down to running penalties to decide the winner. In a truly nail biting finish, these went to sudden death before Scotland emerged victorious with a 3-2 win. Scotland W60 were the European

Champions.

The celebrations continued into the evening as they were presented with the trophy and their medals. This Championship win was a first time for a Scottish Masters Woman's squad to be crowned at a major tournament.

The accolades continued as they were named as Team of the Year in the Scottish Woman in Sport Awards (SWIS) at their Awards ceremony in November. A well deserved recognition for their historic victory in Valencia.

They are also in the running for Team of the Year at Scottish Hockey awards in February.

Claire has completed trials and been successfully selected for the 2024 team.



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key and helping to save Yampil the bear!

Our local athlete Claire Thompson was in action at the end of October but this time completing a 5k at Five Sisters Zoo in West Lothian. This was to raise money for Yampil the bear. Yampil, a Black Asiatic Bear, was rescued from the zoo in Ukraine after it was heavily bombed. He was one of the few animals left alive. He was carried out on a stretcher such was the poor health he was in. His rescuers from Belgium asked Five Sisters Zoo to help, as they have rescued brown bears previously.

Once Yampil was healthy enough to travel he would be heading to his new Scottish home. Funds were needed to build a new enclosure for him.

Claire raised an amazing £450 thanks to the generosity of her friends, family and the locals of Killin. The Zoo was amazed at this amount and are truly grateful.

Yampil arrived on 11th January 2024 with a great deal of publicity and he has started the settling in process in his temporary enclosure whilst his new one is being built. Five Sisters Zoo are still fundraising to help build his enclosure and

if you would like to donate please go to <https://fivesisterszoo.co.uk/yampil-the-bear-rescue-fund/>





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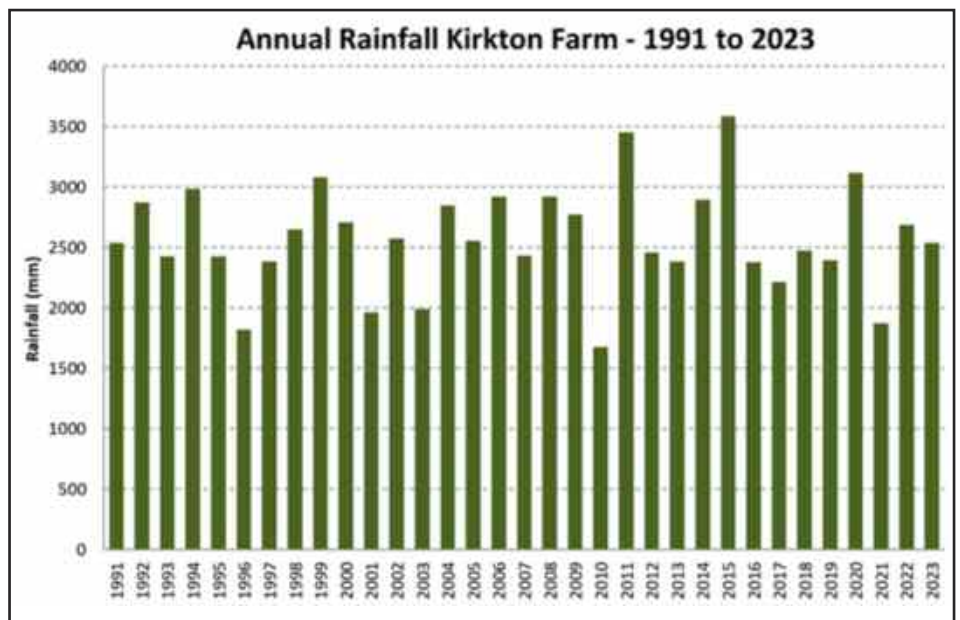
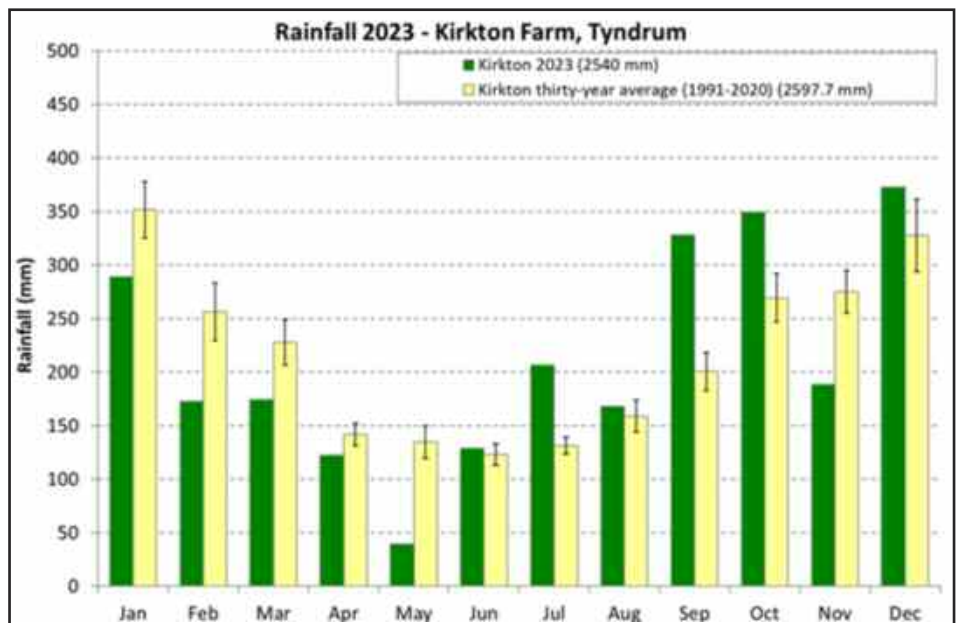
Kirkton Farm (Met Office Automatic Weather Station), near Tyndrum, Perthshire

Rainfall

The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office automatic weather station at Kirkton in 2023 was 2540 mm (exactly 100 inches). This was 57.7 mm less than the thirty-year 1991-2020 average (2597.7 mm) and 147.0 mm less than the 2022 rainfall total. The wettest month was December when a total of 372.6 mm (14.67 inches) of rainfall was recorded. The rainfall in September was more than 120 mm above the monthly average. The first half of the year was drier than average (926.6 mm; 75 % of the average rainfall for the first six months of the year), while the second half of the year was wetter than average (1613.4 mm; 118.4 % of the average rainfall for the second six months of the year). The driest month was May with 39.6 mm of rainfall (29.4 % of the 30-year average). The highest rainfall over a calendar week (Monday to Sunday) was 233.8 mm between the 2nd October and the 8th October (Week 40). There were six calendar weeks when the total rainfall exceeded 100 mm (Weeks 2, 38, 39, 40, 51 and 52). The highest rainfall in a single day (09:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 81.8 mm on the 7th October. There were an additional six days when more than 50 mm of rainfall was recorded, and a further 17 days with more than 25 mm of rainfall. The highest rainfall in a single half-day 12-hour period (21:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 68.6 mm on the 6th October. In the 24-hour period from 21:00 GMT on the 6th October to 21:00 GMT on the 7th October a total of 112.6 mm of rainfall was recorded. The total number of rain days was 259 (71 %). There was no rainfall recorded over a 19-day period from the 22nd May to 9th June. There were 39 days during the spring when no precipitation was recorded (42.4 %), compared to 29 days during the summer (31.5 %).

Low Temperatures

There were two days in 2023 when the temperature fell below -10°C, the 8th March (-10.2°C) and the 9th March (-10.5°C). There was only one day in 2023 when the temperature failed to rise above freezing (2nd December; -0.1°C). An air frost was recorded on a total of



83 days. There were no air frosts recorded in May, June, July or August. This is the first time since recording began in 1991 that no air frosts were recorded over this four-month period.

High Temperatures

The highest temperature in 2023 was recorded on the 8th September (28.7°C). This was the warmest September day since recording began in 1991. June was the warmest month with a mean temperature of 15.7°C and a mean maximum temperature of 21.7°C. A daily maximum temperature of 18.0°C or above was recorded on every day between 29th May and the 25th June. The mean annual temperature for 2023 was 8.71°C, which was the third highest since

recording began in 1991. Temperatures of 25°C or above were recorded on 8 days (6 days in June and 2 days in September), while temperatures above 20°C (but less than 25°C) were recorded on a further 30 days.

Thanks to the Met Office for supplying the data from the automatic weather station at Kirkton.

John Holland
(SRUC Hill & Mountain Research Centre, Kirkton & Auchtertyre Farms)



Frost Report

Robin Loves a Hot Tub

It is mid-January and so cold. The ground is frozen solid and everyone is tired of defrosting their cars for every journey. At Ardeonaig we are a little more fortunate and are often 1 or even 2 degrees warmer (or less frozen) than in the village. Even so, the birds here are feeling the need to feed as much as possible to try to have enough energy to maintain their body temperature. Apparently, they are heavier when they go to sleep than when they wake, all that energy needed just to survive the night. Since the feeding day is still short the birds need to feed as hard as they can. The cling-ons like tits and goldfinches on the feeders and the ground feeders like blackbirds and robins eating up the spillage and appreciating food put out on flat tables. We also keep water topped up as the ponds and ditches are frozen. Putting out hot water means that it stays usable longer and we have a robin who makes the most of this. He looks out for the hot water going in the birdbath then flies down for his morning routine. First of all, a nice hot drink to warm his tummy, then stepping in to warm his feet and finally a full scale shower and brush up.

One bird in the Highlands is getting very special treatment. The common scota is not common at all but is Britain's rarest breeding duck and a three quarters of a mile long, five foot high electric fence has been built at a cost of £7,000 to protect its eggs from pine martens. The pine martens themselves are now protected, so where are we going with this?

If you love feeding and watching birds, are not sure how to recognise species and have a pocketful of spare cash, you could get a pair of the new binoculars that can tell you the species that you are looking at!

Even animals adapted to living in sub zero temperatures are finding other dangers to contend with. Bird flu has been found in Arctic seal populations. Probably because of this, a polar bear found dead proved to have died of bird flu. Wolves in Katmai, Alaska have been seen eating sea otters - you know the really cute guys who float around holding hands. Is this new or has it happened for a long time but just not been seen in this remote area?

We think that we know everything! How wrong that is! Three new plants worldwide have only recently been discovered, including a tree in the Kalahari which grows underground except for its white flowers which push up through the earth. This member of the bean family, Baphia Arenicola, looks like a stemless iris.

One area of wildlife which is changing on our very doorsteps is the red deer and its habitat. New proposed legislation has been set out by the Scottish government in 6 areas of modernising deer management. A consultation document is out and responses are sought. Google "Scottish government managing deer for climate and nature". Basically, there is to be a change in the shooting season for females which would begin between 1st and 15th April and end between 13th August and 15th September. To

enable culls to be achieved, more power will be given to Nature Scot to intervene where land is being damaged. How much attention is being given to other herbivores is not clear. Nor is how the increase in availability of venison dealers will be achieved as they will struggle with the increased supply. Recently an article about a small number of reindeer being shot caused a stir. What do they have that red do not - apart from Santa's patronage of course and Rudolf's cute nose?

I'm sure that a few farmers were swearing the other day when Humza Yousaf said that Scotland's food and drink industry would drive forward an independent Scotland. Just where do their visions leave the land (or the workers?) to grow oats, lamb, beef, venison and barley? Maybe an eventual payment of withheld allotted money to farming would help?

Have you seen the activities of the naughty beavers opposite the curling pond? Luckily no trees have yet gone over the road or across the falls. Apparently, they are quite undeterred by people close to, so it is only a matter of time before they are rafting down the falls on a sunny afternoon.

One of Mr. Fox's relations was very naughty recently making dirty paw marks on a police dog van. The handler thought it was cat prints till he came out one morning and saw Foxy still on the roof. Whether the fox was later trained for search and rescue work is not known.

Tim Frost

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Killin Golf Club – A Review of 2023

Since 1911 small numbers of dedicated club members have ensured the continuation of the Killin golf club as a valuable village resource. Last year was no different.

Some highlights are shared below.

The Course

Our course is ranked at the forefront of 9-hole golf courses in Scotland (Press and Journal, 20th February 2023), a testament to those who have gone before and those now responsible for its maintenance.

Last year was challenging with its early season drought and later season deluges. In June our greenkeeper, Niall Laurence, heroically resurrected our irrigation system (incredibly out of use for some years - hard to believe, we know) and spent many anti-social hours watering the greens. His dedication included one evening removing a large bull and its deposits from the 5th tee.

Very heavy rain in October saw widespread floods in the area but hardly any standing water on the course which remained open. Indeed it was open every single day throughout the season and 'has never looked better' according to a group from the South of England in August, some of whom have been coming regularly over the last 23 years.



Killin golf course is biologically diverse and full of surprises. Like this small-football-sized Giant Puffball (*Calvatia gigantea*), already nibbled by mice or slugs, which was among a group of fungi seen on July 27th last year. (photo by Dickie Lewis)

Visitors

Visitor numbers were slightly up on last year; an encouraging trend after the two previous lean years. They came from as far afield as New Zealand, Malaysia and Mauritius, but mainly from the UK and Europe. Nearly all were complimentary about the course with an animated member from a United States group saying it 'was more enjoyable than St. Andrews'. Other compliments included amazing, beautiful, challenging, beguiling and in excellent condition. We are always pleased to welcome visitors and can supply all the equipment they may need.

Clubhouse

We were delighted to welcome Euan Mackie's Wee Heilan Bistro at the start of the season. He brought good food, a well stocked bar, music nights, a pool table and other contributions to club life. We are very grateful to Euan for all he did for the club and it was with some sadness that we witnessed the withdrawal of the Wee Heilan Bistro in October. He will be missed and we wish him well in his new role at Dunkeld and Birnam Golf Club. We are currently on the lookout for a new steward/caterer (see advert below)

Juniors

Twenty one juniors signed up for coaching sessions on Tuesday evenings from 6.30 to 8 pm with 14 attending regularly over the summer. It was good to have the next generation of at least one long line of successful local golfers, and to follow the steady improvement of all the juniors.

We thank Douglas McRobbie for his dedicated coaching skills, Scott Clelland our roving Scottish golf professional for his guidance, and Killin Firefighters for their support.

Members

We need more members and supporters if we are to maintain the standard of our course. Covid disrupted our income badly and we are still repaying a government loan. We are a friendly, inclusive club for golfers as members or friends (see website www.killingolfclub.co.uk).

All other offers of support will be welcome - please consider joining our 49 club to enter a weekly draw for a cash prize.

As our 112th season closed, we gave thanks to all those that went before and the current band of members who work hard to keep the club thriving. It provides an important local amenity and gives pleasure to many of our summer visitors. We look forward to meeting new people in 2024. Look out for our open day in April.

Gordon Aitken, Mons Bolin, Kay Dowling, Tim Fison, Dickie Lewis, Silvia Knecht, Peter Nettleton, Lizzie Stevens, Cameron Taylor (2023 Committee)

Business Opportunity

Situated at Killin Golf Club we offer the opportunity to run your own business from the Clubhouse.

Whilst the premises include a commercial kitchen, a small bar, dining room and reception area, applicants are not limited to those wishing to set up a restaurant.

If you have a business and need a base to operate from then this could be for you.

If you are interested, or want to know more, please email or write to our Secretary :-

Killin Golf Club

Killin

FK21 8TX

secretary@killingolfclub.co.uk



We would be delighted to speak with you.

Wanted: Young People for National Park Youth Committee

Young people with a passion for climate and nature are being asked to come forward and help transform Scotland's first National Park into a thriving, sustainable place for future generations.

In mid January, Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority launched a campaign to significantly expand and diversify the membership of its National Park Youth Committee.

Youth Committee members help make decisions on key issues including climate change, how land is used, improving public transport for rural communities and green career opportunities. Members gain work experience, participate in National Park Board meetings, help shape National Park policies and develop youth-led projects.

The drive to recruit more members reflects the increased importance the Park Authority is placing on involving young people in decisions that will impact the National Park for decades to come.

Dr Heather Reid, Convener of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Authority said: "We are facing unprecedented challenges to nature, to climate and to our lives that depend on them. I strongly believe that young people are essential if we are to turn the tide on these issues and deliver the change that is required to protect our National Park for future generations.

"Our Youth Committee offers young people a unique opportunity to take action on issues that matter to them, issues such as the climate and nature crises, which we know young people are concerned and passionate about, as well as the transition to a greener economy, which will directly impact the jobs available to them."

The Youth Committee is open to young people aged 14-26 and the Park Authority is particularly keen to hear from potential members aged 17-26.

In addition to opportunities to directly influence decision-making, Youth Committee members can benefit from skills

development, networking opportunities, hands-on volunteering work and events that bring together young people from National Parks across the UK.

Aidan Cronin, 18, from Callander, has been a member of the Youth Committee for almost five years and in that time has met with senior politicians, participated in Board Meetings and completed an internship with the Park Authority.

He said: "I've had opportunities that simply wouldn't have been open to me otherwise, like meeting a US Secretary of State and interviewing a Scottish Government Minister. One of the best things about the Youth Committee is that it is very action focused. We aren't just talking about things, we feed into work that is relevant and see the results of our input.

"I have developed not only skills but also a network, something which is really important for people my age and will help with job opportunities when I graduate. And for me personally, learning what I have about National Parks and conservation was influential in helping me decide to study geography and sustainable development at university."

The drive to recruit more young people to the Youth Committee comes at a pivotal moment for the National Park, as the Park Authority prepares to publish a new five-year plan, the National Park Partnership Plan. The upcoming Plan will set out the action required to deliver a thriving National Park that is nature positive and carbon negative by 2045.

More information about getting involved with the Youth Committee can be found on the National Park Authority website at <https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/youth-committee/> or by emailing education@lochlomond-trossachs.org



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Killin Sports & Recreation Hub Inclusive Sports Opportunities

Boccia:

A Sport for All



Boccia (pronounced "botcha") is a precision ball sport similar to pétanque and bowls, whereby players throw, kick or use a ramp to propel a ball onto a court to get close to a target ball (jack).

Played indoors from a seated position using soft leather balls on a smooth rectangular court, boccia can be played as individuals, pairs or teams of three. Boccia is a game of skill and strategy and is a truly inclusive sport available to all people of all ages and abilities.

Boccia is a Paralympic sport with no Olympic counterpart and designed specifically for athletes with a disability affecting locomotor function.

Working with Active Stirling, the Killin Sports & Recreation Hub and the Strathfillan Community Development Trust, Scottish Disability Sport have been developing greater opportunities for people with a disability to get active in the Killin and Strathfillan communities.

SDS Regional Development Manager Michael McKenzie, supported by Chris McKenna (Community Activation Manager – Active Stirling) has made tackling rural isolation a priority and has already supported the

development of a Boccia (the most inclusive sport in the world!) through loaning a Boccia set for use within the community. Sessions have already been taking place, including recently on January 16th at the community rooms with 14 women from the Tuesday Club.

The sport is target based and can be played in small-medium sized indoor spaces. In addition it can be played by throwing, kicking, rolling (any way to get the ball to the target essentially!). It is hoped the equipment can be used to bring sport

to more existing local groups, adding in social and skill development opportunities.

SDS have also committed to work with local clubs and groups to support education and development to enhance sporting provision for people with a disability in the local area. Boccia is the beginning and discussions have also taken place about lawn bowls opportunities in the summer.

If you would like a taster session of Boccia, then please contact the hub on: killinsportshub@gmail.com



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Letters

Farewell Killin

Where did those 17 years go? We are so sad to be leaving Killin after all this time, but illness and pressure from the family has made the decision for us. Having said that, we're moving to the very lovely Isle of Man, which is a bonus.

We have known Killin for much longer than we have lived here, but when we retired it was an easy choice for us, a pretty village hidden away in the mountains.

Anyone coming to live in Killin is very fortunate, they will find a community spirit next to none, brilliant friends and neighbours and people willing to go that extra mile to help. We will miss the spectacular views, the Hogmanay fireworks, the Panto and the Games, to name just a few.

Thank you Killin for making us welcome, we have loved every minute.

Barbara and Joe Cottage

Thanks from the Posties

Thank you once again to all the generous residents of Killin, who have been so kind to the posties over the festive season. It is very well appreciated.

Donald, Davy, Paul and Rab

Thank You

Having been responsible for the Church Flower Rota for 21 years, I decided the time had come for me to stand down.

On doing so, the last thing I expected was to be presented in church with a beautiful bouquet of flowers, and a most generous cheque, from the congregation and the people who have faithfully donated flowers.

Thank you to all who contributed to these most unexpected gifts. Your kindness and generosity is greatly appreciated.

Kate Allan very kindly offered to take over from me, so please continue to give her your support.

Thank you to everyone who made my task easier over the years by providing flowers. It was a pleasure to arrange them, and kept me in practice!

Thank you to all concerned for your support, and especially for my lovely presentation on retiral.

May our church here in Killin continue to thrive in these difficult times.

Cathy Reid

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Obituary

David Paterson
1945-2023

David G Paterson was born in Perth in 1945 followed by brother Kenneth. The family moved to Golspie in Sutherland when he was 6. His father was a woodwork teacher.

David excelled in sports and was Scottish gold medallist in hurdles and Golspie senior golf club champion when he was 17. He dreamt of becoming a professional golfer against his dad's advice.

At the age of 17 David won a BP scholarship to study chemistry at Edinburgh University. After graduating he joined BP as a chemical engineer and then worked for Edinburgh Corporation as a computer specialist.

Whilst working in Germany he spent his train fare home on his first camera. This proved a good investment as he turned the hobby into a profession as a commercial photographer.

He made some very good friends and one suggested he take his camera to Japan, so he travelled there in the winter of 1974. Soon after his arrival an old colleague held a small party for David, where he met Mayumi. David had a wonderful six months in Japan, travelling, climbing, skiing and being with Mayumi. They married in



Edinburgh in 1975 and in 1981 their long-awaited son Sean was born. The family moved to London in 1983 and David continued to travel extensively on business and family holidays, never missing an opportunity with his trusty camera.

David loved nature and landscape photography and captured many beautiful images of various destinations and published many books on Scotland, the Himalayas, London etc. He was a keen mountaineer and completed many Himalayan treks. Sherpa Nima, who saved him from frostbite on one trek, became his lifelong friend. Nima said he will never forget how David was very patient and generous with the porters and local people.

The family moved to Glencoe in 2001 where David made a dear friend of Hamish MacInnes. This strong friendship lasted till Hamish's death. However the practicalities of living in Glencoe proved difficult, so the family moved to Dochart House in Killin. David fell in love with the house instantly and promised

Mayumi he would do as much DIY as possible.

David was diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease in 2011. This upset him very much at first, but he was determined to stay active.

He held numerous photographic exhibitions; the last one at the Stirling Smith Gallery in 2019. In Killin he was often seen out and about with his camera. He loved photographing the village and loch. He sold his prints and cards in the Old Mill where he was a volunteer. He was also a proofreader for Killin News. He generously donated a set of his village prints for their office. At home he loved playing the piano. He also loved the family pets; in David's words they completed the family. Another hobby was making personal books for family and friends, with beautiful photos and very funny text.

He said Parkinson's invaded everything in his later life, but he still felt lucky to have done many interesting things throughout his life. Most of all he felt lucky for having a supportive family; Mayumi, Sean, Cara, and their lovely two boys Charlie and Elliot. His many dear friends also played a very important part in his life.

The family would like to thank Dr Mill and all the team at Killin Medical Practice, the staff at Davidson's Pharmacy, Consultant Dr Pal, Parkinson's nurse Kay Mair, Magnus Corkish and Mrs Lyn Bartlett who taught David Alexander technique. Thanks also to the staff at Falls of Dochart retirement home where he had a respite, and to John Guild for keeping a check on the garden David loved very much.

Mayumi Paterson

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2nd Killin & District Scout Group Stirling & Trossachs

Scouts



We finished up our international badge last term - we'd learnt about lots of different countries including Italy, Republic of Congo, Japan and Finland. On our last night before Christmas, Sue brought along her friend Katri who comes from Finland. She taught us all about life in Finland and their Christmas traditions. We even got to decorate mini gingerbread houses. We started the term with lots of games and fun in the dark using battery candles and glow sticks. These games always go down a treat and were a perfect introduction to our space activity badge we're going to take on this coming term. We have space for 6 and 7 year olds, to join us please email killinbeavers@yahoo.co.uk and also email if your child turns 6 in the next few months

Laura Bathgate
Beaver Leader



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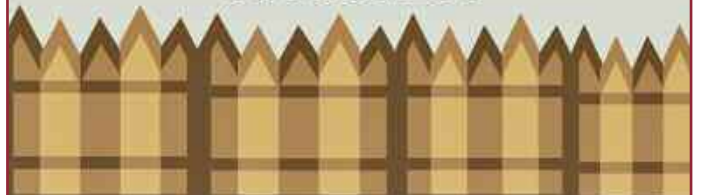
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Mobile Banking Vans - Killin

Royal Bank of Scotland operate weekly on a Tuesday between 10.55 and 11.15 at the Coach Stop.

Bank of Scotland operate every two weeks on a Wednesday between 10.45 and 12.45 at the McLaren Hall, 14th Feb, 28th Feb, 13th Mar, 27th Mar, 10th Apr.

To advertise in the Killin News Advertising Rates from £17 Contact Tel: 01567 820298

Adverts are accepted in good faith and we cannot be held responsible for the goods and services advertised

Web sites: www.killin.info and www.killinnews.co.uk

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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 one up from the Library.

Would you like to join the KILLIN NEWS Mailing List or send copies to your friends?

If so please send your details to us.

(See above)

Annual cost: UK £20:

Outside UK £35

Please make cheques payable to Killin News

Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire Branch

Please note the details for our next meetings :-

Monday 19th February at 19.30, at the Tryst, Church of Scotland, 13 Bonneathill Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5BS. The talk is titled "Wildlife through the Lens-an Illustrated Talk", by Polly Pullar. Polly is well known as a naturalist, conservationist, writer, photographer & wildlife rehabilitator.

Monday 18th March at 19.30, at the Tryst, Church of Scotland, 13 Bonneathill Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5BS. The talk will be given by Corin Smith, a wildlife photographer who has an interest in Salmon Farming. The topic will be "Salmon - A talk about this very important fish and it's associated industry".

Everyone is very welcome, refreshments will be provided. Suggested donations £2 for members, £3 for non members. For further information, contact Mark Aquilina at markandrosie@btinternet.com

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What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

Coming Soon !

Monday

- Adult Badminton, 7-9pm, McLaren Hall
- Junior Badminton, 6pm, Crianlarich Hall
- Bridge, 7.15-9pm, Killin Hotel, contact Marion 829027
- Indoor Bowls, 7.30pm, Lesser Hall (winter months only)

Tuesday

- Bee Creative, 10am-12pm, Community Rooms
- U3A Art, 2-4pm, currently being held in Lochearnhead Hall
- Beavers, 6-7pm, Lesser Hall (every other Tuesday)
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- Pilates 5.45pm and 6.45pm, Community Rooms, booking required on 07866 018629
- CAB drop-in session 10am-4pm, The Pavillion, Main Street
- Aikido 7-9 Adults/Children from 13 years.
- Aikido 6-6.30 aged 5 to 7 - 6.30 aged 8 to 12.

Wednesday

- Walk in the Park, 10.20
- Strength & Balance, 2-3pm, Community Rooms
- U3A French, 2.30-4pm, fortnightly, various locations
- Highland Hustle, 6.30-7.15pm, Lesser McLaren Hall
- Youth Club, P6/7 5.45-7.15pm S1-3 7.30-9.00pm [Sign-Ups: alasdair@cyp.org.uk]
- Multi-Sports Session - Wednesdays (Fortnightly), P5-7 5-6pm, S1-3 6-7pm [sign-ups: mckennac@activestirling.org.uk]
- Killin Comm Choir, 7.30pm-9pm, Killin Church
- Aikido 7-8pm Body Art
- Aikido 8-9pm Weapons Adults and children from 13years

Thursday

- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark

- Killin Community Hub, 12.30-2.30 Sports Pavilion
- SWI, 7.30pm (1st Thursday of month, Community Rooms)

Friday

- Pilates, 9am, 10am and 11am Community Rooms. Booking essential on 07866 018629
- Yoga, 10.15 - 11.30 McLean Hall, Fearnan.

Saturday

- Football in the Park, 12-17 years, 12-2pm

Sunday

- Football in the Park, 8-11 years, Check for times with Andy.
- Killin Gun Club, 3rd Sun of month March-December. Contact Stuart Ogston 07999 510014 Henry Paterson 01567 820354

February

- 13 Dr Bike Session, p23
- 14 PPG meeting, p11
- 16 BHS zoom talk, p8
- 19 SWT talk, p38

March

- 14 Dr Bike Session, p23
- 18 SWT talk, p38
- 22 Rock & Roll Bingo, p15

Killin Library

Books, DVDs, dog waste bags and hearing aid batteries.

Monday	10-1pm 2-5pm
Tuesday	10-1pm 3-7pm
Wednesday	2-5pm
Thursday	Closed
Friday	10-1pm 3-7pm
Saturday	Closed

Church Services

- **Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church**
- **1st Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship including Sunday School
- **2nd Sunday of the month**
10:00 Sunday worship including communion
- **3rd Sunday of the month**
10:00am Cafe Church including Sunday School
- **4th Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship
- **5th Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship
- **Episcopal Church**
- See www.strathearn-episcopal-churches.co.uk for details
- **Roman Catholic Church**
- Sunday Mass in Callander at 11:30am

Mobile Libraries

Please see the council websites for any updates.

Crianlarich/Tyndrum Fortnightly Fridays

2nd Feb, 16th Feb, 1st Mar, 15 Mar, 29th Mar

Crianlarich

School 10:45-11:30

Glenfalloch Rd 11:40-12:00

Willow Square 12:05-12:25

Tyndrum

Green Welly 13:40-14:10
Mansefield 14:15-14:45

Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig Fortnightly Mondays

12th Feb, 26th Feb, 11th Mar, 25th Mar, 1st Apr

Glen Lochay 11.45-12.30
Ardeonaig 14.00-14.45

Perth and Kinross

Three week stops, Tuesday
20th Feb, 12th Mar, 2nd Apr
Tombreck 16.10-16.30

Which bin? Saturdays

10 Feb 17 Feb

24 Feb 2 Mar

9 Mar 16 Mar

23 Mar 30 Mar

Red = no bin collection

Grey = grey bin + blue bin

Brown = brown bin + glass box

Green = brown bin + green bin

Recycling Centres

Callander

Monday-Friday: 5pm-7.30pm
Saturday: 10am-1.30pm
Sunday: Closed

Aberfeldy

Tuesday and Thursday
9am-7pm
Saturday and Sunday
10am-5pm

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