

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

April / May 2024

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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.



DEADLINES

Issue 193

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

Front Cover

Photo Ron Allner

Index

Ads Index	35
Breadalbane Heritage Society	8
Church Services	35
C&WP U3A	21
Crianlarich Primary School	23
Frost Report	29
Kay Riddell's 70th	20
Killin & Ardeonaig Trust	17
Killin Community Bus	24
Killin Community Council	16-17
Killin Golf Club	9
Killin Medical Practice	11
Killin Mountain Rescue	6
Killin Primary School	14-15
Killin Youth Project	25
KDVCS	27
Local Planning Applications	5
Margaret McIver tributes	18-19
Mobile Banking Vans	35
Mobile Libraries	35
Old Coop Refurbishment	3
Recycling Centres	35
Scouts	33
Start Up Stirling	20
STEP	26
Stirling Tenants Assembly	28
Strathfillan By The Way	12-13
Walk in the Park	30
What's On	35
Which Bin	35
Workshop Aberfeldy	32

Old Co-op Refurbishment

The Old Co-op refurbishment work is progressing at a good pace and starting to take shape. A lot of work has been done in the last few months. Most of the walls have been stripped back and plasterboard replaced. As a lot of the joists were rotten, some of the flooring has been lifted and rebuilt with concrete. In other areas the floors have been levelled up as there wasn't an even surface anywhere. We don't yet have a completion date, but we are looking at late April/early May, then we will relocate the Reuse Shop. The property is starting to take shape and you can really get a feel for how each area will look. There is still a long way to go, the pictures will give you an idea of what has been achieved in such a short space of time.



This was the main entrance. It will still be the main entrance and the Reuse Shop. The section partitioned off will be a storage area for the Reuse Shop.



This was the area down the ramp where the freezers stood. This space will become the business and learning hub, with an entrance into the new toilets and a small kitchen for staff and volunteers.



This is the storage area for the Reuse Shop. These windows were hidden behind the drink fridges. We have uncovered them to let light into this space.



This will be the shop unit for lease. There is a storage area out the back and they will share the kitchen and toilets with the rest of the building.

EST.  2020

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War Memorial Clean-Up

We are looking for community help for a 2 day clean-up of the Killin War Memorial, taking place 21st-22nd April, 10am - 2pm each day.

We are entering the British Legion Best Kept War Memorial 2024 competition, so are hoping to get it looking its best.

Children from the school will be there, weeding and planting, and any other help would be greatly appreciated.

Killin War Memorial Committee

Friends of Killin Cemetery

Do you have some spare time and would like to help with a great cause?

We would love some more volunteers to join our group and help maintain the cemetery grounds during the summer period.

If you are interested, please call David on 07986656047.

Thanks,

Friends of Killin Cemetery Group

Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire Branch

The next meeting will be on Monday 15th April at 19.30, at the Tryst, Church of Scotland, Church Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5EB.

The talk will be given by Keith Brockie, a wildlife artist residing in Aberfeldy. The topic will be "An Artist in Nature".

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

Members of SWT are welcome to attend the local groups AGM which will take place at 18.30 on the same day and venue.



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SJP Approved 12/02/2024

Local Planning Applications

National Park

04 Jan 2024

Proposal: Upgrading of existing forest road (200m in length) and re-instatement of Turning point (27m in length)

Location: Leskin Forest Land South Of Wester Lix Killin

Applicant: Mr Rolf Thornquist

Application Type: Prior Notification

Decision: Prior approval not required

08 Jan 2024

Proposal: Further application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 (as amended), to vary Condition 2 to allow short term holiday let use

Location: Wester Lix Steading Killin

Applicant: Mrs Kimberley McIntyre

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

09 Feb 2024

Proposal: Construction of 5.7km forest road with 10 culvert crossings

Location: Ewich Forest Land To NW And SE Herive Burn West Of Crianlarich

Applicant: Mr Bruce Spalding

Application Type: Prior Notification

Decision: Prior approval is required

15 Jan 2024

Proposal: Further application (under section 42) for amendment of approved application 2010/0143/DET for the erection of agricultural worker's/retired farmers dwelling house and erection of barn previously approved under 2012/0219/DET without agricultural occupancy restriction (condition 1)

Location: Darach Killin

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Stuart & Ruth Kelloe

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

23 Feb 2024

Proposal: Demolition of existing sheds and erection of dwellinghouse (for use as holiday let)

Location: CarraghGhlas Main Street Killin

Applicant: Mr Colin McRae

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

27 Feb 2024

Proposal: Erection of rear dormer extension

Location: 5 Craignavie Road Killin

Applicant: Miss L Johnson

Application Type: Householder Planning Permission

Decision: Current

04 Mar 2024

Proposal: Erection of polytunnel

Location: Glenfalloch Farm Inverarnan Alexandria

Applicant: Glenfalloch Estate

Application Type: Prior Notification

Decision: Current

06 Mar 2024

Proposal: Display of advertisement (fascia sign)

Location: Scottish Co-Op Main Street Killin

Applicant: Killin And Ardeonaig Trust

Application Type: Advertisement Consent

Decision: Current

06 Mar 2024

Proposal: Replacement of 1 no. ramp access with amended design, external additions ancillary to installation of ventilation system, and alterations to fenestration

Location: Scottish Co-Op Main Street Killin

Applicant: Killin And Ardeonaig Trust

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

08 Mar 2024

Proposal: Demolition of Existing Sheds

Location: CarraghGhlas Main Street Killin

Applicant: Mr Colin McRae

Application Type: Conservation Area Consent

Decision: Current

Perth & Kinross Council

14 Nov 2023

Proposal: Erection of ancillary building (proposed)

Location: Wester Croftintygan Farmhouse Lawers Aberfeldy

Applicant: Urbanpods

Application Type: Certificate of Lawful use

Decision: Approve the application

01 Mar 2024

Proposal: Formation of forestry track

Location: Land 800 Metres North West Of Bridgend Cottage Lawers Aberfeldy PH15 2PB Killin

Applicant: Leslie Benzies Trading As LPBZ Farming

Application Type: Prior Approval

Forestry

Decision: Prior Approval Approved

Stirling Council

Nothing to Report

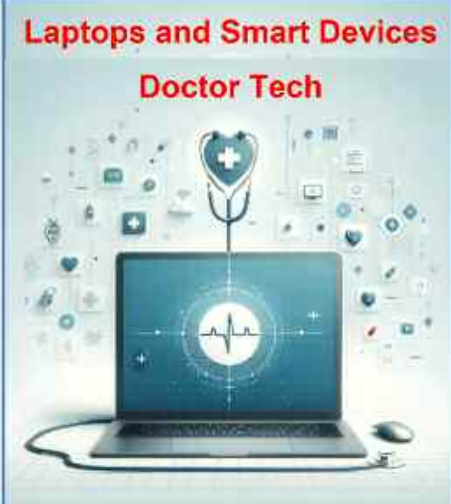


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Killin Mountain Rescue Team

A Focus on our Winter Training



At the end of February, the team organised a weekend of Winter Training in the Cairngorms. This was the first time since 2020 that the Team has been able to undertake this experience and it did not disappoint! Utilising four experienced instructors we were able to cover so much more than we ever could in a normal training session. The mountain environment of the Northern Corries of the Cairngorms provided an ideal place to look at our winter decision making and movement skills as well as winter anchors and ropework. Members were able to put this all into practice by climbing some of the gullies and mixed winter ground under the supervision of our instructors. As mountain rescuers we often operate in miserable, cold, dark, and wet conditions so we can sometimes forget the love and beauty of our mountains, as well the positive impact they can have. The weather

and experienced instructors really helped in making an amazing couple of days and everyone who attended would agree that they learnt something new or came away with learning points for the team. These learning points will hopefully assist in any winter rescues and ensure that we, as mountain rescuers, remain safe in often hostile weather and mountain conditions.

We would like to thank the instructors and guides for their first class tuition and Carrbridge Hotel for the excellent hospitality.

Callout Summary

We have fortunately had a quiet winter for callouts, with two callouts to assist Tayside MRT in January. One was for a female with a lower leg injury on the lower slope of Meall Garbh, on Meall nan Tarmachan and the second for a male walker who had slipped, fallen, and become separated from his colleague on Beinn Ghlas. The two walkers had fortunately re-joined not long into the callout alleviating any concerns for serious



injuries. However, the casualty was cold so was walked off with assistance by mountain rescue team members from both teams. We did also unfortunately have a male who took a severe fall on Ben More in February sustaining some significant injuries on steep and icy ground. Fortunately a coastguard helicopter from Prestwick was able to reach the scene quickly and speedily winch their paramedic down to the casualty. Three team members were also flown up to the scene and assisted with the winching of the casualty in a stretcher. The casualty is likely only alive due to the weather window and availability of the coastguard helicopter.

Chairperson recruitment

We have begun the process of recruiting for a new chairperson to assist in leading the charity, with the aim of separating out the roles of Chair and Team Leader. This is an exciting opportunity for change for the Team to help it succeed in its aims going forward. If you feel you would be an ideal person to join as a Chair or trustee to the Team please contact us at teamleader@killinmountainrescue.scot to discuss further.

If you do have any questions or queries, do please contact the team via email at: secretary@killinmountainrescue.scot

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Secretary
Killin Mountain Rescue Team

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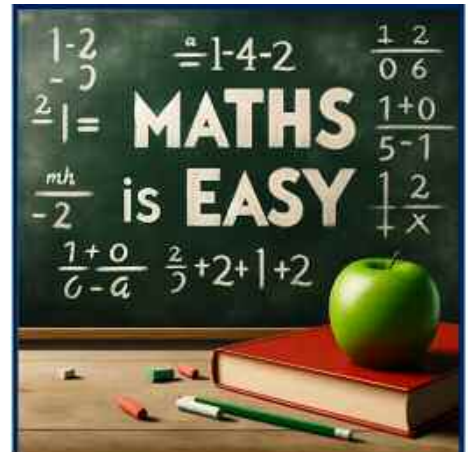
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Breadalbane Heritage Society


The Breadalbane Heritage Society has now resumed its meetings in the **Breadalbane Community Campus**. The next meeting will be held on Friday 19th April. Doors open at 7.00 pm for those who want to look at the displays, purchase publications or simply meet and chat. The illustrated presentation will begin at **7.30 pm**.

Donald Riddell will give an Illustrated talk on **Glenlyon Myths, Legends, Amazing People and Places**. Donald has lived and worked in and around Glenlyon for over fifty years and has an extensive knowledge of its history, fauna and flora, including the many legends surrounding this long and lonely glen. Well-known for his guided excursions to see red deer, badgers and other fauna, Donald will take everyone on a virtual safari to explore the secrets of the glen.

This talk has been rescheduled from October 2023, when the Breadalbane Community Campus was unavoidably closed due to the storm.


From May until August the BHS will be arranging visits each month to places of interest in this area. Details will be given on the website and in local publications.

The BHS's website <https://breadalbane-heritage.org.uk/> 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 Killiehassie 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.



BREADALBANE HERITAGE SOCIETY

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Number 118
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'Glenlyon Myths, Legends, Amazing People and Places'

Friday, 19th April, 2024 at 7.30 p.m.

An illustrated talk by Donald Riddell



The 'Roman Bridge', Glenlyon

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Come and join Donald on a virtual safari to explore its secrets.

Breadalbane Community Campus: Doors open 7.00 p.m.

Admission: No charge for Society Members; Visitors - £4.00

For any enquiries contact Ian at bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com

Breadalbane Heritage Society: Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation 50049382

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Killin Golf Club

Prospects for the New Season

As more signs of Spring emerge, excitement is building at the golf club.

On the brink of a new season the course has been cleared of its winter debris and the summer greens reinstated by our ever-reliable greenkeeper, Niall Laurence. The course, as ever, is looking good and summer bookings by visitors are starting to come in, led by a party of 24 on Saturday April 20th. As described on the flyer within the April/May edition of the Killin News, visitors are particularly welcome and any equipment they may require can be provided.



The view at Killin Golf club from next to the green looking back up the fairway of the par 5 9th hole. (Photograph by Lizzie Stevens)

Further details can be found on the website www.killingolfclub.co.uk, from the secretary@killingolfclub.co.uk, or by phone 01567 820312.

We are also very pleased to report that 'THE MAIN COURSE' restaurant and bar will be opening at the club during April. This venture will provide high-class Indian food,

including takeaways, and entertainment on weekend evenings through the season. Further details are on the flyer in the Killin News and from <https://bit.ly/3v1ULZe>, or by phone 07960 753761.

Please come and see for yourselves what we have to offer at any time, but particularly at our OPEN DAY on Saturday 27th April 2024 (1200 –

1700 hrs) when there will be golf related instruction and challenges for all ages.

Gordon Aitken, Jim Atkinson, Mons Bolin, Louise Campbell, Tim Fison, Silvia Knecht, Dickie Lewis, Peter Nettleton, Michael Paterson, Gary Roberts, Lizzie Stevens (2024 Committee)



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Callander	Gartmore	Lochearnhead	
Deanston	Killearn	Strathblane	

Further new build developments are being planned for Killearn, Balmaha, Craftamie, and Drymen. Please let us know if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us to plan. For a downloadable application pack please visit our website www.rsha.org.uk.

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Dr. Arina Andreea Bota-Olar



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Killin Medical Practice

Closure Dates 2024/25

29th March - Easter Friday
1st April - Easter Monday
6th May - Public Holiday
3rd June - Forth Valley GP Holiday
9th Sept - Forth Valley GP Holiday
14th October - Local Holiday
25th December - Christmas Day
26th December - Boxing Day
1st January 2025 - New Year
2nd January 2025 - New Year

Please make sure you have enough of your repeat medication to last over these days.

The direct number for the repeat medication line is 01567 820950

At the moment we are booking routine appointments 7 days in advance. If you feel your problem is urgent we can add you to our triage list for a call back on the same day. Here is a reminder of how our triage system works. We are still getting patients call the practice late in the day expecting to be seen. If you feel your problem is new and requires an urgent assessment, please call the practice between the hours of 8am and 9am. We then have the availability to see you if it is

assessed as necessary. We may ask you to attend on the day for a face to face appointment with a clinician. We may assess that the situation can wait for a routine appointment on another day. We aim to address your request for an emergency appointment within 3 hours as normal routine appointments have to run as timely as possible. Please be courteous to our admin staff, they have been asked by the doctors to obtain as much information on your illness as possible, again this helps. The local pharmacy run Pharmacy First. This is always a great 1st port of call for minor health concerns. Pharmacies can deal with a range of illnesses. The doctors are trialling a mixture of 15 and 30 minute appointments, the shorter appointments are good for routine problems and follow ups. The longer appointments are for patients with multiple problems and also to give the doctors time to complete paperwork after your visit.

We wish you a very Happy Easter, hopefully with lots of good weather.

Killin Medical Practice



Clinics are held in the bowling green pavilion in Killin on the following dates between 9.30 & 11.30am

Wed 27th March
Wed 10th April
Wed 24th April
Wed 08th May
Wed 22nd May
Wed 05th June

Join our pet Care Health Plan. This has been set up to enable you to spread the cost of routine preventative health care treatments.

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New in Post

The Trust is pleased to announce, following a successful recruitment drive, that we have not one, but two new members of staff. Sheona MacLennan, our new Community Development Officer, and Euan Palmer, our new Community Project Officer.

Euan has recently completed his MSc in Rural Sustainable Development with UHI and is enthusiastic about his new post.

Sheona has a BSc in Environment & Heritage Studies and comes to us from Crianlarich Stores where she worked in the shop and Post Office for fourteen years.

We welcome them on board and look forward to working with them. We would also like to thank Gavin McNab who has helped enormously with IT stuff during the handover period. You can catch up with our projects and news at

www.strathfillancdt.org.uk/home

Strathfillan Community Garden

As we near the end of Winter and Spring approaches, the garden sits ready for the warmer days and the eager gardeners to begin planting up their raised beds. In the polytunnel winter cabbages are growing well and the hyacinths in tubs are beginning to flower. If you have any questions or are interested in taking a plot, please contact the Trust direct – sheona@strathfillancdt.org.uk

The Trust was successful in gaining a grant from FEL (Forth Environment Link) and the Scottish Government. This money will be used to purchase equipment and plants, to make the garden a more inviting and useful space and to continue the

involvement of our Primary School children.



Strathfillan Community Woodlands

With the help of the Wild Strathfillan Project team, the Trust has employed a consultant to create a new Community Woodlands Management Plan. This plan will provide an up-to-date report on the condition of our woodlands and set out how our woodlands are to be managed and maintained across the next 10 years.

The Trust will also soon be looking for a new Woodlands Officer, following the departure of Llinos. The role will involve the general management and monitoring of all the community woodlands owned by the Trust, following the new Community Woodlands Management Plan.

Furthermore, the Woodlands Officer will also provide line management to our seasonal rangers across the upcoming summer season. We hope to have someone in the role within the next month. If this role is of interest to you, please contact ellen@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Strathfillan Seasonal Rangers

The Trust has been fortunate to have the continued assistance of Gavin McNab over the winter months as our Ranger, thanks to assistance from the Wild Strathfillan Project. For more information on the work of the Wild Strathfillan Project see their website at:

trustinthepark.org/wildstrathfillan/
We are looking into funding sources for the summer months for seasonal rangers. If you are interested in working for the Trust as a seasonal ranger, we would be happy to hear from you as we are accepting expressions of interest for the role.

Strathfillan Angling Association

We are grateful to Colin McGeoch for his continued support in managing the SAA. He is bringing Sheona up to speed on all things fishy, so if you have any questions, please contact Sheona directly at the email address above.

We are hoping to begin a programme of improvements over the coming months. This will improve the accessibility and amenity of our fisheries.

The new season's permits and maps are available from Crianlarich Stores, the Rod & Reel, the Crianlarich Hotel and the Green Welly Stop. Fishing can also be booked online via the Fishpal website – Fishpal.com. Follow



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Development Trust

us on Facebook and share your photos of your catch and our lovely area
www.facebook.com/Strathfillanfishing

Bike Skills Park

The Trust is still working towards opening the Red and Blue Bike Trails in Spring. Unfortunately, we still need to undertake some preparation works at the site to get it ready for opening. These works are being organised and we hope to have an opening date soon. Please keep an eye on our social media channels for updates on when this will be.

Tyndrum to Killin Cycle Path

The Trust is awaiting the report from LUC Consultants after last month's community consultations. LUC Consultants prepared an online survey as well as two consultation events, which were held in the Crianlarich Hall, for both residents and local landowners to give their views and opinions on plausible routes for the cycle path. Both events were well attended and have hopefully provided enough information for LUC Consultants to further develop plans for the cycle path. Please keep an eye on our social media channels for updates which will be provided after we receive LUC Consultants report.

Auchreoch Community Purchase Proposal

In the Summer of 2023, just over 1,250 acres of land at Auchreoch were put up for sale on the open market. Since then, the Trust in partnership with the National Park Authority and the Countryside Trust amongst others, has been sounding

out the potential for a negotiated sale of the land at Auchreoch. We have been working to explore the ways in which the acquisition of this land would provide opportunities and benefits to the Strathfillan Community and to the National Park. It is hoped that with community ownership and collaborative management of the land, the Auchreoch estate could become an important area for natural regeneration, local economic activity, and local recreation and well-being. There is currently a Facebook Poll on the SCDT page which asks the community if they support the Trust in pursuing this purchase. If you are a resident of the Strathfillan area, and haven't done so already, could you please head to our Facebook page to let your opinion be heard.

Wild Strathfillan Landscape Project

After the Countryside Trust secured funding from both NatureScot's Nature Restoration Fund and the National Lottery's Heritage Lottery Fund, the Wild Strathfillan Project has begun some conservation work in the Tyndrum Community Woodlands. Funding has been secured to do some removal works of windblown trees at the Shelterbelt, and to begin planting some understory trees. 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 directly
Euan@strathfillancdt.org and
Sheona@strathfillancdt.org.uk or
office@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Keeping Strong and Balanced at Home

Continuing with our theme of exercises you can do in your own home with no equipment, this issue we bring you 'back of leg strengthener'. Although if you do have an ankle weight it would make it more effective. Knee bends, last month, worked your quadriceps (front of thigh muscle), and this works the opposing muscles, the hamstrings, which we need to use as 'breaks' when we bend down and go downstairs. You should 'feel' it in the back of the leg, below the buttock and if not, you may have not kept the bent knee behind the straight leg.



Back of leg strengthener

- Stand tall close to and holding your support (you don't want to feel wobbly for this one)
- Feet hip width apart and knees soft
- Brush the foot backwards along the floor then lift the heel slowly towards the bottom (your bent knee should be 'behind' the supporting leg knee)
- Lower the foot slowly
- Place the weight back over both feet to rest briefly
- Aim to lift for a slow count of 3 and lower for a slow count of 5 each time
- Repeat 2 times, eventually build up to 10 on one leg, then change legs

Have a go and let us know how you get on – give us some feedback at dawn.skelton@laterlifetraining.co.uk or on the SCDT Facebook page.


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A Note from the Killin Parent Partnership

Following our February KPP meeting, we wrote a supporting letter raising our concerns regarding the proposed cuts to Killin Library. It is wonderful news to hear our much used library will be safe for the forthcoming year. Another agenda item was the improvement plans for the grounds at the front of school. The KPP, parents and wider community we are sure will support works as they unfold.

Please do feel free to join us for any events, we are always grateful for any help.

Chairpersons: Fiona Syme & Kimberley Crooks



In January, some of the primary children (who performed at the Killin Music Festival in 2023) went to see the amazing Skerryvore at the Royal Concert Hall in Glasgow. The event was funded by the Celtic Connections Festival School Concert Programme. It was a fantastic concert, thoroughly enjoyed by all.



Class 2 thoroughly enjoyed a trip to SSE Glen Lochay. Our topic is Renewable Energy, so it was great to learn more about Hydro Electricity. The children enjoyed a tour around the facility, learning about the different types of turbines at the power station. We also walked to see the fish pass which was spectacular. It was wonderful for the children to learn about renewable energy relevant to their village.



Thank you to all who came to our Scots Shared Learning Event. We thoroughly enjoyed opening our doors to share our poems, stories, singing and artwork. Haste ye back!



I am reading 'Gangsta Granny' by David Walliams. It's about a boy called Ben who goes to stay at his Granny's house every Friday. One time he finds jewels in her Jubilee Biscuit tin and soon finds out a secret about her. I would give it 10 out of 10. **Thomas**

I am reading 'The Wizard of Once - Never and Forever' by Cressida Cowell. It's the last book in the series, all about a boy called Xar. He gets up to lots of magical mischief. I would give this 10 out of 10. **Felix**

Our class are reading 'When Hitler Stole Pink Rabbit' by Judith Kerr. It's about a Jewish family who have to flee Germany and go to Switzerland just before WW2. Our topic is WW2. So far, I'd give this book 10 out of 10. I'm really enjoying it. **Annie**

I'm reading 'The Black Hole Report' by Blake A Hoena. It's about aliens and getting close to black holes! I'd give it 9 out of 10. **Bella**

I'm reading 'The Diary of a Killer Cat' by Anne Fine. It's about a naughty cat who drags in dead animals into the house. It's funny. I'd give it a 10. **Blair**



Class One have been learning about Scottish islands and Castles and we have created some amazing models and artworks.



A HUGE well done to our Rotary Quiz team this year. They narrowly missed out on 1st Place by one point!



Well done to our Scots Poetry Winners 2024 and thank you to Willie Dunn for doing the difficult job of judging.



Class 3 had the opportunity to have an online Q&A session with Sadie (from the Hebridean Whale and Dolphin Trust) to learn about the work the Silurian boat carries out in the West Coast. We learned about the different species they have spotted, how sightings are recorded and what life is like aboard the Silurian.



The school would like to say a huge thank you to Lodge Breadalbane St Fillans 815 for the very generous donation they have made to develop the front grounds of the school.
See Page 36 for more details



Eco Club were out and about doing a spot of litter picking. We will be taking part in Spring Clean Scotland 2024 on the 22nd April in support of our Green Flag application.

Killin Community Council

Council Budget Deficit

The last couple of months have been dominated by Stirling Council's plans to deal with its looming budget deficit. Naturally, this has been a fractious time for community councils, particularly rural community ones. A rural Community Council Forum was established by Strathard Community Council to lobby Stirling Council on behalf of rural concerns. Killin Community Council also established, in partnership with 'Keep the Bus', a group of rural Community Councils and Community Development Trusts dedicated to maintaining rural bus services.

As it transpired, the cuts eventually agreed by Stirling were much less severe than we were expecting. Our local library service is set to continue, although overall library services are to be pruned, and cost savings identified for future budget cuts. Both our public toilets are to remain in operation, but necessary renovations and improvements are likely to be put on hold, as the budget is aiming to recoup ongoing costs through charges for some public toilets. Brown bin charges will be increased to £50, and parking charges will be increased, as may be their enforcement. There will be cuts to nursery provision, and some cuts to primary and after-school services. But mostly, Stirling has achieved the required budget cuts through efficiency savings, rationalisations, and shavings to existing costs. This is to be commended, but begs the question; why were these efficiency savings not undertaken in previous years when the gradual deterioration in public services was just as evident? Perhaps they were banking these savings for a rainy day. Well, we certainly have one now.

Public Transport

The crisis in public transport provision remains acute. All public transport to and from Killin will end when the C60

bus service is discontinued by Kingshouse travel at the end of March. No replacement service has yet been found, as no other commercial operator has put in an acceptable bid. The Council subsidy of £84,000 annually was not, it seems, a sufficient temptation. From the 1st of April, the only buses running will be school buses, but agreement has been reached that these will carry members of the public if there are spaces. The Killin school bus has only a couple of free seats, so places are by no means guaranteed, and priority for students attending Stirling or Falkirk is being considered. The school bus only runs on school days.

There are only two realistic options left on the table: a Council-run bus service or a hybrid service run by ourselves with help and financial support from Stirling Council – yes; that £84,000, but also we could benefit from some technical, logistical, and training assistance. The former option is very much our preferred one, and we are planning to lobby all our elected representatives to support a grassroots campaign to establish a bus service operated by Stirling Council. This initiative has the backing of all our affected community councils and local community groups, but the timescale is tight. The earliest that such a service could be in operation is July, and even that is hopeful. Ideally, Stirling would want to recruit local part-time drivers to enable the service to be based in Killin. This would cut operating costs and ensure local participation and commitment so if you fancy running a regular shuttle to Callander or Stirling let us know. As it stands, there will be no public transport service for the next few months at least. Be aware. Be prepared.

Stirling Tenants Assembly

The Community Council meeting was attended by representatives from

Stirling Tenants Assembly, a voluntary organisation of council tenants who work with Stirling Council to resolve problems, help develop policy and ensure good community relations. They gave a short and very informative presentation, outlining their work. Our nearest representatives are in Crianlarich. Their website is: stirlingtenantsassembly.co.uk. Currently we have five empty properties in the village, some recently vacated and some Council buy-backs. These are all being renovated prior to letting.

Roads

Road maintenance, of course, was raised, and the advice given by Councillor Maxwell and our own Stuart Inglis was to report every pothole on local roads to Stirling Council, or to Traffic Scotland if the pothole is on a trunk road or motorway. This can be done either by phone or by online notification through either the Council's website or emailing Traffic Scotland. This also applies to reports of flooding, overhanging or fallen trees and dead animals.

Police Report

The meeting was attended by Ian Legget on behalf of our local police service, and there was a lively discussion around speed limits and speeding. There appears to be a particular problem on the section of the Aberfeldy Road between the Glebe and the Golf Course. Ian is aware of this and also suggested that local volunteers could work with the police to monitor and accurately assess speeding on this section of road.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Community Council will be held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on 2nd May at 7.00pm. As always, members of the public are welcome to attend.

Andy Aitken



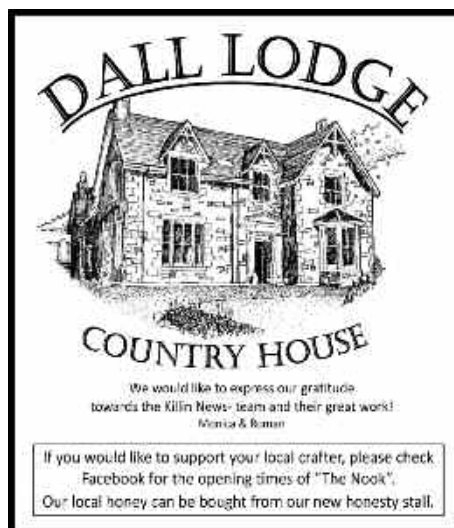
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Monica & Brian

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KAT Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

Here comes Spring! Perhaps a little earlier than we're used to, but how marvellous to see the daffodils dancing and that fresh, promising green of new buds cautiously peering out.

Re-Use Shop

As usual, the Re-Use shop is ringing the changes with new displays spilling over and reaching towards their new home across the road. But we're always looking for more of all kinds. Clothing wise - as the season changes, we are looking mainly for Spring clothing, think sweatshirts and hoodies to keep the chill away. We could also do with any walking gear or wet-weather clothing; well, we must admit, it might just rain here occasionally.

Here at the shop, we are also raising funds for an embroidery machine. We managed to raise some last year on Kirsty's birthday, but now we are raising money in-store with our tombola.

If you have any unwanted gifts at home that would make a great tombola prize, drop it in to the shop; we're always keen to see you and have a good blether, and as it's only £1 to play, have a go, you might even win a prize to take home again! And remember, if you fancy staying a little longer, we're always looking for volunteers. Pop in for a quick chat, call us on 07470 798 357, or email Kirsty@KillinCDT.co.uk

Old Co-op

Yes, it's all coming together at the Old Co-op, very exciting progress; so, we've dedicated a special article with fabulous photos for you to peruse and ponder. We can't wait to see it being used to its full potential.

Old Mill

a) Maker's Market

And it's not only the Co-op having a Spring-clean and face-lift, the Makers' Market in the Old Mill is back once again for 2024!

Featuring over 35 local Makers old and new, plus our inaugural 'Iconic Killin' Heritage Display upstairs in our refurbished Heritage Space, and a packed programme of events; we have an exciting year ahead planned with our partners the Made in Stirling Store.

We already have our next two events lined up: our 'May Day Clay Day' on Saturday 6th May with local maker Evelyn; and on the 11th and 12th of May, the Mill will be part of the National Mills' Weekend promoted by The Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings (SPAB), when you can find out more about the Mill's working history and how St Fillan's Healing Stones are connected to the history of mills. You will need to book, (contact Raina using the details below) for the first event, but just drop-in during the Mill's weekend to find out all about it!

b) Heritage Reference Group -

We've recently had two very productive meetings with our newly formed Heritage Reference Group, who have been hugely informative. The group were very helpful in selecting the photos for our 'Iconic Killin' display, thanks to all involved. If you feel you have knowledge of Killin's past which you wish to share, please contact Raina 07902 973122 raina@killinCDT.co.uk to be added to the group.

Expect more events and heritage exhibitions throughout the year... to find out more about what's on at the

Old Mill, check our Facebook and Insta pages:

INSTAGRAM @oldmillkillin
FACEBOOK @oldmill.KAT

Youth Project

From heritage to youth, the Youth Project have been making their presence known throughout the village; birthday decorations and party at the pavilion, night-time scrambles at the castle among many other thrilling activities, ably supported by Carla and her merry band who have recently been joined by Seonag - a big welcome, we're sure you'll have great fun. If anyone would like to know more about or support the Youth Project, even if it's just a few hours, contact carla@killinCDT.co.uk.

Further Information

As always, when you want to learn more about each of the KAT projects and everyone who tirelessly and freely gives their own time to support our community, take a peek at our website killinCDT.co.uk.


Each of the projects is initiated by your ideas detailed in the Community Place Plan.

If you feel you can support your community by volunteering or joining us; please don't hesitate to get in touch with theresa@killinCDT.co.uk

We look forward to bringing you more updates over the coming weeks and thank you for support and collaboration.

Bridget Saddler
chair@killinCDT.co.uk

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Margaret

Memories Of Margaret An

All of us at the Killin News were very saddened by Margaret's death recently. She devoted years of her life to the magazine and was involved with all aspects of production. Always willing to help, she carried on proofreading until very recently. We miss you and will never forget you. Thank you for all you have done.

It was Margaret who first introduced me to the exciting world of magazine production back in 2010, after I expressed an interest in helping with the Killin News. We became firm friends through those shared times of working hard, laughing often, feeling frustrated, sometimes stressed and frequently wanting to commit acts of violence on misbehaving computers and printers. Ask the rest of the team and they will be able to empathise in these shared emotions. I felt privileged to have her as my mentor, and learned so much from her.

At this time, Margaret had already been one of the stalwarts of Killin News production for many years, bringing to the team her previous expertise, gained from her years spent initially in secretarial work, later as a PA, then working for and travelling widely with the BBC, and having to acquire the exemplary BBC way of speaking. She was sad to have lost her original accent. In that work, the fundamentals of production and presentation became routine essentials that she never forgot:

correct grammar, punctuation, spacing of text, and spelling, (I can sense her looking over my shoulder now as I type this) as well as acquiring an eagle eye for article and photo placements to create a page spread that looked pleasing and appealing.

In addition to all of her work with the

Killin News production team, Margaret took on some of the finance and business management, and correspondence, as well as often prompting research, visiting and interviewing local residents. She was particularly interested in local history and nature.

The Killin Phone Book was initially produced by Margaret, along with Gina and Willie Angus, and she recently strongly voiced the continued need for it, despite computers/mobiles/social media. She also felt strongly that a paper copy of the Killin News should still be produced at a time when it was suggested that it should be online only. Good for you Margaret.

In the more recent days when we had to move to a new office, Margaret was there moving furniture, standing on chairs to empty book shelves, and making coffee for the flagging. She was also one of those who suggested a recruiting event for new team members, to be held at Killin Hotel, and to include tea, coffee and cake. That event was a big success, with younger team members joining us with their computing, photography, journalistic and advertisement design experiences. A huge boost for the magazine, each given a printed article, composed by Margaret, as to the precise operation of every aspect of Killin News production and management – it became our 'bible'. At the mention of cake, the name Judy came to mind. Over so many

years, Margaret, like the rest of us, very much enjoyed Judy's visits with home made cake during production week.

What was never forgotten by Margaret, or by any of the team, was the huge role played by the advertising team in sourcing advertisers. By their hard work and perseverance in securing and encouraging the support of advertisers, they have ensured a good financial income which enables production and free distribution of the magazine to continue. Up until a couple of months ago, Margaret still helped to deliver the Killin News to her local area, as a small part of a very large group of deliverers who volunteer in all weathers. In addition, she was still proof reading at the office when she felt able. Her eye for perfection in every aspect of each page was legendary.

Margaret so wanted the Killin News to remain beloved by residents of Killin and district well into the future. Even though she is no longer with us, the effects of her contribution and influence will persist for many years to come. She is very sadly missed by her colleagues and friends at Killin News.

Liz Howard



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MacIver

Her Time At Killin News



We met Margaret in 2002 when we joined the Killin News committee and formed part of the production team. None of us had used a Desktop Publishing program before so, following a course run by Stirling Council for all of us, we were thrown in at the deep end. Margaret had a far more important skill which influenced us all. She was a Wordsmith of the highest ability and she taught us all the subtlety of writing succinctly and with the essence of how to convey the story while reporting on events for publication. During the early days the paper was only partly in colour so there was the difficulty of ensuring that colour pages were matched with regard to

the printing process. The front and back pages were in colour so that was easy but if an advertiser wanted a half page or quarter page colour ad then it was essential to ensure that the page at the opposite section of the paper was also in colour as it would be charged as a colour page even if it was black and white. This obviously was useful for adding colour photos to articles. The finished version was saved on a DVD disc and often Margaret and I would drive it to Stirling to the printers which at that time was a service that Stirling Council ran. We would then wait for the printer's technician to look at the issue and if an error was discovered which could only be rectified by us then it would

have to be corrected and saved again on a DVD and driven down to Stirling. Usually the printer could sort the problem. It was not until much later that we were able to send it electronically. Margaret had a wonderful eye for seeing how text should run on a page particularly if a photograph was to be included in the article. The time we spent in the Killin News was the reason for our lasting friendship so even though we moved away in 2015 we kept in touch and we will miss her greatly.

Gina & Willie Angus

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Bridge Playing Holiday in Killin

Sixteen enthusiastic bridge players from my home club, the Kyle of Lochalsh Bridge Club, arrived in Killin Hotel recently for an intensive teaching bridge holiday, with your local professional teacher and player Mark Lincoln as lecturer.

The happy connection between Mark and the Skye and Lochalsh players began in 2020 when he kindly helped our small but active club to play online during lockdown - thus preserving our sanity! Allowing us to continue playing the wonderful mind sport while stuck in our homes.

Now we've bounced back, playing twice a week in Kyleakin and once on RealBridge. Mark gave us a challenging programme of seminars, play and review, including Hand Evaluation, Competitive Bidding and Winning Tactics. High power stuff indeed!

Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the course.

Particularly as the ambiance, the food, the rooms and the staff in the Killin Hotel were exemplary. Thank you, Killin. We had a ball! We'll be back.

**Miriam Drysdale
On behalf of KoLBC**

www.bridgewebs.com/kyleoflochalsh



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 every Thursday, an opportunity to catch up with friends old and new.

Pop in anytime between 12.30 -2.30pm.

For more information contact Gail on 07951 013470
gail@startupstirling.org.uk
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Our programme of speaker events for u3a members has been very well attended and has continued in 2024.

Last month Peter Ireland, an engaging speaker with a wealth of knowledge, told us about his travels in 2017 in 'The Land of Kush: North Sudan'. Peter's journey started in Khartoum, located at the confluence of the White Nile and the Blue Nile. Peter shared photos showing the beauty of the Nubian Desert and we learned of the rich history of the area dating back to ancient times. We were introduced to Taharqa, a pharaoh of Egypt and monarch of the Kingdom of Kush in the 7th century BC.

In February, we invited Luna Faulds Baird to talk about 'Stirling Street Pastors'. Street Pastors, trained volunteers from different Christian churches, engage with vulnerable people on the streets, particularly at weekends. Their motto is 'Listening, Caring, Helping', without judgement. There are over 10,000 active volunteers in the UK, covering most major cities. Luna, a street pastor for nine years, told of her experiences and answered questions. Stirling Street Pastors work in close partnership with the police, council, ambulance service and they are part of the PubWatch initiative.

We look forward to welcoming our next guest speaker, David Wright. David's subject will be 'Post War Reconstruction in Iraq 2003: A Personal History.'

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Crianlarich Primary School

Ski Trip to Glencoe Mountain

For our school trip we went to Glencoe, it was really fun. We got our things tightly secured in our bags and then went on the chair lift for 15 minutes to get to the top of the hill. It was about a ten-minute walk to the practice slope, but it was difficult in our heavy ski boots. Then we started skiing, we were just learning the basics. We stopped half way through for some lunch then skied some more. There was a big hill and everyone was jumping over it, after that we went sledging then made our descent to the bottom to end our day.




Salmon in the Classroom

Gareth from the National Park came in and told us all about the life cycle of salmon, then we made posters about it. The next week Gareth brought us salmon alevin to keep in our school in a fridge. We got to touch the eggs then he put them in the tank. He told us we will be releasing them soon. It was so much fun.

World Book Day

We spent World Book Day getting cosy and reading! There were cushions and blankets in Class 1, we read in there and then did a Kahoot quiz. Throughout the day we also did a story relay so we passed the story around and each group would add a picture and continue the story. Overall, it was a really fun day.



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Killin Community Bus - as it says on the tin... a bus to be used by EVERYBODY in our community!!
Some key facts:

- The bus can be driven by anyone age 21+ who has held their licence for at least 3 years and has no more than 3 penalty points on it.
- To drive you must become a registered driver with us, which involves filling in a small form and once you're all good to go we can give you a guided tour and practice drive
- It seats 14 (13 passengers plus driver)
- 75p per mile with a minimum hire charge of £25
- It can be used for many different purposes from club outings, social trips, family trips etc
- It is lovely to drive with parking sensors and a reversing camera to

help you if it's a bit bigger than what you are used to!

- There are two easy steps to book
 1. Visit the post office and book into the diary
 2. If you are not already a registered driver contact Ron Allner 07909 984868

- If you are looking to hire the bus but require disabled access or have any further questions please contact Laura Bathgate on 07708 216065





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Killin Youth Project

At youth group we have been making our way through the long winter months! We are really looking forward to getting back outdoors again. We have however made the most of it and had some amazing sessions. This block we had a Laser Tag session, complete with atmospheric lighting, an obstacle course and military instruction. The kids had so much fun and really got involved. Our baking session was enjoyed very much! Who doesn't like lots of crispy cakes to take home? And it wouldn't be the winter without holding the ever-popular Games Night, at the request of Andrew for his goodbye to Killin.

We have also held a Water Colour tutorial which was led by Noa. She did an amazing job teaching us all how to paint an underwater scene. Thank you Noa - great job. Late last year we booked with the Animal Man's Mini Zoo and the long-awaited visit from him was an absolute hit with everyone. We had the opportunity to meet and hold various creatures like cockroaches, snakes, bunnies,

guinea pigs, mice, a tortoise, tarantula, and the loveliest hen. We can't thank them enough for making the journey from Glasgow to give youth group an amazingly informative session.

As the winter has been long, we decided it was time to brave the elements, wrap up and head out for a winter walk to Finlarig. We enjoyed braving the elements with our headtorches, hot chocolate and marshmallows.

As we said in our last update, 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". We had the pleasure of another great opportunity to be of service to the wider community. A very special lady was celebrating her 80th birthday and youth group were tasked with decorating the pavilion in preparation for her party. The kids took immense pleasure in making it look wonderful for her big day and we are yet again so proud of them and their giving nature. Well done again everyone, you are a credit to yourselves.

In other news we are also very pleased to have a new member of staff with us and March sees us welcome Seonag to the team. We are delighted to have her on board as our Sessional Youth Worker and she will be with us until September.

Youth Group will stop for the Easter holidays and return on 17th April.

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)

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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STEP

There are new Meet The Adviser appointments available in Killin as STEP increases regular rural business support sessions.

In a significant stride towards enhancing rural business support in the Stirling region, we are delighted to announce the introduction of regular Meet the Adviser

Meet the Adviser appointments in Killin. Working with Stirling Council and the Killin community the newly designated Rural Hub Location for these appointments is the Killin Sports Pavilion at Breadalbane Park, Killin, FK21 8UW.

Traci Titterington, our dedicated Rural Adviser, will be available for appointments - monthly meetings are planned from April onwards, with additional dates to be confirmed soon.

Traci, an accomplished adviser with a rich background in retail and a small business owner herself, brings a wealth of experience in nurturing businesses and delivering exceptional customer service. Traci is supported by a team of experienced Business Advisers and specialists at STEP, who collectively possess a wealth of expertise to support businesses across Stirling. This team will offer comprehensive guidance on HR, recruitment, marketing, IT, and digital infrastructure. With a commitment to the success of Stirling's businesses, STEP aims to fuel growth and innovation across the region.

Traci said "I am delighted that we are expanding our Meet the Adviser service into another rural area. As a small business owner myself, I

understand the value of time as a precious commodity for SMEs, and I am thrilled that we can bring support directly to them."

The launch of Killin appointments is part of a broader strategy by STEP, an organisation dedicated to supporting businesses in Stirling for over 40 years, to bolster its commitment to rural business development. Traci's appointment is made possible through funding from Stirling Council and the UK government's UK Shared Prosperity Fund.

partnership work ensuring that this support is not only provided but is also accessible to all. I applaud the effort to enhance the economic prospects of our rural areas."

This expansion builds upon existing monthly Meet the Adviser Business Gateway appointments currently available at Aberfoyle, Bannockburn, Callander, City Centre and Drymen, intending to bring accessible business support directly to your doorstep across Stirling.



Traci not only covers Killin but also regularly visits other locations in rural Stirling. This initiative is designed to provide flexible and tailored assistance to businesses in various areas, ensuring that support is available when and where it is needed the most.

Whether you are an already established rural business or contemplating

starting one, we strongly encourage you to get in touch. Traci is available to discuss the diverse range of business support services we offer and explore how we can assist you in achieving your business goals.

For further information or to book an appointment, please contact the Business Gateway Stirling Team at STEP on 01786 498 496 or visit the official website at www.stepscotland.co.uk

Traci Titterington
Rural Business Adviser
STEP

Anne-Michelle Ketteridge, Rural Economic Development Manager at Stirling Council, underscores the significance of the initiative, stating "Rural businesses make up on average 47% of the business community in Stirling, showcasing the vibrant entrepreneurial spirit in the region. Stirling Council is delighted to support STEP in expanding its rural support to amplify the success and growth potential of all businesses in Stirling by investing in robust business support initiatives."

Elaine Watterson, Trossachs and Teith Councillor, Provost, and Vice-Chair of STEP, adds her endorsement, saying, "Killin is a unique and thriving community, and these appointments will undoubtedly provide invaluable support to local businesses. It's heartening to see such great

Killin & District Volunteer Car Scheme

Scheme Use

The car scheme continues to be very busy, so much so, that on some days we have had up to five drivers carrying out journeys. It is important for those wanting to use our service to contact us as soon as they can to book their journey, as this helps our co-ordinators find drivers, especially on days when we have multiple requests. We are always on the lookout for new drivers to join us, so that we can make sure we can fulfill all requests for transport.

Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle

We are well on the way to finding the funding to enable us to buy a wheelchair accessible vehicle, something which we have been raising money for during the past year. Having a vehicle which will make it much easier for people to access will mean that those people who struggle to get in and out of our cars and wheelchair users will find it less stressful and more comfortable. There are still some very nice tombola prizes left in the Post Office to raise money towards this. Tickets are only £1 each and there are some really good prizes left, so hurry along before they have all gone. Thank you to all those who have donated money for this.

Driver Training

Ensuring the safety of our volunteer drivers and passengers is crucial when it comes to driving. One of the best ways to do so is by regularly reviewing the volunteers' driving skills. The professional

assessors from the Institute of Advanced Drivers can assist in ensuring that our volunteer drivers are operating at the highest level by taking part in a mature driver review. We have received funding from Stirling Council which will allow our drivers to take part in these reviews.



Funding

We have been very fortunate again this year to receive funding from the National Lottery Community Fund. They have approved our application and are pleased to support our running costs, contributing £9220 to help KDVCs and our community thrive. In addition, we received £2,000 from the Robertson Trust last year, who have recently donated an additional £500. They have taken this action to acknowledge the additional difficulties their grant holders are experiencing due to the rising cost of living.

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Alicja Fraser



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Council Tenants**

Stirling Tenants Assembly [STA], which was formed in 2003, represents tenants of Stirling Council on housing-related issues. We are interested in Tenant Participation where we work with the local landlord [Stirling Council Housing Services] to improve the lives of tenants. During this time, we have been involved in discussions with housing officers to help shape and influence housing policy. We seek the highest quality of services and meet regularly with and are supported by Stirling Council.

We meet every month (apart from July) in various venues throughout the Council area.

Members of Stirling Tenants Assembly attend and take an active part in various Stirling Council groups – Repairs Group, Housing Advisory Group, and also to discuss Rent Setting, Allocations, Voids, and Local and Scottish Government Housing Strategies.

How can tenants get involved in Tenant Participation? Come to STA monthly meetings. Become a Tenant Voice. Be a Tenants Representative on the Housing Advisory Group or Become a Tenant Inspector on Tenant Led Inspections. Members of Stirling Tenants Assembly come from various places throughout the area - Cowie, Crianlarich, Bannockburn, Braehead, Cornton, Bridge of Allan and Cambusbarron and we are always happy to welcome new members. If you'd be willing to join us we'd be very pleased to see you.

You can contact us by:

William Derrick (Chair) william.derrick56@gmail.com

Anna Johnston (Secretary) anna_johnston2003@yahoo.co.uk

Luke Scrivens (Tenant Participation Officer) scrivensl@stirling.gov.uk

You can see more about us on:

Facebook on www.facebook.com/Stirlingtenantsassembly

Twitter [@Housing_STA](https://twitter.com/Housing_STA)

Website www.stirlingtenantsassembly.co.uk

Scottish Wildlife Trust Callander

Our next meeting will
be held on

Thursday 11 April 7.30
at
St Andrew's Church Hall

There will be an initial
very brief AGM, followed
by :-

**'Saving Scotland's Red
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biscuits.

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STOP SMOKING SERVICE

It's been a really busy start to the year for our stop smoking service. It's great to see so many people looking to make positive healthy changes to their lifestyle. A massive well done to everyone who has taken on this challenge. Perhaps you're reading this and thinking it could be you too? We are here to help and studies show that you are more likely to quit for good by seeking this help! Please pop in or phone and we can tell you more about it.

CHARITY BOOK NOOK

This year we are fundraising for SAMH – Scottish Action for Mental Health. We've set up a book nook – please help yourself to a book and pop a small donation in our charity tin to help us raise funds. Many of the staff are avid readers so if you want recommendations just ask. Also feel free to hand in any old books to add to the collection.

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





Frost Report



Should Weasels Wear Crash Helmets?

So, Spring is eventually here. Frogs have appeared in our pond and have laid a respectable amount of frogspawn in a very short time. They were 3 weeks later than last year but, somehow, a couple of ducks arrived the day before. They had obviously had word that Deliveroo was on the way.

The welcome sight of returning oystercatchers was just one day earlier than last year, they obviously got the 'Spring is back' memo more efficiently than the frogs. There have been around a record number of 50+ on the Ardeonaig pier. They seem intent on just hanging around there, maybe just for the craic, and not doing much nest site finding at the moment.

Less welcome Spring visitors are the increased numbers of mice. Usually, our resident weasel helps in this but he has been rather renegade recently. While sitting by the window with my morning coffee (it falls to pensioners to take on this task regularly) I saw a blue tit fluttering on an ivy-covered tree stump by a bird feeder. Suddenly, a crafty looking wee pointy head poked out of a hole in the ivy, grabbed the bird's head and pulled it down the hole, presumably for brunch. Next day he tried it with a woodpecker, but although the weasel killed the woodpecker, he couldn't get it down the hole. I put a piece of paving over the hole so weasel may be reaching for the headache pills if he tries it again.

Hedgehogs will soon be poking out their cute little noses from

hibernation, but not without trauma if they live on Uist. Plans are underway to trap every single Tiggy-Winkle there at a rate of 100 per day as they eat the eggs of ground nesting birds and are not native to the Islands. They will then be released on the mainland. Problem is that the hedgehogs are smarter than the average RSPB conservationist. In a previous very costly attempt they climbed over fences and waded round the ends of electric fences. The animals were introduced to the islands by a gardener so that they would eat the slugs attacking his lettuces. Wonder if he was called Mr. McGregor?

Some of you were probably wondering about all the helicopter activity around the area at the beginning of March. On the 4th and 5th there was a helicopter deer count of the Breadalbane deer group. This is funded by Nature Scotland in order to get more accurate deer density numbers than is sometimes possible with the more frequent foot count. The Breadalbane area covers from Rannoch through Glen Lochay and Auchlyne to Auch. As accurate as possible numbers are needed ahead of proposed legislation to enable Nature Scotland to authorise the reduction of deer numbers. The government want this as it is claimed that the present density is causing widespread habitat damage. This is encouraged by the greens. Not the only ones being green - the men in the choppers counting were OK for a while but when the weather changed later in the day, they became a little green around the gills.

The desired density is 8-10 deer per square km, though where this

number came from is unclear. Nor is whether other herbivore are taken into account. One reason to reduce deer numbers is to protect growing trees, but in December the government reduced the funding to new forestry by 41%, a sum of £32million.

Maybe not a bad thing - I had a thought recently that, in a couple of generations, holidaymakers in Scotland would step out of their huge estate of 'luxury lodges' and go for a walk in the forest (being wary of the wolves and bears of course) to visit a historic site, one of many with a sign saying, 'this way to the abandoned farmstead.' You know it's a bit like the clearance villages in Sutherland. I don't know what they would have in their packed lunch though as there would be no food in the shops. No farmers - no food! At least they would have a loo in their 'luxury lodge'. Better than if they had decided to climb Everest instead, where there are no loos and you now have to take your poo back in a bag as there is so much poo already up there. So that's why it's so high! Mr. Fox's cousin, Bert, lives near Wandsworth prison and had a very traumatic experience recently. A drone flying drugs into the prison was spotted by police and they tried to intercept. While doing this the drone was caught in a tree so they sent for the fire brigade (well practiced in rescuing cats from trees) but the drone was dropped in the process. Mr. Fox who had ambitions to become a DCI picked it up but ate a bit of 'the goods' and was quite poorly for a while. We have no information on his current progress.

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Fiona McGregor, Senior Health Walk Coordinator for the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Countryside Trusts' Walk in the Park programme shares some updates since the last edition and some welcome news now that the days are getting longer.

Now we are well into 2024, the Killin Walk in the Park group has been enjoying some of it's favourite walks, including a reflective Golf Club walk taking in the views of Loch Tay and exploring the local area with walks at Tyndrum and Balquidder.



Looking forward to the arrival of Spring, our new walk schedule for April and May is out now – walks are led by trained volunteers on routes that they personally risk assess and trial out themselves. The routes, many of which are dementia friendly and suitable for all walking abilities, are free for anyone to join and we encourage and welcome new walkers to join us and feel the benefits of being more active.

The friendly walks are a great opportunity to meet new people in your area and explore places you might not have been before. All walks end with optional refreshments in a local café. Walks depart every Wednesday at 10:20am from the Killin Sports & Recreation hub (see walk schedule for more details). We look forward to seeing you there!

The days are getting longer and the nights lighter and due to the success of our evening walks last year, we are delighted they will be returning this year! Starting on Monday 8th April meeting 6.50pm for a 7pm

start, join us at the Killin Sports & Recreation hub for a relaxed evening walk. Led and supported by our trained volunteers, our evening walks will utilise some of the great local walks and will end with refreshments in the Killin Sports & Recreation hub. There's no need to book, our free walks are open to everyone and can be adapted to suit all abilities. If you would be interested in supporting any of our walks, we have some great training opportunities including Walk Leader training in April. For details about our walks and volunteering please contact

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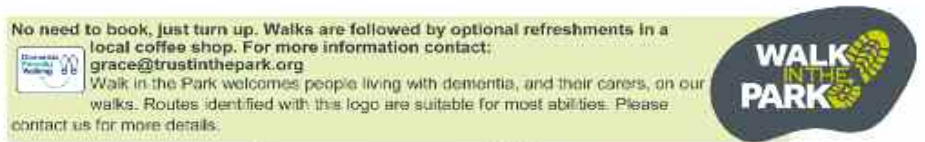
Fiona by dropping an email to fiona@trustinthepark.org or visit our website volunteer training page : <https://trustinthepark.org/training-volunteers/>

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

Date	Location	Route	Low Vision	Wheelchair
6th March	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Balquidder - Lochside Walk		
13th March	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Loch Circuit/Old Railway		
20th March	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Ogle to Viaduct		
27th March	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Tyndrum		
3rd April	Capercaillie	River Dochart & Old Railway to Memorial		
10th April	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Pier Road/Finlarig Castle		
17th April	Capercaillie	Craignavie Road		
24th April	Pavillion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Lochy from Moirlanich		

No need to book, just turn up. Walks are followed by optional refreshments in a local coffee shop. For more information contact: grace@trustinthepark.org

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. SC043266 Company Limited by Guarantee. A22657





JOIN US FOR Strength & Balance

Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church
Every Wednesday
2.00pm - 3.00pm



Strength and Balance - Wednesdays 2.00pm-3.00pm

Strength and balance exercises are perfect for anyone worried about slipping or falling. The simple exercises include leg raises and ankle movement - and all the sessions are run by trained volunteers. Participants have shared how the sessions have benefited them "It has helped me to stay active" and "It helps my concentration & coordination". Come along weekly to the Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church for this fun, social session. Stay for a cuppa and a natter afterwards. No booking required.

Get In Step with Nature

Grace, the Countryside Trust's Health Walk Coordinator, brings to you another fabulous In Step with Nature challenge. With Spring tentatively arriving, evidenced by the flowers popping up around the place, the sound of birdsong, and the trees coming to life, then for the next few weeks, we are asking you to focus on buds, leaves and blossoms and take some time to stop and admire the new life emerging all around us. We would love to see photos of your discoveries, so get in touch grace@trustinthepark.org to join our WhatsApp group or share them on Facebook [@trustinthepark](https://www.facebook.com/trustinthepark).



Get in touch

There are lots of ways to find out more about all the activities above; maybe you have some questions and want to find out more. You can reach the Trust Monday to Friday:

Tel: 07843 842323

Email: fiona@trustinthepark.org or grace@trustinthepark.org

Facebook: [@Trustinthepark](https://www.facebook.com/trustinthepark)

or visit their website: www.trustinthepark.org

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The Workshop Aberfeldy is passionate about helping people develop self-confidence and learn craft and design skills in our rural community, gaining the knowledge and experience they need to succeed in employment. We are a community-based social enterprise offering training and work experience in manufacturing and business management. We teach traditional wood-working techniques as well as high-tech skills in laser cutting and CNC routing, alongside the opportunity to learn basic workplace skills. These include everything from time-keeping and teamwork to learning appropriate workplace behaviours. We are open to all, but have a particular focus on supporting people under 25 or those facing additional barriers to employment, or at risk of social isolation.

Our vision is that people from our area gain a range of technical, business and employability skills in a self-sustaining community-supported environment, enabling them to secure employment or



further training.

We make a variety of products both for individuals and businesses including:

- Signs – house signs, business shop signs, information signs, What3Words signs
- Plaques – commemorative plaques in steel, acrylic or wood
- Personalised items – keyrings, name badges, engraved water



The WORKSHOP - ABERFELDY -

bottles

- Medals and trophies for events
- Gifts – wooden decorations, medal hangers, dog lead holders, personalised bottle boxes

Individuals can come and learn how to operate and maintain our range of equipment and machinery, working on an assortment of products and developing a range of skills. We also support all our trainees to identify potential job opportunities, and can make use of our wide connections in the local community to help them identify their next step. We operate as a genuine business, giving all our trainees real experience of a workplace. However, we ensure we

offer a supportive environment, where trainees can learn at their own speed, and can work around other commitments or capabilities. We also welcome people to come and volunteer with us, to share their skills and mentor younger people, supporting us in achieving our social impact.

This summer will see our 10 year anniversary; in this time we've supported over 100 individuals and offered over 30,000 hours of free training. We're really proud of the impact that we've had on people like Mrs S (see below):

'At just sixteen, and with the highest exclusion rate in his school, we were at our wits end. Every school morning was on the point of unbearable. My son was lucky enough to be offered a place at "The Workshop". Dubiously we agreed, fearing he would again not be able to deal with the structure. Within the first month of his weekly

visits, the difference in him was astonishing. Clearly he felt encouraged and willing to try, something we had never seen before. Nearly a year on, and his visits are what keeps him motivated.



He is thriving, there are now no endless school visits, calls and problems, his self-confidence is slowly growing. Now we are beginning to see a young man with hope for the future. Our home life has improved due to the happiness of our son. We cannot find the words to express our gratitude to everyone at The Workshop, as they have



turned our son's life around, and given him and us new hope for a future.'

How can you help?

Purchase goods for your business or gifts for your friends or home from our website

www.theworkshopaberfeldy.org

Share information about our training and volunteering opportunities Follow us on social media – just search for [theworkshopaberfeldy](https://www.facebook.com/theworkshopaberfeldy) on Facebook and Instagram



It's been a really interesting term for our Beavers as they've taken on the space badge!
 We landed super lucky and the night we planned for star gazing was dry cold and perfectly clear for us to look to the skies and spot some of the main constellations. They loved using modern technology and the stargazing phone apps to bring the constellations to life and help them find them in the sky!
 We've learnt all about the planets in the solar system and even about some missions to space! We're finishing up before Easter with a special space themed chocolate baking night - milky ways, mars bars, galaxy... I'm sure it'll go down a treat!
 We have space for 6 and 7 year olds to join us - please email killinbeavers@yahoo.co.uk and also if your child turns 6 in the next few months



Laura Bathgate



@MacGregorsShop
www.macgregors.org.uk
mail@macgregors.org.uk





Tel: 01567 820362

MacGregor's Community Hub, Killin

Paper shop - Post office - Fishing tackle and permits
Community noticeboard - Information and advice
Stationery, books and maps - Snacks and confectionery
Toys, games and greetings cards
Bulk food and cleaning product refills
Local food, wholefoods and fruit and veg





Doune Woodyard & Hardware Shop



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Email: jane@dounewoodyard.co.uk
Unit 1, Lochill Industrial Estate
Doune FK166AD
01786 841204



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, 17th Apr, 1st May, 15th May, (29th May Date of Last Visit).

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

e-mail:
editorial@killinnews.co.uk
adverts@killinnews.co.uk

**Address: Main Street, Killin
FK21 8UW
Office Phone : 01567 820014**

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 please send your details to us.

(See above)

Annual cost: UK £25:

Outside UK £35

Please make cheques payable to Killin News

Presentation to Killin Primary School



Immediate Past Master Bro. Paul Norris of Lodge Breadalbane St. Fillans No. 815 presented a cheque for £300 to the Children of Killin Primary School to help in funding their project to landscape the school grounds.

He also gave a short talk about the Second World War to help them with their current project.

Ads Index

Ally Baird	18	John Morris Safety	29
Anderson Funeral Directors	24	Killin Firewood	20
Ardeonaig Hotel	21	Killin Hotel	22
Ardeonaig Taxis	17	Killin Library	23
Artisan Cafe	10	Killin Outdoor Shop	9
Baird Optometrists	31	MacGregors	33
Callander Physio	4	MacIntyre Wealth Management	4
Capercaillie	11	Mains of Taymouth	10
Charles Grant	29	Malcolm Appleby	7
Cooper Cottages	25	Mancave Barbers	16
Courie Inn	6	Marshall Roofing	20
Crianlarich Store	12	Maths Tutoring	7
Dall Lodge	16	Mike McDougall painting&dec	7
Davidson's Chemist	28	Morag Felgate Massage	29
Diana Gourlay IT consultant	5	NRB Mobile Hairdressing	23
Doune Woodyard	33	Old Mill	22
Dryland Gardening Services	7	PFK Callander	17
Eric McAllister	13	Portnellan	27
Escape	5	R & C Luke Coal	11
Fabric Studio	19	RG Electrical	25
Feeds & Stoves	8	Rob Roy Homes	7
Fix in the Stix	3	Rural Sirling	9
Glencoe Boat Club	19	Scott Thomson Decorators	17
Gourlay Events	31	S.Forster Electrical	7
Grants Laundry	9	Simon Evamy Kitchens	25
Graham Grant	12	Tombreck Farm Shop	8
Green Welly	36	Thomson Decorators	22
Grooming Marvellous	6	Window Cleaning	16
Heartland Vets	11		
Iain Watson joiner	18		
Infinity Blu Dental	10		
Jasmine Beauty	12		
Jason Campbell	13		

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, 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

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

April

- 11 Scottish Wildlife Trust, p28
- 15 Scottish Wildlife Trust, p4
- 19 BHS, p8
- 21-22 War Memorial clean-up, p4
- 22 Spring Clean Scotland, p15
- 27 Golf Club Open Day, p9

May

- 2 Comm Council meeting, p16
- 6 Old Mill event, p17
- 11-12 Old Mill event, p17

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

12th Apr, 26th Apr, 10th May, 24th May, 7th Jun, 21st Jun.

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

8th April, 22nd April, 6th May, 20th May, 3rd Jun, 17th Jun.

Glen Lochay 11.45-12.30
Ardeonaig 14.00-14.45

Perth and Kinross

Three week stops, Tuesday
23rd Apr, 14th May, 4th Jun
Tombreck 16.10-16.30

Which bin? Saturdays

06 April 13 April

20 April 27 April

04 May 11 May

18 May 25 May

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-6-45pm

Saturday and Sunday

10am-4-45pm

Crieff

Broich Road, North Forr

All Year

Thursday-Monday 9am-4pm

Closed Tues & Wed

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