



Every two months

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 20 May 1994

Breadalbane Folklore Centre: Old Mill Back in Action!

In the presence of some of the funding partners (from the Rural Stirling Economic Partnership) and, of course, the Killin News photographer, the new mill wheel was set in motion and didn't it run well! Our photograph shows the wheel running under the watchful eye of John Ridley (with the beard) who was responsible for its construction and Bill Stitt whose firm constructed the new walkway. This allows visitors to see the wheel at close quarters.

In appearance, the mill has been much enhanced. The new work blends well with the old. "Heritage" members and Killin News were told that there was a good chance of the centre being open by the end of May/beginning of June. The mill, contrary to rumour, will not be painted white.

Once the wheel was running and indeed, attracting a number of tourists, Killin News took the chance to talk to John Ridley, aged 88, who has been responsible for mill restoration all over the country. Preston Mill in East Lothian and Barry Mill at Carnoustie were restored for the National Trust for Scotland. John, who will be speaking to the Heritage Society in



October, mentioned that the problem in Killin was to get the wheel to use water, but produce no power.

Certainly it was a thrill to hear and see the wheel turn. The woodwork is all new, held by some of the original ironwork. We look forward to hearing from the man responsible for the centre piece of the mill restoration in the Autumn and to seeing the wheel turn for a new and exciting project in Killin.



Mr Shepherd, CRC; Mr Elder, Forth Valley Enterprise; Mr John Ridley; Mr K Wardrop, SDC; Ms Caroline Davies, Landscape Architect, SDC

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Killin Community Council

The meeting was held on 14 April and was chaired by Dr McColl. Councillor S Duke (CRC) and Councillor I Martin (SDC) were in attendance. A letter had been received from Central Regional Council confirming that a bus shelter would be erected at the Police Station, and that the one at Monemore would be repaired. The repairs had not yet been carried out. Councillor Duke undertook to make enquiries.

Low Cost Housing: A representative from Stirling District Council is to attend the June Community Council meeting to provide more information on this matter.

The McLaren Hall: No information has as yet been supplied to the library or otherwise as had been promised at the Hall AGM.

Village Plan; The Chairman pointed out that the plan being used for the Village Enhancement Project was about 15 years out of date. Planning Department of SDC will be informed.

Dog Show: The Council agreed to allow a Dog Show to be held in Breadalbane Park on Monday 4 July. The proceeds to be donated to the McLaren Hall Fund. Publicity posters will be prepared giving details of the show.

Village Signs: The Council considered samples of signs for the entrances to the Village. The colour scheme was agreed and the appropriate authority will be informed of the choice.

Healing Stones: It was reported that a Trust would be formed to be responsible for the Healing Stones and Mr A Walker to be the Community Council's representative.

Killin on National Television



On one of the wettest March mornings for many a year, the National TV Channel 4 show, The Big Breakfast, found its way to Killin. As you can see from the photograph above, even at 8.00 in the morning, a good number of Killin folk turned out to take part in the pouring rain in Keith Chegwin's "Doorstep Quiz". The photograph also shows Keith talking to the winner of the Quiz, Johanna McNee.

Johanna won a week's holiday for two in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, staying at the luxurious Marriot Harbour Beach Hotel. The holiday includes return flights from Manchester, "a sumptuous buffet breakfast" every day, a massage (if desired), free use of tennis courts and gymnasium and a free hire car for the week.

Johanna sets off with Michael on 4 October from Manchester. We hope they have a super holiday.

Check on the Weather

"A pick of March dust is worth a King's ransom" so ran the old saying. Indeed, a bit of stoor would not have gone amiss during March and indeed April just past. So far, 1994 in Ardtalnaig has clocked up almost 30 inches of rainfall - the annual average being 51 inches, statistically then, we must be due a reprieve between now and 1995! Places further west, such as Tyndrum, must surely have fared worse.

The cuckoo was here on 25 April and swallows arrived one day earlier, since when, neither have been seen or heard. However, despite all our complaining, temperatures are climbing and plant life, especially trees, come into leaf and flower with little variation in date of burgeoning, perhaps due to drawing their sap from a geophysical source which appears to steadily warm up despite aerial conditions. Bird migration goes on apace, sandpipers dance on the Loch shore, wheatears and willow warblers are again with us and blackcocks bubble and strut at the leks.

Mervyn Brown

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Strathfillan Community Council

Council meeting of 6 April 1994 was a lively and thought provoking one. Much of our time was taken up by two issues regarding the Tyndrum Gold Mine:- (i) the actual operation and when it might start; (ii) a proposal to build an associated visitor centre. At our February meeting, Councillor Martin had explained that delay was due to the complex nature of drawing up the Section 50 Agreement. Whilst this was understood, Council still expressed their concern that such an important issue remained unresolved. It was agreed to write to the Chief Executive asking that this matter be concluded as quickly as possible.

A meeting had taken place recently involving Forth Valley Enterprise, the Forestry Commission, Stirling District Council and Ennex International. This was in response to a proposal to build a visitor centre, within Tyndrum, which would have gold mining as its theme. It is understood that this is essentially a private venture, one of the Ennex Directors being a major player, although public money could be involved through Forth Valley Enterprise. Council members expressed their concern that we had not been consulted on this issue and, in fact, became aware only by chance when the secretary bumped into the meeting by accident. Council agreed to write to Forth Valley to insist that they be involved in future discussions. The proposed scheme, as we understand it, would be very substantial and would impact on Tyndrum to a very large degree. All aspects of this must be considered and the community in general given the opportunity to express opinion. These and other issues for the community will be addressed within the newsletter about to be published by Community Council.

'By the Way' will be produced on a regular basis and contain a mixture of Council business along with local news, views and comments.

Paul Kelly, Convener

Low Cost Home Ownership Opportunities in Killin

The Authority is currently aiming to identify whether there is a local demand for lower priced private housing in the Killin area, in order that we can progress development proposals for new build houses. Low cost home ownership provision is made possible by applying a subsidy to keep the cost affordable for first time buyers, whose income level limits the opportunity to purchase in the open market. In order to gauge the level of interest in this type of provision, I would be very pleased to hear from local residents who would like to express an interest or discuss this further. Please contact:-

Anne Stewart
Development Officer
Stirling District Council
13 Corn Exchange Road
Stirling FK8 2HX
Tel: (0786) 432306

An early response would be appreciated.

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The Moderator's Visit to Killin



The Moderator receiving from Mrs McKinnon a print of Killin Church as it was in 1779.

Readers will remember reports of the restoration of the Memorial window in Killin Parish Church. Months of work culminated on Easter Sunday with a visit by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland. We are indebted to Gladys Farquharson for her report of a historic day.

Easter Sunday 1994

Easter Sunday began early with tea and toast for the Sunday School children and mums at 9.30 am in the Church Hall - rain prevented celebrating out of doors as we did last year - followed by praise to the Lord in words and song that Jesus is alive and will live in our hearts if we ask Him. Then it was time for the service in the Parish Church at 11.00 am. It was quite an historic occasion for the Village, because the restored War Memorial window was to be re-dedicated by the Moderator of the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland, the Right Reverend Dr James Weatherhead. A large congregation heard him contrast the Memorial window with the Resurrection window. He said the Memorial window in no way glorified war, which would only ever be said to be the lesser of two evils that is to prevent a greater evil, for example, the rise of Nazi Germany. He went on to say that it was in remembrance of those who gave their lives for us in conflict and to remind us of others who had their lives taken from them in bombing and raids - a sombre thought when we think of conflicts around the world today. He then turned to the Resurrection window which he said reminds us of God's great love for the world and that Jesus' way is the way of peace and love, not dispute and conflict. It is the way forward. After the service, a soup lunch was served in the McLaren Hall, a time to greet old friends and to make some new acquaintances and enjoyed by all.

Killin School Hymnalong



Judging by the number of people who have mentioned this event to the Killin News, the Hymnalong was an outstanding 'happening'. Linked to the Kirk's 250th year and the Moderator's visit, this event, held in the Church on 30 March, was a delight to the many parents and friends who attended. A pleasing mix of old and new hymns were sung beautifully and animatedly by the school children. Mrs Chisholm and Mr Humphries were the accompanists. The Rev McNaughton thanked the teachers and children for a splendid evening. A sum of £134.40 raised was to be donated to the local nursing fund.

Killin and Ardeonaig Church of Scotland

There was an error in the last issue of the Killin News, through no fault of the Editorial staff. The series of musical evenings in the Kirk will start on Sunday 3 July when members of the Glasgow Islay and Stirling Gaelic Choirs will lead the Praise. The dates of other musical evenings will be announced in due course, but it is hoped that these will include contributions from our own Church Choir, other local talent, the Dunkeld Fiddlers and, perhaps, the Dunblane Cathedral Handbell Ringers.

D S Bowser

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Killin by George Hope Tait

The following poem was discovered by Gordon McGregor's mother many years ago in her loft in Monemore. It was, however, in tatters. Her daughter Marion, home from Canada, took it back with her and pieced it together. Morag McNee met Marion in Canada and got copies to bring back, one of which she has given to the Killin News. If anyone has any more information about the poem, or the poet, please contact us.

Editor

*When God made the earth wi' plenty for
girth,
And the wale 'o His gems tae fill in,
He huddled the best far awa' tae the west
Whaur Lawers looks doon on Killin.
Wi' mair than enough, an' crags in array,
Frae the step o' the door I can glower
on Ben More,
An' Dochart gaun doon tae Loch Tay.*

*I've been, and I've seen, an' I've rubbit
ma e'en,
An' I'm blin' with the glamour an' din,
For there's nae ither Glens can boast o'
sic' Bens,
Whaur Dochart runs doon by Killin.
There's nae place sae grand in this
glorious land,
Or in continents far'er away,
For Killin reclines in a valley o' pines
Whaur Dochart runs doon tae Loch Tay.*

*Thro' the birch covered glade come a
man and a maid
Doon a path o' romance tae the Linn,
For love lilt her story amid a' the glory
Whaur Dochart embraces Killin.
It's a low thiekit sheilin' whaur roses are
spelling',
And brackens are gold on the brae,
Ah! Killin far surpasses the dreams o'
Parnassus
Whaur Dochart makes love to Loch Tay.*

*Then gi'e me the spot whaur the clansmen
hae fought,
Breadalbane, Argyle and their Ian,
Whaur hordes o' Macnabs wi' swords on
their slabs
Lie lone in their isle at Killin:
Here Fingal, the brave, has chosen his
grave;
God grant at the end o' the day
A home and retreat 'mid the mist an' the
peat,
What Dochart runs doon tae Loch Tay.*

Qatar International Rally 1994

Tom Coffield, from Tyndrum, has just returned home from competing in the 1994 Qatar International Rally, the first counter in the Middle East Championship where he finished 16th overall and 1st in his class. Tom's co-driver was Graham Morton from Holmfirth, West Yorkshire.

This is the third consecutive year that Tom has competed and finished this challenging desert event. This event covers 1,000 km on sand and gravel tracks using his very reliable Citroen BX Turbo Diesel, which is the only diesel competing in the Middle East Championship. The event was won by Suhail Khalifa Al Maktoum from the VAE driving his Toyota in the newly formed Victory rally team.

Tom and team would like to thank the Qatar Motor Sports Club and all the directors for their now familiar hospitality and also Kodak Photography in Qatar for their support on the event. Tom is hoping to continue his association with them in the future.

Mrs E B Coffield

Obituary

Janet McIntyre

Readers will remember a report in the January issue of the presentation to Janet McIntyre in November of last year. Janet died suddenly at the end of March. Mr Willie Allan, a neighbour and friends over many years, records this tribute.

Killin has lost a friend in Janet McIntyre LRAM (Lond). The youngest of three daughters and born at Daldravaig Farm, Glenlochay. Educated in Killin and Callander. In 1920 she taught music in Edinburgh and was peripatetic teacher to schools in the wider area. An enthusiastic musician perhaps fostered by her father's interest (he conducted the Killin School Choir that won the Lome Shield in 1928). Janet returned to Killin from Kirkmichael after retiral and, at once, became involved fully in village life. The Church was her great interest and she was organist, choir master and a ruling elder. Above all she was a true Christian.

W Allan

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Killin Village Enhancement Project

Report of the Public Meeting: 12 April

A well attended Public meeting was held in the McLaren Hall on 12 April to launch a report prepared by consultants on behalf of the Rural Stirling Economic Partnership (RSEP). This set out a strategy and five year programme of works aimed at improving the performance of the local economy. The meeting was chaired by Dr McColl and in addition to Steve Rodrick of RSEP and the consultants, there were representatives from Central Regional Council, Stirling District Council and the Loch Lomond, Stirling and Trossachs Tourist Board. Robert Brown of the consultancy firm described how the report had included the views of the community through meetings with the Community Council, Tourist Association, Heritage Society, the business community and landowners. He then outlined the key components of the strategy as follows:-

- 1 To raise the profile of Killin and the Breadalbane area amongst visitors.
- 2 To improve the tourist product to counter the present lack of opportunities for people to inject money into the local economy.
- 3 To improve the management of visits to the village and surrounding area.
- 4 To diversify the economy by attracting businesses not dependant upon tourism.
- 5 To establish a mechanism providing representation, support and financial assistance to local businesses.
- 6 To implement measures to increase parking capacity and improve traffic management within the village.
- 7 To implement measures to segregate pedestrians and vehicles on the Dochart Bridge.
- 8 To undertake a Main Street environmental improvement programme.
- 9 To strengthen and develop community relations both within the

- community and with public sector bodies.
- 10 To establish and implement procedures for monitoring the progress and measuring the performance of the development strategy and programme.

Steve Rodrick (RSEP) then went on to suggest those elements for a first phase programme: the promotion of the Breadalbane Folklore Centre, a new car park, improvements to the Breadalbane Park entrance, Main Street improvements, better use of the McLaren Hall car park, promotion of business development and a village heritage trail. Kenneth Wardrop (SDC) explained the various facilities which people can expect to see in the Breadalbane Folklore Centre when it opens in the Summer and James Fraser (LLSTTB) highlighted the promotional work done to ensure its success. John Sneddon from Central Region's Roads Department then went on to describe the proposal for a new car park at the Capercaillie. This was followed by a lively discussion about the operation of the temporary coach dropping off point at Monemore.

Lesley Roger, SDC

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Craig with his tutor.

Musical Success for Craig!

We feature in the photograph opposite, young Craig McCreevy (aged 10) and his tutor Marc Fallan. Craig has just passed his Grade 1 of the Associated Board of the Royal School of Music with quite outstanding success. In pianoforte and theory, he had a staggering 96% and top marks with distinction for playing, practical and ear tests.

His tutor, Marc, says that at first Craig wasn't doing very well, but suddenly began to really excel with both piano and keyboard. He now has great enthusiasm, mainly using his computer for composition and sees for himself a future career in music. Well done Craig!



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Alcohol Counselling Service

The Rural Alcohol Counselling Service offers free individual counselling sessions to anyone who feels that they have a problem related to alcohol. The aim of the service is to provide help to those people living in the rural areas of Stirling who are, at the moment, an impractical distance away from existing counselling services. The counselling sessions are carried out on two afternoons a week in Killin, Callander and Balfron. Alcohol consumption can cause a wide variety of problems in peoples lives and not only in the case of heavy or frequent consumption. Regardless of the levels of alcohol being consumed people may encounter problems with their physical and mental health, finances, employment and relationships.

The aim of counselling is to help the client to achieve his or her goals whether it be to stop drinking completely or to cut down to safe level. The counsellor would carry out an initial assessment to see what help she could offer and would then work with the client to plan future sessions. There is no set timetable for counselling, the number of sessions and period of counselling being tailored to the needs of the individual.

Anyone who is concerned about their drinking and would like help and/or advice should telephone Stirling 450721 to make an appointment.

Dallas Gray
Alcohol Development Officer

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Killin Floral Award Scheme

We appeal to all householders and businesses in the village to enter our Floral Scheme by displaying hanging baskets, window boxes or tubs. We have been encouraged by the standard of entries over the last four years which has greatly enhanced our village and delighted the many tourists who visit. We would like to enlarge on the Scheme and in the near future, join the Village in Bloom competition. Please put your names and entries into the Tourist Office. Charge - £1.00 per entry. The Children's Section was very poor last year and we would encourage more entries. Come on kids, try your hand at baskets, window boxes or tubs. Put your name and entries into the Tourist Office. Children's entry free. Judging will be around the end of July/beginning August. Winners names will be displayed in the Tourist office and in Killin News.

Mrs P McKinnon

Next Issue

The next issue of the paper will be distributed towards the end of July. Copy is **required** by 30 **June**. Anything arriving later than that, may **not** be included.

Editor

Comment

The Mill Wheel: It's good to see a water wheel back in action at the Old Mill (sorry! Breadalbane Folklore Centre). It's just a pity that old John Ridley had to build a wheel that produced no power; he would much rather have made something more useful.

Much money spent on Killin: On this general subject of improvements to the village, the Old Mill reconstruction (cost around £500,000), the Village Enhancement Project (cost around £400,000 if all is completed), the Sports Pavilion (cost around £200,000), it seems that the village is doing very well! A great deal of money soon will have been spent for the benefit of the village economy. Have we done much to deserve it?

New Traders Association: Coinciding with this large expenditure on the village, there has now been formed a **Killin Traders' Association**, something that was strongly advocated in the Village Enhancement Consultant's report. We very much welcome this development and would encourage all the Traders in the village to join. Even if it's not yet perfect to start with, it can only improve as it grows, to the further benefit of the village economy.

Clann Ghriogair - Clan Gregor



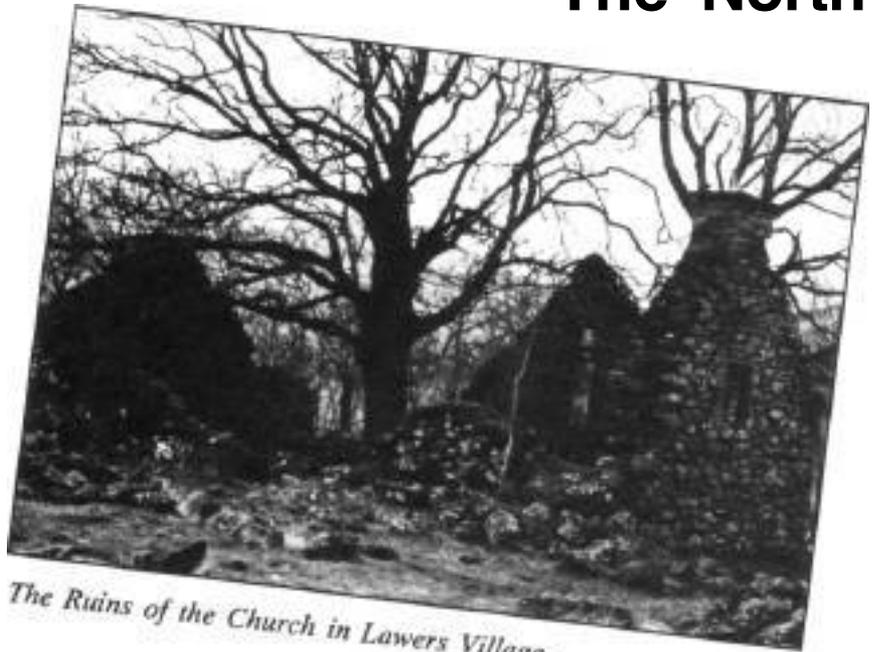
Yes, Clan Gregor is back in Killin, but before any of you seek to barricade your doors, let me reassure you that this Clan Gregor presence is in the form of a Clan exhibition in the soon to be opened Breadalbane Folklore Centre in the village. Of course, in reality our Clan never left Killin, for those of you living locally who bear the name MacGregor or one of the many aliases assumed by clansmen and clanswomen when the name was proscribed, are testimony to a continuing Clan Gregor presence in the District. Tradition and history agree that Breadalbane was one of the earliest homes of Clan Gregor and that, at one time, it was one of the larger Clans in the area before being dispossessed of its lands. For these reasons alone, it is appropriate and an honour for our Clan to be represented in the Breadalbane Folklore Centre and the Clan Gregor Society has pleasure in extending an invitation to both local people and visitors to view our Clan Gregor display.

Failtie! Chi mi sin sibh!
A MacGregor Mutcheson, The Clan Gregor Society

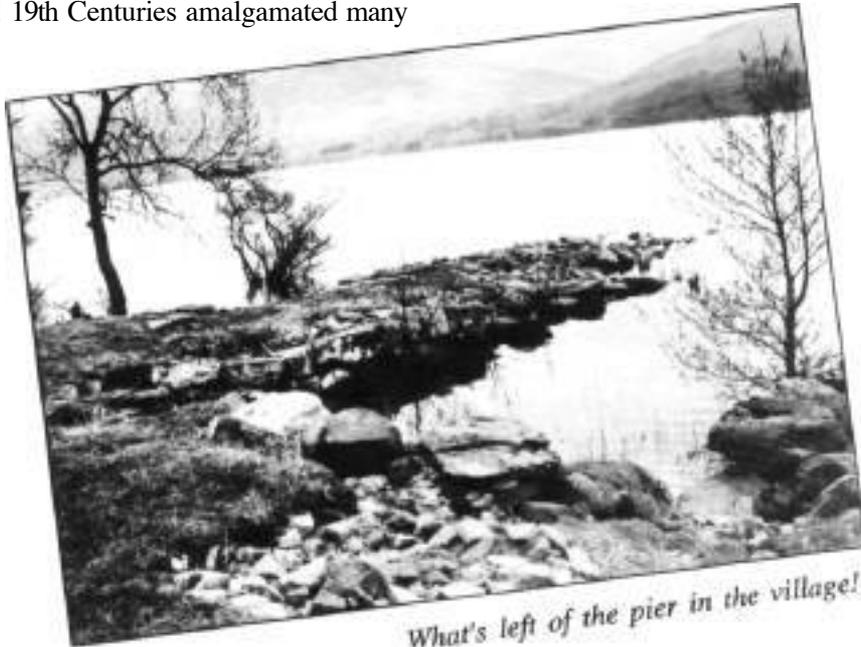
The North Si

Dominated by Ben Lawers (now owned by the National Trust for Scotland) and the other 'Munros' in the Lawers range, the North shore of Loch Tay and the uplands above, were, in the past, a relatively busy and populated area.

Communication was not only by the old roads, but also by boats (later steamers) on the Loch. Because of the south facing aspect, flax was grown extensively from the 1700s to the Victorian times and 'before the sheep came', there were a great number of small family farms with their black cattle grazing on the hillsides. The "clearances" in the 18th and 19th Centuries amalgamated many



The Ruins of the Church in Lawers Village.



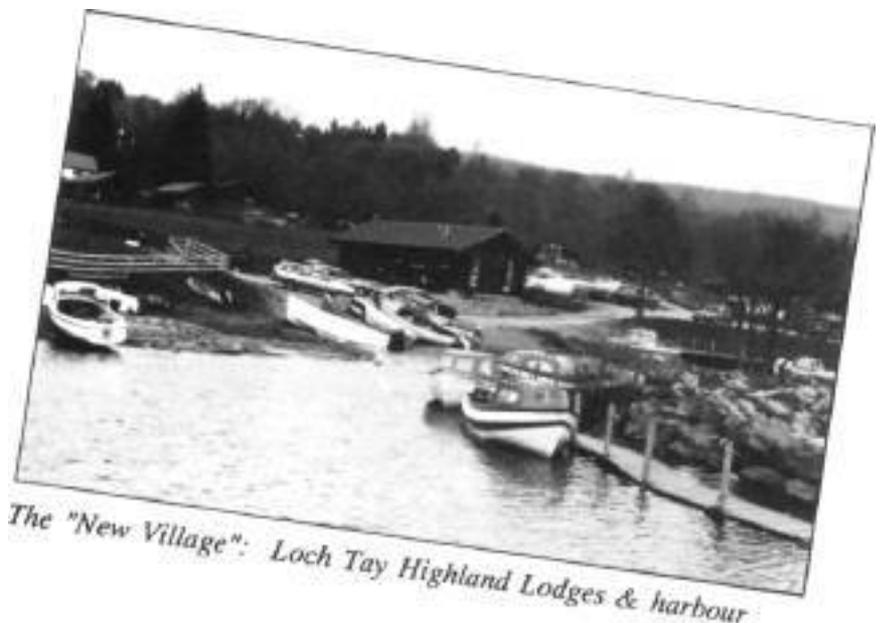
What's left of the pier in the village!

croft into larger sheep farms and the area lost much of its population.

There is evidence too of an even earlier, prehistoric, population on the lochside; a primitive people living in 'crannogs'. Remnants of these 'lake dwellings' are to be seen here and there on the Lochside and indeed, one of them, near Fearnan, is being excavated by marine archaeologists from Edinburgh University who intend to reconstruct a 'crannog' so that visitors may see what they were like. Although most of them are now under the surface of the Loch, the remains of one is easily seen at the end of Pier Road, called Eilean Puttichan.

The other major relic of the past is, of course, the ruins of the old Lawers Village, down at the Lochside below the present Lawers Hotel. The remains of the old church, built in 1669, are still visible (see photograph) and, of course, the house of "The Lady of Lawers".

Once again the area is beginning to expand, new houses are being built and new tourist based businesses have developed. Fearnan itself seems to be growing rapidly, but perhaps the biggest development on the North side and a real contrast to the Old Lawers Village is Clive Booth's Loch Tay Highland Lodges, soon to consist of 30 chalets, a harbour, a riding centre



The "New Village": Loch Tay Highland Lodges & harbour

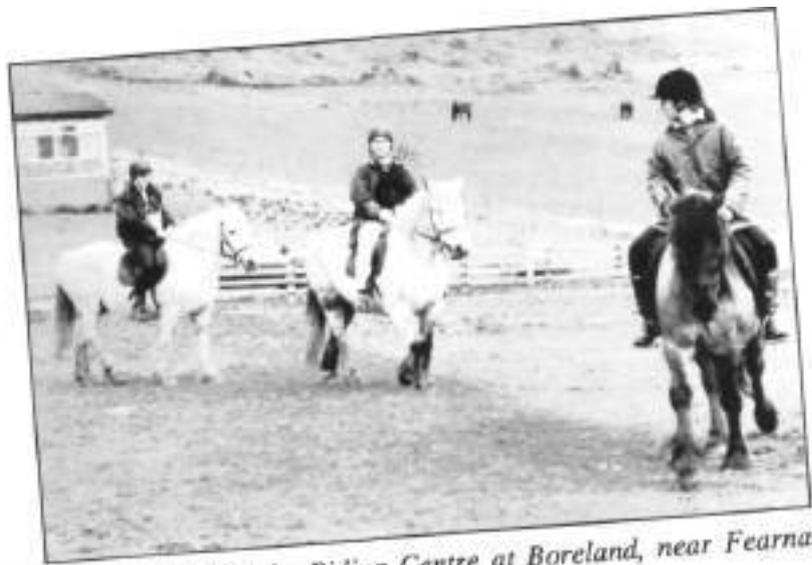
de of Loch Tay

with new stables - quite a thriving community in its own right.

Other aspects of developments and tourism on the North side are reflected in some of the photographs on these pages.

The Mysterious Lady of Lawers

In the Highlands, there is a long tradition of people gifted with the second sight. Such a one was the



Beginners returning to the Riding Centre at Boreland, near Fearnan, where horses are available to suit all comers.



The new stables at Loch Tay Highland Lodges.

populated - "a lark would not be able to hear the neighbours cock crow", taken to mean the condition of the country after the 1800 evictions:- Rhynachulig - 14 families evicted; Acharn - 12 families; Kiltyre - 13 families, etc. "The sheep would drive the plough from the land". This did happen when the lowland sheep and single large farms destroyed an older, perhaps archaic, way of life.

The sayings have mostly come true, but some remain as mysterious as the Lady herself. The old village of Lawers has the remains of her house and the Church that figures in one of her predictions, but that's another story!

Lady of Lawers, who lived in the old village down by the lochside in the 1600s. Married to a Campbell of the cadet Lawers branch of the Breadalbane Campbells, she made many prophecies, some of which are and were difficult to interpret, but she did accurately foretell the loss of the great Breadalbane estates. The late James Anderson saw one of her prophecies fulfilled. The last Campbell Chief to live locally would go over the Lairig (Glen Ogle) with a white horse, never to return. James accompanied the Earl on the train over Glen Ogle plus a white horse in a wagon. The prophecy fulfilled.

Other sayings were that the district would be heavily, then sparsely,



A Walker



Andy Burt, potter at work, Fearnan. The Loch Tayside, Horn Carver

Lynedoch Under New Management

The National Trust for Scotland has purchased Lynedoch, with the former Horwood's shop, Main Street, Killin, from Mrs Phyllis Aitken. The National Nature Reserve at Ben Lawers is jointly managed by the Trust (NTS) and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) to conserve the landscape and the special flora. Since 1990, major developments have taken place in the conservation work undertaken on the reserve. These include restoring natural woodland by fencing out sheep and deer; large scale, high altitude footpath work; more monitoring to detect changes in the population of rare species and more research into how grazing affects rare species. Also, Helen Cole has joined Mrs Frost in leading Green Team activities, often helped by seasonal Rangers. Much of this has depended on increased staffing, in turn supported by substantial funds from SNH.

To enable this programme to run effectively, accommodation is needed for seasonal staff, volunteers and visiting research scientists. Both seasonal Rangers and research workers require space for processing material and writing their reports. Storage space is needed and a workshop for maintenance work. A meetings room is needed for the Green Team and for management meetings. Lynedoch is intended to fulfil all these functions.

We are grateful to SNH for help in purchasing the building. Further funds must be raised to adapt the house to meet our requirements. The former shop may be the educational and meetings room and may enable us to resume giving illustrated talks during the Summer months.

*David Mardon
Senior Ranger Naturalist
Ben Lawers NNR*

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Drama Club March Productions



The Drama Club this year produced a wealth of new faces and a broad spread of entertainment. To produce and present the plays, complete with support, involved in the region of 50 people; no mean feat and a major team effort. There were three plays: 'Let's be Devils' directed by Julia Bates and Felicity Campbell-Smith who are to be congratulated, along with the 18 young cast members, on presenting a 'series of events' with the Devil tempting ordinary folk into unfortunate situations.

'Old Moores Almanac' and 'Match of the Day' had the more familiar actors and actresses who have become considerably

polished over the last few years. 'Old Moores Almanac' directed by Lesley Kettle and 'Match of the day' by May Hewitt and Lesley Kettle gave us a lot of fun.

It was good to see Phyllis Aitken (front of house).

Thanks are due to all who made this a village occasion and for all the hard work done. Killin is lucky to have an enthusiastic and committed group. £138 from proceeds of the raffle were donated to the McLaren Hall refurbishment fund.

A Walker



The Ardeonaig Hotel

Situated on the south side of Loch Tay directly opposite the Ben Lawers range, this traditional wayside inn enjoys a tremendous panorama of mountains and Loch. The Hotel has 14 bedrooms, all having facilities, and tea/coffee making facilities. We can offer guests fishing (Salmon, Trout and Char) on Loch and river, and for the golfer there are several courses within a 10 mile radius. For the outdoor enthusiast the area is ideal walking country, as well as offering sailing, water skiing, pony trekking, amongst others. From our kitchen first class cooking is produced by the chef/proprietrix, using only the best of Scottish produce.

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Highland Cross



Saturday 18 June 1994 sees yet again, Julia Bates, David Blaney and Kevin Fitzgerald entered in the unique midsummer biathlon 'The Highland Cross'.

Some 600 people take part in this 50 mile (20 miles run/walk and 30 miles cycle) Kintail to Beaully, coast to coast, charity event which this year hopes to boost the £660,000 raised in previous years for Scottish medical charities.

The event always comes at a bad time of the year! Julia has a bad knee, Kevin has a bad back and David has a bad attitude.

Every year, during the event, can be heard "never ever again", but when the entry forms arrive for the next year, it's "och, why not?".

The most difficult part of this gruelling event is the raising of sponsorship. Whilst the team wish to thank all who have supported them in the past, it is hoped that many more will dig deep into their pockets this year. Every penny raised by this event goes to charity, so please, please support us. Call in to Julia at the Killin Doctor's surgery or stop any team member and force money on them.

Jenny Lambert



ARTIST
Speciality Animal Studies

The Old Schoolhouse
Ardchyle, by Killin
Perthshire FK21 8RF
0567-820535

McLaren Hall Management Committee

A meeting of the above Committee was held in the Lesser Hall on 10 May with Bill Stitt in the Chair and Cheryl Campbell as Secretary. Although the Committee was open to representatives of all the Hall users, only 13 were present. After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, there were some complaints of instances when the booking system had broken down. The Chairman accepted the criticisms, but pointed out that the system had been improved and should now function more effectively.

On the matter of refurbishment of the Hall, it was reported that the Scottish Office had promised £22,000 and Stirling District Council £11,000, but to obtain this, the village had to provide £11,000 itself. Already almost £2,000 has been raised and many plans were laid to raise more. If necessary, the Management Committee could provide some £5,000 from the maintenance fund which could later be repaid. In all, there was considerable optimism about raising the required sum.

Already SDC had appointed an architect to oversee the work and receive tenders. These had been considered and all was ready for work to start as soon as the village came up with the required £11,000.

The meeting closed with a decision to hold the next meeting on 14 July. It was also agreed to display the Constitution in the library.

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McLaren Hall Appeal

To ensure the grants of £33,000 for the repair of the Hall, a total of £11,000 must be raised before the work can be completed. The McLaren Hall is a focal point of our village and is used by most of us at some time. It is up to us to raise this money, so please help by fund raising or donation. Remember, even the smallest amount will help keep the McLaren Hall alive. The Management Committee of the McLaren Hall would like to thank everyone who has donated money to our appeal fund which is steadily rising, enabling the work to start on time.

Registration Fee

After the recent AGM, it was agreed by the meeting to levy a registration fee of £10 to every association using the Hall. The fee this year is to go towards raising the £11,000 needed for repairs to the Hall. In future years the money will be used towards the general running costs. The hiring charges have again this year been held at the 1985 charges. The fee this year is due as soon as possible, in future years it will be payable by 31 March.

Cheryl Campbell

Bridge of Lochay Hotel



Killin

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Gillespies Stout.

New Traders' Association to run Highland Games

At a meeting held in the Killin Hotel on 3 May, initially chaired by David Osler, up to 30 people representing a wide spectrum of Killin traders were present. After some discussion, it was felt that a Traders' Association, properly financed, could be of considerable value to Killin in organising tourist events of various kinds and providing a united voice on matters which affected the village and its economy. By unanimous agreement, the proposal to form such an association was carried.

A Committee was then formed by election from the floor:- John Mallinson (The Clachaig) was elected Chairman; Ian McLaggan, Treasurer; Felicity Campbell-Smith, Secretary. At this point John Mallinson took the Chair and further Committee members, representing all areas of trading activity in the village and its neighbourhood, were elected. They are:- Colin McRae, Charles Grant, Charles Hagan, Hamish Campbell, George Mitchell, Lesley Kettle, Morag McKenzie.

The first business to be discussed was the matter of an annual subscription for membership. This was felt to be necessary to the useful functioning of the Association and was also a measure of people's commitment. After some discussion it was agreed to fix this for the first year at £50. A sheet was then passed round and the first list of members was established.

The Chairman then turned the meeting's attention to the matter of

the Highland Games proposed for 3 August in Breadalbane Park. The preliminary planning of these Games had, up to now, been handled by a steering committee under David Osler. It was agreed that they would be run by the Traders' Association and the profits that might accrue would be retained by the Association and used for further tourist events, or generally, for the good of the village. The general outline of the Highland Games was described in the last issue of the Killin News. On this occasion small 'action groups', each with an appointed 'leader', were set up to handle various aspects of the Games eg promotion and marketing, the preparation of a brochure, allocation of concessions and stalls on the day, sponsorship and peripheral events and activities.

The meeting closed with a request from the Chair for members to spread the news and encourage those traders not present to join the Association. The more members the Association has, the greater its significance and influence will be.



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Letters



*St Brelade
Jersey*

Dear Sir

On my last visit to Killin, in Autumn 1993, I was fortunate enough to purchase the excellent booklet of 'Killin in Old Photographs' and have spent many happy hours going over them. Mention of restoring Moirlannich, Glen Lochay sent me off to do a bit of detective work. My great, great grandfather, Duncan Macnab, was born at Margantruain, near Lawers. He married Ann Anderson in 1824. By 1827, they had moved to Moirlannich and as late as the 1851 census Duncan gave his address as Wester Moirlannich and called himself a crofter of four acres. On 12 July 1855, Duncan died, having moved to Margbeg, near Ardtalnaig some time between 1851 and then. In the census of 1861, Ann is described as a widow, still at Margbeg and farming eight acres arable and 700 acres hill pasture on common. Unfortunately, I do not have the 1871 census details to hand but Ann Anderson lived on till 22 May 1881 when she died at Moirlannich at the age of 80.

In all this time there is one other thing which intrigues me and it is of this:- if the place we are speaking of is Wester Moirlannoch and appears as such in some records but not in others, then where is Easter Moirlannich (or was there ever such?)

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It is possibly too late now to have many of these questions answered. It is such a pity that we do not learn more of our family history from our grandparents than wait until we are grandparents ourselves and begin scratching around looking for answers. It is all too boring when we are young, I think is the answer.

*Yours faithfully
Donald Macnab*

*Benagues
Killin*

Dear Sir

Over the past few years there have been rumblings of a campaign for better quality drinking water in Killin.

A dialogue with the local water authority resulted in little more than a list of approved additives and a claim that the standards were being met. A comprehensive case was put to the local medical centre (which I trust was at least read) and this may have helped. Now, after a lengthy period of perfectly good tap water (even after prolonged rain which used to result in foul, undrinkable sheep dip) I am aware that something has happened and the problem has been effectively dealt with.

In the absence of any objective information, I would like to express my gratitude to anyone else who has been involved in achieving this improvement.

*Yours faithfully
Alan E Jenner*

Dear Editor

I hope I may be allowed to reply to Professor John MacQueen's article in your November issue and speak out for the real Fillan.

The Aberdeen Breviary of dear Bishop Forbes is certainly a marvellous compilation of stories about early Scottish Saints, as Professor MacQueen points out, but its main value lies in the pagan material inadvertently preserved when the old cult legends were re-written by the early Church to make them more acceptable. The stories, otherwise, are no more historical than modern fairy tales. Good stories, yes, but history, no. We need to include them as part of the whole and I have done so.

For anyone interested in our origins and early history, there is a most useful summary of early Celtic religion in Pagan Celtic Britain by Dr Ann Ross. She says (p46) looking at Celtic Europe as a whole, that "springs, wells and rivers are of first and enduring importance as a focal point of Celtic cult practice and ritual. Rivers are important in themselves, being associated in Celtic tradition with fertility and with deities such as the diving mothers and the scared bulls. The Celtic mother goddesses have a widespread association with water". Adamnan tells us that Lochay meant "Black Goddess". That the Dochart (or Fillan) and the Tay were worshipped by the sacrifice in them of bulls is known from old tales which have survived.

River worship recognised both the life

giving and life threatening nature of water, while wells and pools seem to have been used for healing rituals. In parallels to the equally odd goings on at St Fillans' pool, Dr Ross notes that the ancient Celts sought the help of the goddess of Lake Gevaudan in Switzerland, by throwing clothing and food into the lake and sacrificing animals there.

At St Fillans' pool, a piece of clothing was weighed down with a river stone and added to one of the cairns there and rags are still tied to trees at clootie wells. Such practices are not only pre-Christian, but prehistoric with roots in the earliest Celtic people of the Bronze Age.

The main value of the old stories of Saints to us today is, ironically, the survival in them of our pagan material, such as the miraculous life of Fillan.

Sheila McGregor

999

Sorry, item on 999 unavailable. Programme will be shown on Monday 30th May at 7.00pm

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Killin Lone Guides

The Guides answered an urgent appeal for money to make up Red Cross parcels for Bosnia. They held a baking evening and made various cakes and biscuits. These were sold the next day in the primary school at break time. They raised the grand sum of £10.10. A big "thank you" goes to the staff and pupils.

G Mardon

Badminton Club Successes

Winner of the Gents Shield 1993/94: George Mitchell. **Winner of the Junior Cup 1993/94:** David Riddell.

Killin Curling Club - competition results 1993/94

Winnipeg Cup - Sandy Taylor;
Runner Up - Stewart Christie.

Club League - Hamish Campbell;
Runner Up - Moira Reilly.

Points Ladies Club - Sheila Aitken;
Runner Up - Chrissie Fenton.

Gents Points Cup - Donald Coyne;
Runner Up - Gilbert Christie.

Killin No 2 were runners up in the Breadalbane League and also won the Baird Cross at the Closing Bonspeil. Congratulations to Donald Coyne for winning the Breadalbane Points at Pitlochry.

Lochearnhead Sheep Shearing Competition

Sunday 3rd July
2.30pm

*Demonstrations:
fun for all the Family*
Entry £2.00 Concessions £1.00
includes £50 prize draw

Killin Bowling Club

Attic Sale

**in Lesser McLaren Hall, Killin
at 2.00 pm on Wednesday 20 July**

We are holding this sale in an effort to raise funds to enable us to continue with much needed improvements to the bowling green and items for the sale will be gratefully received. These items, but no books or shoes please, can be brought to the McLaren Hall on 7.00 pm on Tuesday 19 July or given to one of the undernoted at any time before the day of the sale, by prior arrangement:-

Mrs M MacDonald, Aldourie, Manse Road, Tel 820534. Miss A Smith, Rothney, Manse Road, Tel 820212

*Hope MacDonald, Hon Secretary
Killin Bowling Club*

Killin Parish Church Women's Guild

On Thursday 21 April, the ladies of the Guild held a coffee evening in the Church hall. Their efforts have helped swell the McLaren Hall Restoration Fund by £120. The Guild members would like to thank all those who gave their support to this worthy cause.

Playgroup raises £92

The local playgroup funds were boosted by the proceeds from the sale of home baking held on Saturday 29 April. Dry weather allowed the sale to take place out of doors.

Lochearnhead Clan Week

4th July to 11th July
(inclusive)

*Craft Fair Art Exhibitions
Demonstrations & Talks*

Teas and Coffees

Killin Gun Club

Killin Gun Club held their first shoot on Sunday 20 March 1994. 24 guns turned out on a cold, but dry, day. Shoot results as follows:-

DTL Class A - 1. J Sinclair 69, 2. G Mitchell 63, 3. R Cairns 60, 4. E McAllister 59, 5. H Campbell 54, 6. G Aitken 48; **DTL Class B** - 1. A Lennox 67, 2. S Christie 59, 3. D Robertson 58, 4. G Coyne 48, 5. D Deans 47; **DTL Class C** - R Mills 43; **Sporting Class A** - 1. J Sinclair 61, 2. I Paterson, 3. E McAllister 53, 4. G Mitchell 49, 5th Equal. V Corriere & Jas Sinclair 45, **Class B** - 1. D Robertson 66, 2. G Coyne 65, 3. A Lennox 62, 4. H Campbell 61; **Class C** - 1. E Paterson 48, 2. R Jills 47; **High Gun Sweep Continuation** - J Sinclair 130, R Cairns, D Deans.

G D Coyne, Secretary

Boys Brigade Open Night

The following prizes were awarded:

Junior Section: Best Squad: Kinnell - Callum Frost; Perfect Attendance: 2 years - Timothy MacColl; 3 years - Cameron Frost.

Company Section: Best Squad: No 3 Squad Commander - F Bedwell; Perfect Attendance: 6 years - Gregor Gillies; Best Drilled Boy: Duncan MacDonald - 2 years; Old Boys: Duncan MacDonald, Normal Inglis, Andrew MacNaughton, Ralph Campbell-Smith.

Mr Moore was our inspecting officer. About 60 parents and friends attended. Thank you to everyone who helped make the night a success.

A date for your diary

The Parents' and Friends' Association will be holding a **Car Boot Sale** to raise funds for the local Boys Brigade in the Breadalbane Park on **25 June**. Full details will be advertised nearer the time.

Killin WRI

The Killin WRI held their March meeting in the Lesser McLaren Hall. Mrs Sheena Chisholm, President, welcomed members and visitors from the Ardeonaig Institute. A most interesting talk was given by Mr Thomson from ambulance headquarters, assisted by Norma George from our local depot. Mrs C Rew voiced the thanks of a most appreciative audience. After tea, we were entertained to a medical quiz by Mrs H Gledhill and Mrs L Lambert. The Committee were hostesses for the evening.

The Institute competed at the Housewives' and Handicrafts' Rally held in Aberfeldy, gaining first place in the Housewives' section and third in the Handicrafts. Mrs May Graham won the Westcroft Trophy for the best exhibit in the Housewives' Section.

Competition Results: Swiss Tablet: 1. Mrs M Graham; 2. Mrs S Ferguson; 3. Miss A Smith. **Something New from Old:** 1. Mrs M Twigg; 2. Mrs B McGregor; 3. Mrs S Ferguson.

The last meeting of the season was opened by President Mrs Sheena Chisholm. Mrs Mulvanny of Lendrick Lodge, Trossachs, gave a most interesting talk on the treatment of stress by yoga and caring. The members thoroughly enjoyed taking part in a demonstration of relaxation. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs H Sinclair. Following tea, which was served by Mrs H Sinclair, the annual business was conducted.

Competition Results: Favourite Brooch: 1. Mrs M Graham; 2. Mrs B McGregor; 3. Mrs P Christie. **Knitted Toy Animal:** 1. Mrs B McGregor; 2. Mrs S Ferguson; 3. Mrs M Naysmith. **Points Cup for the Year:** Mrs S Ferguson. **Points Cup for Best Trier:** Mrs B McGregor.

Mrs B E Gordon

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Carpet Bowlers

Killin Carpet Bowling Club held its prize giving and social night on 9 April in the Old Mill restaurant. Many thanks to Dick and Mary Lewis and also to Kevin Walker for his fine music, making it an enjoyable evening.

Prize winners were as follows:-

Rinks Trophy: A Chisholm and D Steven

League Trophy: C Grant, J Guild and L Mitchell

Points Cup: C Grant

Knockout: J Willison, J Guild

Triples: I Donaldson, D Livingstone, H Campbell

Pairs: D Steven, C McLarty

Singles: C McLarty

Handicap Shield: D Baynes, W Rew.

Alex Cameron Trophy played against the green bowlers was again won by the carpet bowlers.

On 26 March, a rinks tournament was held in the McLaren Hall. This was in aid of Hall funds. First was a rink from Crianlarich, 2nd - North Connel. The Pairs' winners were J Hermiston and J McLeod from Camserney, 2nd - C McGregor and J Cochrane from Lochearnhead.

Killin Primary School - PTA

Local school children, teachers and parents have again played their part in clearing unsightly litter from the village and its surroundings. The PTA Committee would like to thank all those who took part and to thank the Local Authority for the protective clothing provided.

Thanks

Sheila Allan wishes to thank everyone for their good wishes, cards, flowers and visits during her stay in hospital.

Brownies

Swimmingly Successful

In March, the 1st Killin Brownies Pack took part in a swimming gala held in Grangemouth Sports and Leisure Centre. The event was organised by the Ardoch and Lanark Guiding District and approximately 15 Brownie Packs took part. The local youngsters thoroughly enjoyed their day and returned flushed with success.

Emma Graham from Crianlarich took first place in the final of the back stroke and the relay team took first place, consisting of Sara Thomson, Emma Graham and Ashley Flockhart. Claire Haining finished second in the Free Style Relay race. Well done girls!

A recent issue of the newspaper carried an appeal for Brownie Uniforms. Jane Brown would like to thank those who handed in uniforms and to appeal once more for any others which may be available.

Thanks

Morag McNee would like to thank all those who contributed to and helped with the sale of work held at Easter, for the Oncology Department of the Sick Children's Hospital in Edinburgh. In all, £340 was collected.

Farewell and Thanks

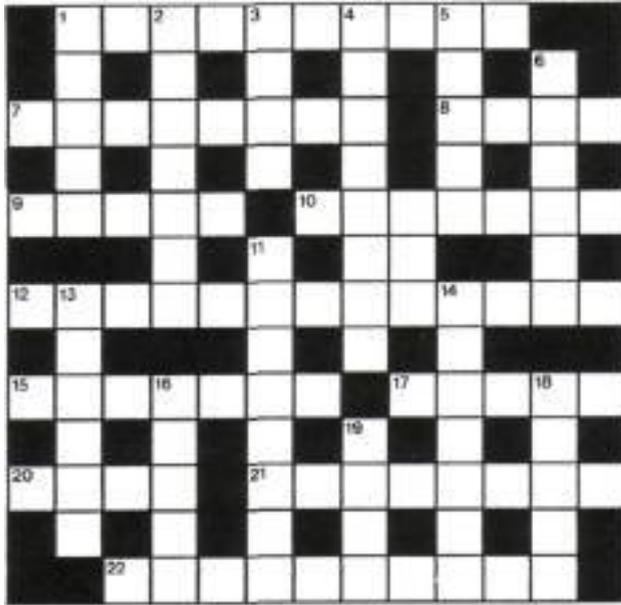
Flora Bamforth would like to say farewell to all her friends in Killin and thank them for the many kindnesses *they* showed her during her stay. It has been a pleasure knowing them and it is with much sadness, but fond memories, that she leaves Killin. Cheerio and very best wishes to everyone.

Sandy Graham would like to thank all those who sent cards or visited him while in hospital. Also, thanks to friends and relatives who brought May in to see him in the PRI.

Crossword by Crustacean

ACROSS

DOWN



1. The noise made by true hounds is this (10)
7. General environmental influence (8)
8. Part of this lets us think of Crete, or Cyprus (4)
9. A non metallic element (5)
10. Sun followers? (7)
12. A novel form of television (13)
15. What's inside can make you happy (7)
17. In fun it yields togetherness (5)
20. Rampant in Scotland! (4)
21. Be fearless, give the diner a tip (8)
22. Roger's twin made music too (10)

1. Initially the European Member of Parliament offers a good time! (5)
2. Wear it, like the others (7)
3. The damage is in the hidden touch! (4)
4. Join the engineers again (8)
5. A body of craftsmen (5)
6. It's a bit of a blot to your character to get this! (6)
11. Candidates were doing it, the winners no longer (8)
13. Not a small bird, just a learner (6)
14. The chap who's been in the sun goes off at an angle (7)
16. It takes two! (5)
18. Bruce was one, for example (5)
19. Confined porridge (4)

Forthcoming Events

- June 11 Killin Golf Club: Ladies Open.
- 17 Sheep Shearing Competition at Innishewan Farm, Glendochart 6.00 pm.
- 26 Killin Gun Club: Challenge Cup AC/AS 1.00pm Luib, Glendochart.
- July 3 Gaelic Service: Killin Church 7.30 pm.
- 10 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band 1.00 pm.
- 13 Scottish Country Dancing: McLaren Hall 8.00 pm (and every Wednesday in the season).
- 23 Fiddlers' Concert: McLaren Hall 8.00 pm.
- 24 Boreland Gardens: Cream Teas 2.00 pm - 5.00 pm.
- 24 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band 1.00 pm.
- 27 Church Sale of Work: McLaren Hall 2.30 pm.
- 29 **The Show Dance: McLaren Hall 10.00 pm.**
- 30 Sheep Dog Trials: Bridge of Balgie, Glen Lyon 9.00 am

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Solution to last crossword

Across: 1. Tarmacadam 8. In depth 9. Scorn 10. Amen 11. Onu 12. Two 14. Detest 15. Sea bed 18. Oxo 20. Real 21. User 23. Ibsen 24. Di alive 25. Attempting

Down: 1. Tidiest 2. Rope 3. Athen 4. Assisted 5. About 6. Gin and tonic 7. In good order 13. Estrange 16. Basking 17. Hand up 19. Onset 22. Bali

KILLIN NEWS Production Committee

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