



Every two months

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 37 March 1997

Bus Stop!



The village has been a buzz of activity recently with the work on the new car park and coach stance at the top end of Main Street. By the time this edition is delivered, the pandemonium should be over even if the landscaping is not yet complete. The updated news from Kate Smithson, Transportation Manager, Stirling Council is that the overall total is £150,000, this includes the cost of the land, litter bins, wooden seats, landscaping and all labour costs. The car park will have 42 spaces including disabled and an area for pedal cycles. Monemore will have 4 coach spaces although no parking for cars or disabled. Kate stressed that *NO* reversing will be allowed onto the Main Street.

Local opinion, on this now *"fait accompli"* is varied. I have by no means interviewed everyone in the village, but of those questioned, only one was in favour of coaches parking at Monemore. The consensus was that coaches bring nothing but chaos to the Village and detract from the natural scenic beauty. Coaches come from all over Europe, one company alone, Highland Heritage have 11 coaches visit once per week, each with a maximum of 53 people, they stop for around half an hour. The revenue these visitors bring to the area is questionable. Lynne Liddell of the Tourist Office said *"105,000 people visited the Centre over the last 11 months. The revenue from the £1 show admission was less than £20,000"* - so the "tourists" are not spending money there either.

Dani Grant who has businesses at both ends of Main Street - and the middle!, advocated *"Ban The Buses"*. Dani said *"all the coach parties want to do is to use the toilet facilities and get back on the bus until the next 'pit stop'"*. Robert Lewis (Capercaillie) commented, *"Coaches take trade away from Killin."*, he'd noticed that tourists looking for accommodation arrive between 3 & 4 pm,

they see the hordes of people pouring from the coaches into the Visitor Centre and decide to go on to somewhere quieter. Robert also thought that although the enhancement of the car park area will no doubt be pretty, it will reduce the space for car parking, that combined with the loss of any car parking at Monemore will create a major crisis. Fiona Kennedy was pleased to report that from her vantage point at Stitt's yard, last year coaches stopped at the bottom carpark and passengers strolled up Main Street. We wait to see if the Council Planners have set space aside for Gladys' ever popular Ice Cream Trailer.

The new car parking area generated different feeling, people were pleased that the former waste ground was now being enhanced. David Pettigrew of Shutters thought it might dissuade people from walking as far as his restaurant but he also reminded us that The Village Enhancement has of course been happening at both ends of the village and businesses throughout Main Street must benefit. His suggestion that signs detailing what the village had to offer be erected at both ends of the village to persuade tourists to walk the length of the Main Street was taken on board by Kate Smithson and echoed her comment that the Council have poured money into our village enhancement projects to encourage visitors and thereby re-juvenate the village economy. It is then up to businesses and individuals alike within Killin to do their utmost to persuade them to stay longer.

Progress will never please all of the people all of the time, but let us take advantage of Killin's natural beauty and show the visitor that Killin has even more to offer. Kate Smithson also said that if after the first year, the village wanted coaches to drop off passengers and proceed to the bottom coach park, they would be happy to listen and act on suggestions. It is therefore up



Pic: FP

to *YOU* to become involved in your Community Council and let them know your wishes.

No doubt you will read this, discuss it, complain about it. Write to us at the Killin News and tell us your thoughts.

Killin News Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Killin News will be held in the Killin Hotel on Wednesday 16 April at 8pm. We cordially invite our readers and advertisers to attend.

CONTENTS

	Page
Mountain Rescue	4
Killin Initiative	5
Tim Frost	6
Panto	10 & 11
Flooding	17
Police	18
Clubs & Societies	19

Killin Community Council

A meeting of the Council was held on 13th February in the Lesser McLaren Hall. Mr Ian MacGregor was in the chair. Inspector Rose and Constable Donaldson were present. No members of the public were in attendance. Councillor Kenneth Campbell sent his apologies.

Community Festive Lighting Scheme

The treasurer reported that a cheque had been received from Stirling Community Services to contribute to costs. The secretary was asked to send a letter of thanks to Judge Stroyan for the Christmas Tree.

Rubbish Collection

A letter was to be sent to Councillor Campbell asking him if he could give any assistance in the matter of procuring a barrow for the Village Officer (See Page 17)

Community Council Elections

These will take place in March 1997.

Proposal to install CCTV at entrance/exit to village

It appears that there is unlikely to be any financial support forthcoming from Stirling Council for the project according to a letter

from H. Jamieson. J. Gauld reported on grants which might be available from the Scottish Office or through Police Budgets. He is to obtain costings for the scheme and report to the next meeting. Inspector Rose spoke about the real advantages of CCTV and gave some advice on its use.

Drinking in Public Places

A letter had been received from Stirling Council's Chief Executive's Department asking for the Community Council's opinion about the introduction of a bye-law prohibiting the consumption of alcohol in public places. It was felt that the Community Council would be in favour of a 'blanket' ban but would be inclined to consider special events, such as the Agricultural Show, the Highland Games, the Music Festival, be excluded from such a ban. The secretary would write to Stirling to clarify this issue.

Police Matters

Inspector Rose drew the Council's attention to the extent to which the police were involved with the problem of thefts from and damage to hill-walkers cars left in car parks. He strongly advised that all valuables should be removed from such parked vehicles.

Strathfillan Community Council

Members of the Community Council have met with Stirling Council's Cleansing Department to discuss various problems. A formal response, and action is still awaited, but issues raised include roadside litter between villages; requesting a glass recycling skip for Tyndrum, also a skip for general household waste to alternate between the villages; the need for special attention to the Burrow Pit and the business community's concern at the rising cost of

blue bin bags and cardboard collection. Still on waste... the sewage problems in Crianlarich (full capacity) and Tyndrum (smell and full capacity) are being pursued with the East of Scotland Water Board. Property expansion in both villages is restricted until sewage capacity is increased. Funds are apparently the only things in short supply, but a solution must be found.

A consultation document has been received from the Loch Lomond And Trossachs Steering Committee. Their aim is to establish a management organisation (some aspire to National Park status as in the Lake District, Snowdonia, Exmoor etc.) which would protect the natural beauty and other values of the area, whilst still promoting managed enjoyment by the public. Tyndrum and Crianlarich are being consulted as to whether both, neither or just Crianlarich should be included in the proposed area. A questionnaire has been circulated to all community councillors, tourist associations, committee members and farmers in the area.

Hillwalkers Phone-Line Will Continue in 1997.

An innovative scheme to minimise conflict between walkers and deerstalkers is to be repeated this year following a successful trial in 1996, and Hillphones, organised by Scottish Natural Heritage, the Mountaineering Council of Scotland and participating estates is to cover more ground in 1997.

The 1996 trial ran in three areas - Grey Corries/Mamore area; North Glen Dochart/South Glen Lochay area; and North Arran. Daily recorded answer-machine messages detailing where stalking was taking place were available throughout August, September and October. Walkers were therefore able to avoid stalking operations with the minimum of effort.

It seems the scheme also proved to be a boost for local tourism. We were contacted by Nigel Cliffe from Suffolk who told us that the prospect of stalking in the Highlands put him off coming to Scotland for a week in September. He was all set to go to the English Lake District instead, but when he learned about Hillphones he decided to come to the Highlands after all. Mr Cliffe estimates that he and his partner spent £500 during their week's walking. They stayed in Kinlochleven, Spean Bridge, Fort William and the Kingshouse at Glencoe.

At a meeting of the Organisations involved the following recommendations were made:

- Continue the North Arran and Grey Corries/Mamore service in 1997.
- Investigate expanding the area covered by the North Glen Dochart/South Glen Lochay service.
- Open additional lines covering two or three further areas yet to be finalised.

Dr Debbie Greene of SNH Recreation and Access branch said: 'We would like to thank everyone who took part last year, along with the media for help with publicity, the people who kindly displayed posters and walkers who spread the word among friends. We were pleased with the number of calls the Hillphones received.'

The 1996 trial has been judged a success by both walkers and estates.

Scot-Electrical Services

Member SJIB

All Electrical Repairs,
Maintenance & Installations
Domestic & Commercial
Hotels and Guest Houses
Lighting Circuits* Heating Systems
Sockets * Electric Showers

Qualified Tradesman

01567 820900

Manse Road, Killin

Curling Club Burn's Supper



Suie Lodge once again provided the venue for the Curling Club's Bums' Supper; and the only problem was space!! Getting tickets for this do is worse than getting a seat at Murrayfield when Scotland plays England!

Anyway, we all squeezed in! Chrissie Fenton chaired the occasion and introduced the various speakers, singers and performers. It never ceased to amaze us, after a number of years, that the talent, musically and otherwise is quite outstanding for a small village. So to get on - Gilbert Christie addressed the Haggis which was piped in by Kenny Lang (and carried by Jimmy Reilly). Peter McDiarmid offered a delightful address to the lassies, but even this was overwhelmed by Margaret Taylor's reply called "Kate O'Shanter". Apart from these formalities, the music was most enjoyable with songs from Nicola and John Cowmeadow, Jim Cushley and Mary Masterson. Davie Thornton was again brilliant on the fiddle, sometimes supported by Pat and Gilbert Christie, or John Sinclair on the harmonica! Apart from the music, we were favoured with a couple of stories from Johnnie Burton (who else?).

K. Taylor & Sons

Haulage Contractor,
Livestock Removers.

Hay & straw
supplied and delivered,
Local & long distance transport
Competitive Rates

Dall, Ardeonaig, Killin
Tel: 01567 820658
or 0831 284208

Senior Citizens Burns Supper

The Senior Citizens Burns Supper was held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on January 24 and was great fun. Sixty of the "older" inhabitants were wine and dined in traditional fashion. The Master of Ceremonies was Jim Sutherland who addressed the Haggis and in good voice gave arousing song or two. The Haggis was piped in by Duncan MacKinnon, who at 6'7" was followed by the diminutive figure of Alison Woods carrying the sacred pud. The Selkirk Grace was given by Charlie Grant and Allan Walker did the address to the Lassies and Mairi Stewart replied. There were songs and poetry from Willie, Allan, Mary Masterton and Jim Cushley and Roger Sharp and Francis Cushley were on the Accordion/piano.

Behind the scenes, a whole support team were working hard. Tricia Grant cooked the Haggis despite getting scalded in the process. The Stewarts, Alec, Fiona, Heather, Sylvia Grant, Leanne Mallinson and Fiona Mitchell all pitched in and looked after the guests. Duncan MacNee and Lester Mitchell transported folk. Charlie Grant, the Chairman and Organiser wishes to thank all who helped. Crockery from Killin and Suie Hotels, soup from the Clachaig Hotel, haggis courtesy of Colin MacRae, spuds from the Bridge of Lochay Hotel, funds from the Masonic Lodge, Marquee Dance and the Community Council.

Killin News says thanks on behalf of the Senior Citizens - *a grand night out.*

AW

The 3rd Killin Traditional Music and Dance Festival

20 -22 June 1997

This year's Festival is already well advanced in planning and will follow the same pattern as previous events. The three main concerts will feature quality artistes, and the ceilidh dances on Friday and Saturday will set you whirling round the hall. Workshops shall feature more prominently this year, as will family events, and we hope to have a cycling story teller who can be stopped at any time and he will spin you a yarn. The traditional singing competitions for the Killin Trophies will take place, and the instrumental competitions will also be with us. The Booking Flyers will be available by the end of March and the advanced reservations can be made at Killin Outdoor Centre and Mountain Shop. As usual we will be looking for additional stewards to help out during the weekend. So stand by for further information in the next issue of the Killin News, and book your place for another hectic weekend of music, dance and session with the Festival artistes.

Tighnabruaich Hotel



Main Street
Killin, Perthshire
FK21 8XB
Tel: 01567 820216

**Ken is pleased to be back
and hopes for your
continued support**

Bar Lunches **12.30-2.30pm**
Bar Snacks **2.30-6.30pm**
A la Carte Dinners **6.30-9.30pm**
Afternoon Coffees
and Cream Teas

Bar open all day every day

Proprietors
Ken & Brencla Barclay
STD 3 Crowns



Killin Mountain Rescue Team

Many Killin residents will recall the meeting at the Clachaig Hotel one Sunday afternoon in 1975 when about 40 local people attended and expressed interest in re-forming Killin Mountain Rescue Team. I can assure you that the opportunity of a small refreshment had nothing to do with the large attendance. It was purely a desire to provide assistance to the increasing number of people suffering mishap on the mountains in the area. The local knowledge supported by first aid and winter skills training was identified as the quickest most efficient way of providing a rescue service in the area in particular in bad weather.



Sergeant Harry Lawrie BEM and Inspector Bill Rose who was then a Constable in Killin set about building the team and a number were sent to Glenmore Lodge on a Mountain Rescue Course.

Their new found skills were soon put to the test when the following winter the team were called to Ben Lui to assist a climber who had fallen in the Central Gully of Ben Lui in icy conditions. However old habits die hard and those members who daily tramped the hills during their work decided to leave the crampons and ice axe at the bottom of the hill relying on their trusty crook. The rescue was successfully completed and the casualty safely brought down the mountain. However the team suffered a number of casualties. There was not a single crook left in one piece, all broken during the icy ascent up the mountain. From then on the importance of winter skills was recognised and the team never looked back.

Unfortunately as many will know the tragedy the team regularly deals with on the hills came home dramatically on February 1st 1987 when an RAF Wessex

helicopter crashed on Ben More during a rescue. Unfortunately Harry Lawrie was killed in the accident but we are thankful the Constable Ian Ramsay survived along with the aircrew who also made a good recovery. However, the team was strong enough to get over the incident and today still provides the same excellent volunteer service as envisaged by Harry who would I am sure have asked for no finer epitaph.

The team felt it would be appropriate to take time to remember the 10th anniversary of the helicopter crash which at the time had a dramatic effect for those involved.

Billy Stitt, the Team Leader, prepared a small brass plaque and on February 1st 1997 members of the team returned to the crash site on Ben More to remember Harry. Stewart Inglis and Billy built a small cairn near the site to hold the plaque. The team was quite specific that the cairn should be unobtrusive and fit in with the surrounding hillside. It is only about 1 foot high built against a rock and only visible to those who by chance stumble upon it, or know the site of the crash. On completing the cairn no words were spoken but everyone spent a

few moments with their own personal thoughts to remember Harry and the incident, which is now history, will not be forgotten.

On completion of the task, the team made its way down the hill to Crianlarich where Gordon, Harry's son, who had accompanied the team on the mountain provided a small refreshment for everyone before we settled down for the rugby international - pity about the score.

Many of the team have been members for 22 years and John Sinclair and Ian McGregor, the two sole original members, have been involved in rescue work on the mountains for over 30 years. We have noticed a few grey hairs appearing amongst the stalwarts and although not ready to hang up their boots yet, there is a need to increase new young members in the Killin area. If you are interested in finding out more about the team with a view to assisting as a member, Team Leader Billy Stitt, Deputy Team Leader Stewart Inglis would be happy to give you any information you require.

Finally thanks to everyone in the Killin area for supporting the team over the years. Without local support it would not be possible to maintain this local service for the benefit of the community and visitors to the area.

MAUREEN H. GAULD

**Antiques and Arts
Bric-a Brac**

**Cameron Buildings,
Main St, Killin
Tel: (01567) 820475 - SHOP
820605 - House**

Kate's Cakes



**BIRTHDAY'S
ANNIVERSARIES
PARTIES - WEDDINGS
Tel: 01838 400239**

**Stirling Council
Childrens Services
Play and Out of School Care**

The 'Superbus' will be visiting the MacLaren Hall Car Park on Wednesday 16th April, 1997 from 10.30 am - 12 noon and Friday 18th April from 10.30 am - 12 noon.

Killin Initiative



The Killin Initiative hosted a celebration in the Clachaig Hotel to thank the many local organisations and sponsors, for their support in running the events over the last three years, and for the combined efforts in achieving the prestigious Scottish Tourist Board's 1996 Thistle Award in the Area Tourism Initiative Category. The afternoon was compered by Danny Kyle.

John Mallinson, the Initiative Chairman spoke of the hard work which had been put into organising the events, and how the Initiative hoped to progress further developments in the future. Mr. Mallinson stressed the need for co-operation from all the local clubs and societies, and the support of the local residents, without which success would not be achievable. The sponsors support is important to assist in funding the projects and to firmly establish Killin as the place to visit for quality events and true Highland Hospitality.

Bill Legg of the Scottish Tourist Board then gave a talk on the purpose of the Thistle Awards and how the various

categories attracted increasing numbers of quality entrants, and how the judges arrive at the final decision. He congratulated everyone who had worked so hard and stated that the whole village should take credit for winning the award. Charles Grant, the Highland Games Chairman, and Vice Chairman of the Initiative, then outlined how the Killin Games had been restarted, and in the past three years in fair weather and foul had attracted increasing crowds to enjoy the spectacle of Highland Dancing, piping and traditional heavy weight and world strongmen features. Mr Grant then introduced David Webster, who assists in organising the world strongmen competitions. Mr Webster said that he and his partner Douglas Edmunds were proud to be associated with Killin Highland Games, and seeing a World Record broken in 1996 has had all those competing in the heavy events asking to come to Killin.

Alex Stewart, the Festival Secretary, then spoke of the planning and organising of the Traditional Music and Dance Festival. The object was to establish the

Killin event as one of quality in the Folk Scene, which would naturally take its place in the calendar as "not to be missed".

Provost John Paterson of Stirling Council rounded off the official part of the programme with a message of congratulations to everyone for this achievement, from the Council, and pledged support for the future in continuing to organise events which attracted visitors to the area and made them aware of the other facilities which can be enjoyed in the district. The Award was on display together with a selection of photographs of the events, and it is hoped to have a permanent feature in the Folklore Centre in the near future. A buffet was then enjoyed by the company.

Next Issue

Copy and advertisements for the next issue are required by 26 April 1997 or preferably before that date. Thank you.

GRANT AND WELSH

(Sole proprietor: A. Grant)

Painters & Decorators Ames Taping

Greenbank, Main Street, Killin
Tel: (Killin 01567) 820462

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 en suite 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.

Winners of the Perthshire Tourist Board / Glen Turret Distillery Awards for the

'Most Enjoyable Restaurant Meal'

South Loch Tayside, by Killin, Perthshire FK21 8SU

Tel: (01567) 820400 Fax: (01567) 820282

J.R. NEWS

The Newsagents and Fishing Tackle Shop

Main Street, KILLIN

*Agents for permits and Stockist of
Fishing Tackle & Accessories
Newspapers Magazines
Confectionery Ices Cards
Stationery Gifts and Toys*

Tobacco

Tel: 01567 820362

The Eagle In The Classroom



For many of us who love and respect animals, it is a privilege to get close to a wild creature on a rare occasion. Even more seldom do we have the chance to help an injured one. Wild animals suffer so much stress that this usually kills them even if their injuries do not. This is the story of one who was an exception.

In the early '70's we lived in Sutherland twelve miles off the tarmac up a hill track on a remote estate. One morning Jock, the stalker, and I were going down the road and saw an eagle sitting on a rock quite close to the side. As he took off we noticed something dangling from his talons and stopping him flying by its weight.

The bird flew very low over a small lochan and eventually landed on the surface, wings outspread. After a time the wind blew him into the shore and we decided to walk round to 'investigate'. He did not fly off or seem too worried about our approach. As we reached him we saw the reason for this; there was a

large mass of rusty wire entangled on one of his talons, once piece of which had pulled tightly and was cutting in deeply.

We were able to pick up the bird quite easily as he was hungry and exhausted. The trip back in the Land Rover did not appear to bother him at all.

He was soon established in the stables and the talon removed as it was almost severed and quite dead. After that he seemed to think that a few days lodging and full board was a good idea. This meant shooting rabbits for him and the daily after school rabbit-for-the-eagle hunt became a ritual. The entire population packed into and onto the Land Rover. Someone riding shotgun on the bonnet.

During his stay, our eagle paid visits to the school which my wife ran (smallest in the country with two children) to be measured, weighed and generally 'studied'. After a week or so a halfday holiday was declared to take our eagle out and return him to the wild. Cameras were poised but he refused to go. Obviously a few more days of TLC were needed.

The next time he did leave us and led a happy life. We were able to recognise him on many occasions till his next maul by a missing tail feather.

A happy ending which often doesn't happen. Pick up that next piece of wire that you see lying around!

Tim Frost

Retiral Of District Nurse

Mrs. Audrey Weaver has served this area as District Nurse and Health Visitor for over twenty years. She is due to retire on March 31 st and the Nursing Association is sure that many people will wish to join them in contributing to a presentation to Audrey.

We all appreciate how hard she has worked and her calm professionalism and comforting presence have been a great help to many in times of trouble. She will be much missed but the whole community will wish her well in her retirement and hope that she will enjoy the freedom to pursue other interests for many years to come.

If you wish to contribute, donations can be handed to the following:

J R News

Killin Post Office

Bank of Scotland, Killin

Crianlarich Shop

Locheearnhead Shop

or posted to Mrs B MacGregor,
Littlecroft, Killin.



KILLIN HOTEL

Bar Meals served nightly from 6-8.30pm
Bed and Breakfast from £26 per person
with full en suite facilities

Regular entertainment in the Hotel
and separate Bar & Games Room

Riverside beer garden and conservatories



Tel: 01567 820296

AVAILABLE FOR PRIVATE FUNCTIONS AND PARTIES (LARGE OR SMALL)

ERIC MCALLISTER CARPET FITTER

"Tredaire"

Tel: (01567) 820359

**SPECIALIST ON ALL
FLOOR COVERINGS**

Post Dunblane: School Risk Management

On Wednesday 27 February we were invited to attend the first meeting of a group of parents of Killin Primary School pupils with Constable Garry Lawrie, who is working for the Councils' Chief Executives Service. The exercise/meeting was about risk management assessment - atask which is now being visited upon all schools in the Stirling area, following the tragic happening at Dunblane.

Constable Lawrie, guided us through an itemised list of "risk" areas, eg. persons walking in school grounds; loitering after hours; unauthorised visitors; violence against staff/pupils; vandalism; etc.

The exercise was to assess these different areas of risk on a scale of 1 - 4 probability and 1 - 4 severity, and then to work out a possible action plan to minimise the risk.

Those present on this occasion were the Head Teacher, Mrs Inglis; Mrs M McRae; Mrs E Woods; Mrs P Farquarson. It seems that the undertaking to develop an "Action Plan for Safety" may extend to involve the PTA. Constable Lawrie was, of course, quick to explain that many of the items in his risk list pertained mainly to larger secondary schools; but, never-the-less, as Dunblane demonstrated, action for safety is needed in all schools, even primaries.

Comment

It is hard to believe that with this issue, the Killin News is celebrating its *SIXTH* birthday! There's been a lot of water under the bridge (and over it!) in 6 years.

We have of course become partly computerised since our conception and this has made life "easier" and helped to reduce overall costs. It has also of course helped generate business for the G lendochart Adult Education class on "Computing For The Terrified!" Some of our funniest moments have occurred after running a spellcheck on the computer and the resulting "Finally McAskill" and "Giblet Christie" and a few I dare not mention, have mostly been avoided when we have gone to print.

A copy of the Killin News is delivered by volunteers to every household in Killin and surrounding area. We would ask that if you get extra copies, perhaps to send to friends and family, would you be kind enough to put a donation in the Killin News tin at the newsagents or the Post Office.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our advertisers who have stuck with us for the past six years - even when we occasionally got it wrong!

Things Are Happening At The Gold Mine

Although no one has voiced it abroad, things are happening at the Cononish Gold Mine; some activity in The Clachaig Hotel! Much travelling up to Tyndrum! So, we managed to locate Jim Thompson, Senior Mine Geologist, staying at the Clachaig and had a long chat.

Jim, a Canadian, works for the Caledonian Mining Corporation, which owns Fynegold (originally involved in Cononish). Jim impressed us with the technology of gold mining. He was quick to explain that there was no environmental risks involved with this mine and the method of operation. It seems that they have a "tailing dam" which can't overflow, but the water is recycled. No cyanide used! The mined ore is handled by a jiggling table to get out some gold, but a small amount. Then they "bug" the remaining concentrate which will contain pyrites and other sulphide minerals - this concentrate, containing perhaps 3 kilograms of gold per tonne, is taken to another site, not in Scotland where it is processed to release its gold.

At the moment only about 5 workers are involved, mainly in "tidying up" the tunnel; but also present are 2 geologists (one being Jim), General Manager, Chris Sangster and Chris Ward, Mine Manager. At the moment they are as it were "keeping the pot boiling". Real work should start in June/July with some construction work and mining operations in the Autumn.

Jim, however, emphasised the "bottom line"! The price of gold on the market needs to be at least \$385 (£250 approx.) per ounce before its worthwhile mining. On the other hand, the geologists current estimates of Cononish are that there are approximately 500,000 tonnes of ore reserves with 0.3 of an ounce per tonne - a possibly very worthwhile enterprise.

SA

THE LOCAL COMPANY WITH COUNTRYWIDE APPEAL



PARTS DEPT.

Tyres
Batteries
Lucas Parts
Exhausts
Accessories
Mail Order Parts

SERVICE DEPT.

All Makes Servicing
Commercial Repairs
Land Rover Refurbishment
Breakdown Service
Accident Damage Repair
MOT Station

SHOP

Fuel
Sweets
Snacks
Books
Ice Cream
Gifts



**KILLIN
PERTHSHIRE
01567 820280**

Tom Murphy Fencing Contractor

*All types of fencing work
undertaken
Garden, Farm, Forestry, etc.*

Corrycharmaig, Glen Lochay
Killin FK21 8UA
Tel: 01567 820308

Mysterious Flash Explained



The driver of an articulated lorry fully loaded with timber had a lucky escape recently when in the early hours of the morning his vehicle hit black ice next to the Bridge of Lochay Hotel and demolished the main power lines to the south end of the village.

The flash from the damaged cables lit up the area and could be seen a half mile from the incident. Thanks to the efficiency of the local emergency services and Hydro-Electric, the road was cleared and power restored to the village by mid afternoon.

AI

Y Stirling Opens Youth-Files on the Net

Budding young surfers will soon be able to access the internet locally with the development of eight internet sites throughout the Stirling Council Area. Stirling Council's Youth Files Internet Project, the first of its kind in Scotland, gives young people free access to the internet in rural and urban communities, providing a source for quality information and guidance. The Council's Youth Service has also developed it's own internet web site providing local information of different topics such as youth club news, health issues and careers advice. Young people will be involved in the continued updating of information on the site and the creation of their own web pages.

Initially sites will be located at the Community Resource Centre (Stirling),

Raploch Community Centre (Stirling), Off The Record (Stirling), Hillpark Community Centre (Bannockburn), Alpha Community Centre (Fallin), Dunblane Library, Strathblane Library and *a mobile unit will be available for rural communities from the Stirling Rural Community Support Team in Callander.*

Sites are free of charge to your people up to 25 years old.

For further information, please contact Alastair Delaney, Youth Policy Manager, Stirling Council. Tel: (01786) 462821 Fax: (01786) 463317. Web Site Address: <http://www.stirling-youth-services.org.uk>. E-Mail: alastair.delaney@stirling.almac.co.uk.

The "Fiery Cross" In Breadalbane

A "History Of The Scottish Highlands" was edited by John S Keltie and published in 1887. At the moment, extracts from it are being prepared for a site on the Internet and the following might be of interest to those of us living on the shores of Loch Tay in 1996.

"Each clan had a stated place of rendezvous, where they met at the call of their chief. When an emergency arose for an immediate meeting from the incursions of a hostile clan, the cross or tarie, or fiery cross, was immediately despatched through the territories of the clan. This signal consisted of two pieces of wood placed in the form of a cross. One of the ends of the horizontal piece was either burnt or burning, and a piece of linen or white cloth stained with blood was suspended from the other end. Two men each with a cross in his hand, were despatched by the chief in different directions, who kept running with great speed, shouting the war-cry of the tribe, and naming the place of rendezvous, if different from the usual place of meeting. The cross was delivered from hand to hand and as each fresh bearer ran at full speed, the clan assembled with great celerity. General Stewart says, that one of the latest instances of the fiery-cross being used, was in 1745, by Lord Breadalbane, when it went round Loch Tay, a distance of thirty-two miles, in three hours, to raise his people and prevent their joining the rebels, but with less effect than in 1715 when it went the same round, and when 500 men assembled in a few hours, under the command of the Laird of Glenlyon, to join the Earl of Mar".

Lesley Kettle

S. CARMICHAEL & SONS LTD

Monument Road, Comrie
Tel: (01764) 670415 Fax: 670449

*Joiners - Builders
Slaters - Plasterers*

Members of:
NHBC & SBEF

Work undertaken throughout Perthshire and neighbouring counties

Visit Tarmachan Teashop

(opposite McLaren Hall)

**Home Baking, Teas
All-Day Lunches
Menu Varies**

*All our food is home-made
& affordably priced*

Tay Cycles

Acharn, Aberfeldy



The Local Service for Cycle
Repairs and Servicing

*Collection and Delivery
Service Available*

01877 830439



Costcutter

George and Julie Mitchell, the husband and wife team who own and run the Costcutter store in Killin welcomed Mr Lawrie Dewar MBE, the Chief Executive of the Scottish Grocers Federation, who officially opened their much modernised business on Friday 28th February.

George and Julie have made several changes in the four years since they purchased the business, not least being their joining the Costcutting Group of Independent Retailers. The primary reason for the change was to allow them access to a far greater range of goods with a more competitive pricing policy, thus providing more reasons for people to shop locally.

Additional developments, mostly behind the scenes have included the installation of a scanning system to improve price and stock controls.

Now the latest stage in their business development has been the almost re-designing and re-furbishment of the shop floor area, with the help of Consultant Graham Meare. George and Julie look forward to welcoming not only their local customers to the store, but also the many visitors who return each year.



COSTCUTTER

SUPERMARKETS

Groceries, Fruit & Veg, Off Sales

Costcutters White Bread
39p

2 Litre Whole & Semi Skim Milk
99p



Calor Gas, Visa, Switch, National Lottery
Open Monday - Saturday 8am - 8pm Sunday 9am - 5pm
Tel No: (01567) 220255



Come visit our new store George & Julie

ROBINSON

16th, 17th and

Panto days are here again! The skies January skies quickly cleared on the 16th put on, what now looks to be an annual the programme to be an even larger performance of Robinson Crusoe, with of Oh yes he did'.

The opening scene got off to a rousing carried on the whole way through fourteen cast have come on so well in the space The "senior members" of the cast exce excellent comedy timing and 'different concerned, the wardrobe mistresses for management and crew for some sm accompaniment.

A bunch of canny cannibals



It seems unfair to criticise but one or greatly enhanced by the use of micr adequately supports. Considering the purchase of the sound and light system- all this equipment was not put to full use.

Having said that, it was a great team pr may the Panto Season in Killin flourish -



The Oylslicks - a slippery bunch of customers



Crusoe and "lend us a fiver 'till Friday"



Who's a big fairy then?



The good, the bad and it's getting ugly

N CRUSOE

18th January

above are grey again - however the grey
17th and 18th when Killin Drama Club
event. A large cast (and what I see from
stage crew) gave us a most enjoyable
the usual hissing and booing and plenty

and colourful start and this enthusiasm
scenes. The younger members of the
of one year, their singing was excellent.
lled themselves with some lovely singing,
dance routines. Congratulations to all
their brilliant presentation, the stage
both scene changes and the musical



What a bit of rump!



A cut throat business



Me and my girl

Percy's panto pals



two of the weaker voices could have been
ophones which the new sound system
community effort that was made for the
for McLaren Hall it was unfortunate that

roduction, congratulations to all concerned,
we all look forward to next year already!



Ooooooh Charlie!

Thanks

Thanks To Judge Stroyan For Our Christinas Trees

Sorry! This item should have been in our last issue, but better late than never. Judge Stroyan, as usual, provided the village with its' Christmas Tree, as well as those at the McLaren Hall, Kirk Care and the School. Many thanks from us all.

Thanks are also due to Willie Stitt, Douglas McRobbie, Jimmy Gauld and their helpers for putting the tree up at the Church and fixing the lights. Thanks also to the Episcopal Church for the use of their electricity.

Dick and Mary Lewis were overwhelmed by the amount of cards and good wishes extended to them during Dick's recent illness. Our sincere thanks to everyone.

I would like to thank family, friends, neighbours and everyone for all their kind wishes, cards, flowers, gifts and visits while I was in the Hospital in Glasgow and Denny. I am now back in Killin with Pat and Iain and coming along fine. Thanks a million.

Cathie Campbell

Thank you for all the cards, letters, flowers and phone calls, myself and my family received whilst John was in hospital and after he died. It is a comfort to know that so many friends thought so much of John.

Peggy MacPhail and Family

OBITUARIES

Hume Leighton

We were all greatly saddened by the death of Hume Leighton, who died on 12 February 1997 aged 84 years.

A Liverpudlian by birth, he was one of a family of seven. Chick was the youngest pupil at Giggleswick school near Settle, and used to read the comic "Chicks Own". The name stuck with him through life. He fought for his country as a Captain in the Royal Horse Artillery and was posted to North Palestine. He was captured by the German army on Crete and was taken as a Prisoner Of War to various camps in Europe. In 1945 he took the tenancy of Liangarston where he and his family worked with Black Faced Sheep and Ayrshire cattle. In 1950 he was the first to introduce Swaledales to the Scottish hills which has greatly improved the quality of stock. There was no shortage of helpers for gatherings and clippings as the joviality in the fank was well known, also the "Home Brew". Chick was a staunch union man and he represented local farmers for many years as Branch President, also West Perth area and the wool board. He was a skilled negotiator and did sterling work on these committees. In 1979 he relinquished the farm tenancy owing to poor health and retired to Lyon Villas with his wife Honor and latterly to Ballechroisk Court. He was a familiar figure in the village bringing laughter and joy to all he met, young and old alike.

He is survived by his wife Honor, son Jack and daughters Diana and Rosie; a great family man, he will be sadly missed.

D. Willison

Mary MacLeod

Mary MacLeod, nee Muir, died on 18 January 1997 in Kildean Hospital where she spent the last three years of her life and where she was well looked after with dedicated care.

Mary was born in Avonbridge in 1903. She came to Killin to work as a dairymaid at Daldravaig Farm in 1927. In 1930 she met her husband Sandy who worked for Horwood's Garage in Killin and they had three sons, Sandy, William and James. During the war years she worked at Moirlannich Farm and the last job before she retired was as a cook in the Killin Hotel in the early seventies.

AM

Tourist Board Support for Local Tourist Association

Tourists Associations in the Stirling Council area are to benefit from two grant schemes designed to encourage and support local initiatives. Five recognised tourism groups in Killin, Tyndrum, Crianlarich, Stirling, Trossachs and Drymen and East Loch Lomond received grants totalling £3,165 from the Argyll, The Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and Trossachs Tourist Board after it was announced that a proportion of the membership fees collected in their respective areas should be rebated to the local groups.

Tourist Board Vice-Chairman Councillor Ian Wyles said "Tourist associations and other local trade groups undertake initiatives ranging from local publicity to organising events and festivals, which play an important role in attracting visitors to this area and encouraging them to stay longer. We are therefore delighted to be able to offer our practical assistance to help voluntary groups continue their invaluable work".

Secretarial and Office Services

Luib, Crianlarich
Telephone 01567 820532

- Book Keeping and Wages:
- Computerised and Manual
- Business and Confidential Correspondence
- Reports
- CVs
- Dissertations and Essays Typed
- Desk Top Publishing

All work is carried out professionally and confidentially.

Stable Computer Systems

The Stables, Lochdochart, Crianlarich, Perthshire, FK20 8QS

We Are Your Local Computer Resource

Competitive Computer Prices

Advice & Training

Quality support

Installation & Setup



Internet Development

Fault Finding

Upgrades

Programming

Tel (01838) 300 315 Fax (01838) 300 201

Email scs@stable-computers.demon.co.uk

Apology

In the last issue of the Killin News there were problems with the reproduction of photographs which occurred during printing. The Printers would like to apologise for any inconvenience this caused.

THANKS

A Special Thank You to everyone who helped and attended Kirsty's 21st Birthday Party to make it a great night

Frances & Ian McLaggan

Tennents Caledonian Brewery

wish
Ian and Sian
every success



Pic: FP

As a comparison with the flooded Dochart Bridge, this photo serves to remind us that although Mother Nature can cause havoc, she also creates visions of beauty. The snow falls we had in January and February, heavy rain and then the thaw which set in around the beginning of March all combined to create this splendour. We have all overheard remarks as we walk down the Main Street on a sunny day in July, "Wouldn't it be lovely if it stayed like this all winter!". Think on - if it did, we would not have our waterfalls!

LF

SAMANTHA MOBILE BEAUTY THERAPIST

Facials, Waxing, Manicures,
Pedicures, massage, Eyecare
and Make-up

For more information contact
Samantha Quigley
Glendhu, Ardchyle, Killin
(01567)820422

Advertising Feature

Ben Lawers Hotel

Lawers
by Aberfeldy
Perthshire PH15 2PA
Tel: 01567 820 436

The Ben Lawers Hotel invites you to come and meet the new proprietors, Ian and Sian.

We have recently moved to Lawers from a busy, central Lake District location in search of our own small hotel, to be managed by ourselves and maintained as a family home. Between us, we have many years experience in the hotel trade and now welcome the opportunity to work for ourselves and to our own standards.

The Ben Lawers Hotel was 'love at first sight' for us both. It fulfilled every criteria (and more) for our ideal hotel that we were looking for.

With six bedrooms, a cosy public bar and a comfortable restaurant, we intend to cater for both local people and visitors to the area all year round, providing a relaxed and informal atmosphere and friendly-personal service.

The bar and restaurant is open every day offering traditional home cooked food at lunch times and evening until 9.30 pm. We can cater for bar meals and also parties and special occasions.

We welcome you to sample our hospitality, especially our menu, which includes a

traditional Steak and Ale Pie served with fresh vegetables and chips (£5.75) and Ricotta Cheese, Spinach and Pine Kernels served with a rich garlic, herb and tomato sauce, fresh vegetables and cheese potatoes (£5.50). Of course there are many more, together with a variety of starters and puddings.

Throughout April and May we would like to offer every customer a free glass of wine, half pint of beer or soft drink with their two or three course meal here at the Ben Lawers Hotel when they mention this article.



Killin Literary Society 1922

A Vision Of Killin In 1942

For I dipped into the future in the style of Sherlock Holmes,
Saw the Main Street filled with ladies with a host of little poms,
Saw a fleet of Carabancs at the City Hall drawn up,
With a team of Yankee golfers who had won the Doctor's Cup.

Then I joined a car for Lawers and we sped along the road
Where the lines of massive mansions showed the profiteers' abode,
We climbed the Paracriach, and the Loch it lay below,
So I left at Drumnalarig, to the Loch I wished to go.

When I reached the Pier Station, 'Twas a miracle I saw
For the Pier, it was as busy as the Glasgow Broomielaw.

Then I cam back by the railway, 'Twas electrified of course
And I'm sure I saw that rare animal - a horse,
When I reached the City streets, the flags were going up
For Killin had been to Ibrox, and had won the "Scottish Cup".

I wandered round at dusk, when it was grown dark
Saw the crowds go trooping homewards from the Killin Public Par
Then I saw the "Killin Herald" flaunt its bills before my eyes
And the newsboys they were shouting all the very latest lies
Then I read the daily paper and as I turn the pages O'er
I learned the Scottish Premier had been born at Monemore.

At night I climbed up Stronachlachan, there a Hydropathic stood,
Where Twenty years before had been a scrap of scraggy wood.
From there I viewed the City, and it was a glittering sight,
For from Tyndrum up to Grey Street, all had got electric light.
A speck on the horizon to an aeroplane it grew
And it carried all the letters that came from me and you.
Then I saw The Scottish Parliament 'Twas filled with feminines galore
And a lady for Killin was shouting wisdom on it's floor,
You may scoff and you may argue such things can never be
But with Asquith I shall answer "Just you wait and see".

This was composed by the late Mr James McRaw who died in 1951 (born probably around 1875?). He was Headmaster at Killin Public School from around 1920 to 1940, it was read at Literary Society, February 1922. It was kindly lent to the Killin News by Miss Aileen Smith.

Leapus Arboriticus



Following several reports from concerned householders in the Killin district of damage to young trees and large shrubs in their gardens, the Killin News can offer this solution and according to a recent zoological survey this particular area of Scotland is being over-run by a hybrid rabbit (Leapus Arboriticus) or tree climbing rabbit as it is commonly known which seems to have evolved over the last 20 years following the increase in snaring and ground poisoning.

A spokesman for the Society stated "it is quite understandable that if the rabbit's natural habit at ground level is being threatened, that the animal will seek food and refuge at a higher level". Our photograph shows one of these avaricious animal hybrids grazing on trees in the Killin area. Anyone spotting any sign of tree damage by these animals should contact 01567 820 298 and note the time and location.

AI

Cruachan Coffee Shop

Lunches, Snacks
Farmhouse Cooking - Freshly
Baked Scones - Fruit Pies & Cakes

*3.5 miles outside Killin
on the 827 Aberfeldy Road*
Tel: 01567 820700

David Courtney & Son

General Builders

Slating • Tiling • Plastering • Roughcasting
Fireplaces • Patios & Slab Work
Chimneys & Gutters - Repaired or renewed

Tel: Comrie 01764 679473

Mr W Stitt chaired the meeting which was well attended by representatives of the various clubs and associations who make full use of the hall.

All repairs to the Hall have been completed and there is still some money left in the Appeal Fund. The Badminton Club light problem was discussed, but would seem too expensive for effective action. An appeal was suggested for finance to carry out necessary work.

The audited accounts were accepted.

Election of Office Bearers: Mr W Stitt agreed to do another year as Chairman, Mrs G Mardon was elected Secretary, Mr C McRae - Treasurer and Mrs E Woods, Booking Secretary. The retiring office bearers were thanked for their work.

After some discussion initiated by the local tourist association, it was agreed to set up a sub-committee to look into the future use of the Hall and to approach Forth Valley Enterprise with a view to making a feasibility of how the Hall might be improved and resourced to maximise its use for the benefit of the village. The appointed sub-committee: Mr J Mallinson, Mrs L Syme, Mrs G Higgins and Mr A Stewart.

J & C McWilliam

Funeral Directors
18 - 22 Bank Street
ABERFELDY
Tel: 01887 820436

Complete Personal Service
Prop. David Gauld

Killin News was pleased to get this letter from Jack McWilliam of Aberfeldy, a well kent figure in Killin. Many of us have had his help and kindness in time of bereavement.

"Dear Editor

Having been in the undertaking business for 33 years and being myself nearly three score years and ten; I have decided to retire and wish to take the opportunity through the Killin News to thank most sincerely all the people of Killin, Loch Tayside, Lochearnhead, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. Over the years you have entrusted me with the funeral arrangements of your loved ones. I have made many friends in this time and thank you for this.

The man who has taken over the business if David Gauld who is experienced and has asked me to stay on for a wee while to help out. He assures me that he will give the same personal attention and detail as I have sought to do.

My new address is Heathersett, Tay View Road, Aberfeldy.

Best wishes, Jack McWilliam".

Killin and District Tourist Association

The AGM of the above Association was held in the Clachaig Hotel on Friday 14th February. The Chairman, R. Bedwell welcomed everyone and opened the meeting by asking Stan Mudd to present the Floral Awards. It was very disappointing to see that only three of the prize-winners were there in person to collect their awards. After the presentation the Chairman announced that the Floral Awards would continue in 1997 and a further category would be introduced to cover gardens fronting on to the street. Further details of all aspects of the Floral Awards would be available in late Spring. It was hoped to increase the number of Hanging Baskets in 1997 and the Chairman would be seeking sponsorship from the trade and individuals.

The general business of the meeting continued with the Chairman's Report. Mr Bedwell began by thanking, on behalf of all tourism in the Killin area, those individuals who were prepared to give so much time and effort to organising events such as the Folk Festival and the Highland Games. The Folklore Centre continued to go from strength to strength and was the focus of village tourism. Special thanks must go to the staff for their excellent work in welcoming visitors to the village. Special thanks must also go to two long term members of the Committee who are retiring this year. Stan Mudd and Sinclair Aitken. Both have made substantial contributions to tourism in this area over the years, producing leaflets and information for the visitors and working very hard on behalf of all the members and the committee.

There were plans to increase the number of Hanging Baskets and to involve the community more in the running of the scheme. It was hoped to be able to work more closely with the Sports and Leisure Club in promoting the facilities available

to visitors. The Killin leaflets have been updated and reprinted, as have those on the Historical Walks and History and Legend of Killin.

The election of office bearers and committee was as follows - Chairman R. Bedwell; Vice-Chairman J. Mallinson; Secretary Mrs G. Ford; Treasurer to be appointed; Committee-D. Wilson, G. Naylor, T. Shaw, Mrs F.E. MacKinnon, Mrs M. McRobbie, Miss M. Campbell, D. Scott (Lochearnhead rep).

Floral Awards - Children : Hanging Baskets - 1st equal - Robert Grant and Stewart Grant, Beechcroft. Window Boxes - 1st - Gordon Bates, Creagan Cottage. Commercial - Hanging Baskets - 1st - Maragown Caravan Site. 2nd - Killin Crafts. 3rd - Capercaillie Restaurant. Window Boxes-1st-Killin Crafts. Tubs - 1st - Capercaillie Restaurant. 2nd - Killin Crafts. 3rd - Maragowan Caravan Site. Domestic - Hanging Baskets - 1st - Mrs D. Farmer, Pathways. 2nd - Mrs Campbell, Machany. 3rd - Mrs Lewis, The Glebe. Window Boxes - 1st- Mrs Hibbert, Golf Club. 2nd - Mrs Mudd, Falls of Dochart Cottage. 3rd - Mrs M. Inglis, Monemore. Tubs- 1st - Mrs D. Farmer, 2nd - Mrs Mudd. 3rd - Mrs Hibbert.

Telephone: (01567) 820342

CHARLES GRANT
Painters and Decorators

Beechcroft, Main Street,
Killin, Perthshire, FK21 8UT

Tiling, Artexing, Graining,
Ragrolling, Sponging, Stripping,
Paper Hanging, Cornicing,
Fire Proofing, Carpet and
Upholstery Cleaning Services

Films

Cards



Next day developing service
for your films is available
at your local Post office

Stationery

Books

Edinburgh Sick Children's NHS Trust

RHSC Leukaemia & Cancer Research Fund

Many thanks for your kind donation of £1,700 on behalf of Lauren Bishop which I understand was raised from a number of functions and activities which have occurred throughout 1996 in or around Killin. It is really very kind and generous indeed of you to go to so much effort on our behalf and I know that the effort required to raise such a substantial amount of money is huge. Here in Edinburgh, we look after children with cancer and leukaemia from all over the South East of Scotland and often further north, and your donation will be used to provide care, research and

support for children with cancer and leukaemia treated here in Edinburgh. We are enormously indebted to you for your continued support of our Fund and we welcome your donation on behalf of Lauren Bishop who, as you know, is at the present time having a very stormy time here at the Sick Kids. We would like to thank everyone who contributed to all the functions that you have held over the years, your generosity is enormous and your support is welcome.

*Hamish Wallace MD FRCP Edin.
Consultant Paediatric Oncologist*

Why Don't You Belt Up?

Parents are concerned for their child's welfare. They ensure their children are well clad, fed and protected from harmful events. They worry when their children are unwell. They tell their children not to respond to people who make them feel uncomfortable and worry that some adverse effect will befall them when they are outside the home.

In fact, the commonest cause of death, and a common cause of pain, suffering and disability, in young children is "unintentional injury" (this term is preferred to "accidental injury" because accident suggests that nothing can be done to prevent it.). The major cause of unintentional injury is a collision in or with a vehicle. It surprises me that so little attention seems to be paid to safety in the car. There is no doubt that if children travel in cars they should be restrained. In fact, it is against the law for them not to wear seat belts. At a recent meeting, a casualty doctor, who has seen the effects of such accidents at first hand, gave the opinion that children should not travel in the front of cars at all. Despite this, I regularly see cars travelling through the village with children standing on the front seat! Even at low speeds, the impact of a collision would be enough to send a child through the windscreen.

I know that it is difficult to keep children amused while they are strapped in but if they are accustomed to it from an early age, there should be less aggravation. Better still, of course, parents living in the village could walk, benefiting their own health and establishing desirable habits in their children.

One of the disincentives to walking in Killin with small children is the traffic

chaos in the main street. Cars are regularly parked on yellow line and speed is excessive. If a pedestrian is hit by a car at 40 miles an hour then major injuries or death are likely. At 30 mph there will be less damage and at 20 mph the risk is smaller yet. Far too many cars drive through Killin at speeds which present a hazard to pedestrians (myself included, as I would admit) Perhaps in all the money which seems to be available for grandiose bus parking a small amount could be made available for traffic calming, which could make the environment safer for pedestrians.

There is an incident "waiting to happen" here and, frankly, I don't want to be the doctor who has to attend to one of these children. I hope that you wouldn't want to be the parent whose child is injured.

There is a story of the man who died and went to the Pearly gates. On being told he was to go "down below" to stoke the eternal fires his response was "Oh, Lord I didna ken", to which God replied "Weel ye ken noo!" Enough said!

Finally, There is no truth in the assertion that last month's column was sponsored by Jack McWilliam, although we are looking forward to a further instalment of Linda Fitzgerald's article on BSE, courtesy of Colin McRae! (or Colleen Macro as my spellcheck would suggest)

Dr David Syme

The Killin News wish to apologise for the accidental "bad taste" in combining Dr Syme's article entitled "Changes at the Surgery" with the advertisement from J & C McWilliam Funeral Directors. We are at "pains" to "put to rest" the rumour that Dr Syme has shares in J & C McWilliam!!

SHUTTERS

RESTAURANT & COFFEE SHOP

Full Cooked Breakfasts,
light snacks, lunch, evening meals,
hot & cold takeaway service
quality homebaking and
cooking, many special offers

Quality framed pictures for sale
Open from 10am (7days)

**Main Street, Killin
Tel: 01567 820314**



**In Fearnan, take Fortingall Rd.
for 100 yds, then turn right**

**Open Everyday
Tel. 01887 830251**

Letters

*21 Vorlich Road
LOCHEARNEAD*

Dear Sir

Although I do not live in Killin, I always get a copy of the Killin News, and I find it very informative and a very, very good 'local' newspaper. I enjoy most of the articles and being kept up to date on all that is happening, eg., the 'Changes At The Surgery' article on Page 5 of the January issue. However, since Doctor Syme's article did not use up the three and a half columns, I think you could have put a different advert in the remaining space, instead of an undertakers ad (I am sure he is a very nice man). This was a rather strange choice of spacefiller!! I hope you do not mind a 'non local' writing and commenting on your excellent paper.

Mrs. M. McDiarmid

On the contrary Mrs McDiarmid, the Killin News is always delighted to receive letters from all members of our community and certainly regard Lochearnhead as "local".
- Editor.

"February fill the dyke, be it with black orbeitwithwhite"! February 1997 has lived up to its traditional reputation. While the autumn of 1996 and the early winter right up until the end of January 1997 was, with one or two exceptions, quiet and acceptable, the rainfall deficit for the year up until 31 December 1996 was about 11 inches (275 mm); so something had to happen as nature does not appear to like being in debt for too long and has replied with a rainfall total for February to date (26th) of 11 inches (282 mm) plus.

One would hope that by early March the present sequence of low pressure symptoms that appear in the weather maps like a string of onions emanating from their spawning place somewhere in

the western Atlantic will have annihilated themselves by their own fury and that a more acceptable pattern will have become established. Is this however just wishful thinking?! Normally a weather type or regime lasts from two and a half to three months and although February has produced this higher than usual rainfall reading it has only just reached the shortfall of the calendar year of '96 and already two months of '97 have been used up!

During February flooding although present has not been extreme, the water was "out" on south Loch Tay at the fish farm (Acharn) and at "The Fat Man" but due to strong south westerly winds the high water was pushed down the loch to the Tay and soon subsided.

Mervyn K Browne

Bridge Under Troubled Water



I'm sure this photo would have inspired Simon & Garfunkel to change the lyrics of their song to the above! Our first thought was to blame the new pointing of the Dochart Bridge for the flooding, but, we were wrong. A blocked culvert further up Grey Street, nothing to do with Stirling Council, was the culprit. A spokesman for Stirling Council said that the weight of the water pushing against the walls could have pushed the parapets into the Dochart! The Council workers took immediate action to clear the blocked culvert to avoid almost certain serious damage to the Bridge. Many thanks Stirling Council for such a quick response, can you imagine the chaos if our Bridge was out of action for major repairs? It might not be on the

same scale as the recent damage to the Erskine Bridge but to villagers it would have created more havoc. Does anyone ever remember the Bridge flooding before or is this a first?



COUNTRYSIDE CONTRACTS



Specialising in Estate,
Farming and
Forestry Fencing

Domestic and
Commercial

Supply only or
Supply and Elect

Professional - proficient
and Competitive prices



TEL & FAX: 01887-820071
MOBILE: 0468-520037
DRUMDEVAN, DULL, by ABERFELDY PH15 2JD



Pic: FP

Hi Tech Jake

No doubt you will have read in the "Stirling Observer" that Jake Green our Village Officer has at long last been given a barrow by Stirling Council. Jake has of course been doing a marvellous job keeping the village clean and tidy without such a modern appliance, and hopefully the barrow will be of assistance to him. No doubt Jake will be building up extra muscles pushing his barrow up Manse Road! Maybe with the Millennium just around the corner, technology could invent an engine to go on it! Good luck Jake and keep up the good work.

LF

Balquhiddier Hall Holiday Pit Stop

Sunday May 4th at 11 am - 4 pm

Come to the Village Hall in Balquhiddier and join us for a light lunch, tea /coffee and home baking.

All proceeds to Lochearnhead, Balquhiddier and Strathyre Playgroup.

10 Years On : The Ben Ledi View

Congratulations are well deserved to all the volunteers who have been involved with the Callander operated newspaper The Ben Ledi View. This community newspaper celebrated 10 years in existence in March 1997. It has helped the people of Callander to become more involved in the life of their town, to challenge decisions being made about their town and in general work together as a community. May we wish them every success for the future.

Golf Without Winter Woollies



On January 23, six members of Killin Golf Club, (Lawrence Brown, Ian Donaldson, John Greaves, Dick Lewis, Jack Rough and Jim Rutherford) headed off to the South of Spain for a weeks golfing holiday. Contrary to popular belief, the golf clubs did go too!

Several rounds of competitive golf were played which comprised of a medal and matchplay tie at Lauro Golf, an adapted stableford and a matchplay tie over the North Course at La Cala Golf and Country Club (which was breathtaking - in more ways than one - being set in the hills above Mijas), a matchplay tie at Mijas Los Olicas,

a stableford over the South Course once again at La Cala and final medal over Torrequebrada. There had been heavy rain in the region for about eight weeks prior to the groups arrival and some of the courses were a bit damp, but generally of quite a high standard.

There were several trophies being contested and in the matchplay ties the "Golden Oldies" team (Jack + John) edged out both teams of "Young Bucks" (Ian + Dick & Lawrence + Jim) in some very keenly contested games, and received a small quaich for their efforts. In the individual events, Jack proved invincible and won the large quaich, with Lawrence and Ian taking the medium and small quaichs for second and third positions.

After match entertainment of the highest quality was provided by Jim from Lochearnhead, whose almost continuous stories and jokes enhanced the holiday for everyone and at the prizegiving was deservedly awarded a small quaich for "entertainer of the tour".

When is the next one ????? Put my name down !!!!

Dick Lewis

Police News: Operation Swallow

Although people in rural areas feel vulnerable to the incidence of crime, the facts show that they are much less likely to be affected than townsfolk. Nevertheless, to help allay the fears of isolated rural communities, Central Scotland Police are introducing an initiative targeted at reducing crime in rural areas, called "Operation Swallow", starting on Monday 27 March 1997.

The objectives of the operation are to:

- raise awareness of rural communities and tourists of crime prevention measures
- encourage people to be vigilant use all means to detect crimes that occur

To meet these objectives Central Scotland Police will adopt the following strategies:

- displays in selected communities e.g., Aberfoyle, Killin
- high profile policing, including road checks
- high detection technology
- a high profile publicity campaign concealed cameras at strategic locations

The proposed times of the displays for Killin which will be held within the McLaren Hall Car Park are:

Saturday 5 April 11am - 4 pm
Wednesday 9 April 6 pm - 9 pm

Further information on "Operation Swallow" can be obtained from Inspector Bill Rose, Callander Police Office, Telephone 01877 330222.

Constable Ian Donaldson
01675 820 222

VIC TROJAN

Plumbing, Heating, Electric
Work and General Building

Wester Lix, Killin Perthshire
Tel: 01567 820341

Cambusbarron Coal Company

Unit 29, Kildean Auction Mart,
Stirling
Deliveries Friday
For orders
telephone (01786) 471956



The Clachaig Hotel

Falls of Dochart, Killin, Perthshire
Telephone: Killin (01567) 820270

- STB 3 Crown, en-suite rooms
 - All rooms with Sky Movies
 - MacNab restaurant open at weekends
 - Egon Ronay recommended bar food in the AA new guide "Britains Best Pubs"
 - Les Routiers recommended Dining Room
- Tel: (01567) 820270

Heritage Society

The last meeting of the winter season took place on Friday 7 March. The speaker was Dr. Terry Isles from the John Muir Trust. He spoke on the work of the Trust and showed slides of Knoydart and Yosemite National Park. The new Chairman of the Society is Mrs S Mudd and the Committee are as follows: Hon. President W MacRobbie, Vice President A Walker & R. McOwan, Vice-Chairman W Hogg, Secretary Mrs J Rough, Treasurer D Main, Committee Members: J Forster, Dr M MacColl, A Chisholm, G Moore, W Davidson, G Farquharson, J Sinclair, H MacNeil, M Hargreaves, G Ford & J Higgins.

There are a number of speakers already scheduled for the next session beginning October including Richard Fawcett from Historic Scotland, Dr Kenneth Caldwell on Finlaggan and a talk on Medieval Glasgow.

The Committee welcomes new members. The Annual Subscription is £5 which can be paid to Judy Forster at the library or Kilchurn.

W.R.I.

The Institute's 73rd Birthday Party was held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel on 9th January. After a splendid buffet members enjoyed doing some line dancing. The bell for the poem - Childhood Memories was won by Mrs M. Hunter.

At the February meeting, Jan Willison, Vice-president, introduced Samantha Quigley who gave a demonstration on Beauty Therapy.

Competitions

Photograph- It's a Beauty 1. M. Naismith.
2. E. Stewart. 3. J. Willison.

Baby's Bonnet and Mittens 1. E. Stewart.
2. E. Holmes.

Killin Crafts and Woollens



Highland Pottery Crafts and Knitwear

*Barbour Jackets and accessories
Quality goods at honest prices*

Tel: Killin 820357 Main Street, Killin

Bridge of Lochay Hotel

Killin, Tel: 01567 820272

Restaurant 7.30 - 9.00pm
(only home cooking served)

Bar Meals Daily
12noon-2.00pm
6.30 - 9.00pm

Killin Bakery

Tel: (01567) 820706

*Chip vans
Opens 27th March*

Open
Mon - Fri: 6.30am - 3.00pm
Saturday 6.30am - 3.00pm

Gun Club

Killin Gun Club held its AGM in Suie Lodge Hotel on Sunday 23 February 1997. Thirteen members turned up and it was reported the Club had a good year. Office bearers were re-elected to their posts; President, J. McKay Secretary, G D Coyne Treasurer, J Sinclair. Committee elected in block.

Shoot dates for the start of the year; 13 April, 11 May, 22 June, 20 July.

G D Coyne

29th Stirling (Killin) Boys Brigade

Parents and Friends Association

The Committee would like to thank everyone in Killin and District for their generous donations during our recent appeal. A total of £170.00. was raised. This money goes towards the week to week running of the Brigade and outings for the boys.

Forthcoming Events

25th April, 1997 - Parents Night. 24th May, 1997 - A 50/50 Coffee Morning in the Lesser McLaren Hall (10 am - 1pm) with 50% of the proceeds to the Community Bus Fund.

GLEN DOCHART ADULT EDUCATION GROUP

Summer Term Courses

Beginners Computing Course:

Venue: Lochearnhead Village Hall.
Mondays 7.30-9.30 pm.
Commencing 14 April for 10 weeks and will cost £20. Interested? Contact Gaylor on 01877 384205.

Computing For The Terrified:

Venue: Killin Primary School.
Tuesdays 7.30 - 9.30 pm.
Commencing 15 April for 10 weeks and will cost £20. Interested? Contact Julie on 01567 820753.

Yoga Classes:

Venue: Killin Primary School.
Wednesdays 7.30 - 9.30 pm.
Commencing 16 April and will cost £2 per class. Interested? Contact Christine on 01567 820472

As always we are busy planning the courses and classes for next term (the Autumn Term) and any offers of teaching skills, or requests for classes would be greatly appreciated.

Book now to avoid disappointment.
Susan McRobbie

For Sale

Office Desk 4'x2'6" £40 o.n.o.
Tel: 01567 820 298

Wanted to Buy

Size one bowls for coming bowling season.
Contact: J. Thornton 0567 820784.

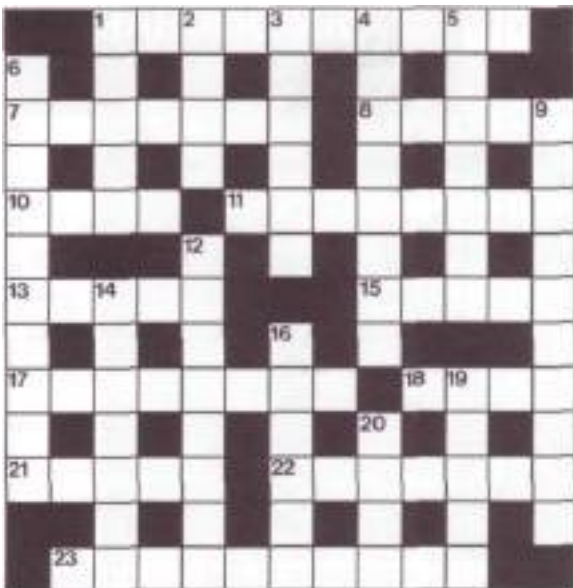


ARTIST

*Sign Writing
Speciality Animal Studies*

The Old Schoolhouse
Ardchyle, by Killin, Perthshire FK21 8RF
01567-820535

Crossword by Safarian



Solution To Prize Crossword

Across: 1. salmon, 4. powerful, 9. obtuse
10. sticklet, 12. abscess, 13. unloose,
14. airline charter, 18. Speyside whisky
22. inroads, 24. chancel, 26. travails
27. isobar, 28. pressure, 29. florin.

Down: 1. salmon, 2. lotus, 3. obscenity
5. outrush, 6. excel, 7. falcons, 8. larder
11. isle, 15. reportage, 16. rehearsal,
17. cycle run, 19. insular, 20. each
21. tiptop, 23. amass, 25. caber.



The Princess Royal Trust Stirling Carers Centre

The Princess Royal Trust Stirling Carers Centre offers advice, information and support to anyone who looks after a friend or relative at home who can't manage alone because of illness, disability or frailty.

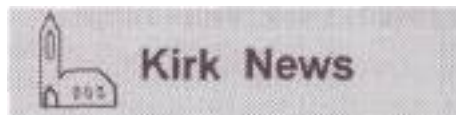
The Centre is holding a monthly session in Killin Church Hall so if you would like more information why not call in for a chat. Miss Fiona Morrison the Development Officer with the Carers centre will be in Killin Church Hall on the first Thursday of each month between 11 am and 1 pm.

ACROSS

1. Disturbed chappy shot and is mentally deranged (10)
7. Obstacles in the way doesn't deter this sportsman (7)
8. Bondsman and Wise guy (5)
10. Sounding like what boat with keel capsized might suffer (4)
11. The de'il sure had it easy (8)
13. Outshine fish swallowing ninety (5)
15. Ferrule reinforcing stick incorporating a straight-edge (5)
17. Device, neither floppy nor rigid contrived for the barbeque (8)
18. Teenage problem generally, involving 19 down (4)
21. Girl Adonis dropped dead and revised (5)
22. Adept on the needles (7)
23. Our system I change - that's strange (10)

DOWN

1. Mixed up beat group rid of boat -yes, rid (5)
2. Food for embryo held back in buttermilk loyally churned (4)
3. Tangled oriental thorn which might inflict a nasty sting (6)
4. 16 Chef coping with unexpected bus party - or what he might use (8,6)
5. Creeper model finish one in each hand (7)
6. Dares resulting from variations taking in backward old measure (10)
9. Sounds old hat but can produce a pleasant drink (10)
12. One person covered in powder back to front, putting in for his dues (8)
14. The flu, I hear, carrying off the residue (7)
16. See 4
19. Outer surface, medically speaking (5)
20. Storage tank for processed oils - hardly (4)



The Vacancy Committee has invited Rev John Lincoln to be their Sole Nominee to the congregations of Balquhiddie and Killin and Ardeonaig and it is up to them to decide whether or not to accept the nomination. They heard Rev. Lincoln lead worship and preach on 23 March 1997, following which members on the electoral roll voted. Normally this would be by a show of hands, but as separate votes had to be taken in the two churches, the voting was by secret ballot. The votes were then mixed before counting at a joint meeting of the two Kirk Sessions. The outcome will probably be well known by the time this is published.

Sunday Services

In order to allow an incoming minister to conduct worship in both Killin and Balquhiddie each Sunday, it was clearly necessary to change the times of the services. Both churches currently has worship at 11 am. The two Kirk Sessions have agreed that the service in Killin will be at 10 am and in Balquhiddie at 12 noon. This will begin on the first Sunday in May (4th) and will be reviewed on year after the induction of the new minister.

Phillip Simpson

Editorial Policy

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 the Editors reserves the right to shorten, edit, or not publish, any particular article or letter. Contributions will only be published if accompanied by a contact name and address.

Should you wish to make a donation or have any suggestions on how to improve the Killin News, please feel free to get in touch with the Editor or any member of the Production Committee.

KILLIN NEWS Production Committee

Sinclair Aitken	Editor
Fiona Inglis	Asst. Editor
Julia Thornton	Treasurer
Judy Forster	Sec & Adverts
Linda Fitzgerald	Secretary
Richard Shand, David Main,	
Angus Inglis, Allan Walker,	
Jan Willison and Kay Riddell.	

Address:

Glebe Cottage, Main Street, Killin
Telephone: 820358