



Every two months

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KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 48 January 1999

Another Top Award for Killin



Gillian and Bruce Ford of Invertay House collect their award from Tourist Board Chairman, Cllr Billy Petrie (second from left) and Peter Innes of Edinburgh Woollen Mill Ltd. (far left)

In the last issue of the Killin News we reported that Invertay House was a finalist in the Best Bed and Breakfast/Guest House of the Simply the Best Tourism Awards; and let's remember that the area we're talking about is the Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and the Trossachs - quite a large piece of tourism!

Well, Killin did it; Invertay House, that is Gillean and Bruce Ford, came first. At the awards ceremony held at Ross Priory, near Gartocharn on Loch Lomondside, Peter Innes of Edinburgh Woollen Mill emphasised the achievements of local tourism operators: 'We are delighted to be in a position to reward those who recognise the importance of providing quality products. The record level of nominations received shows that such excellence is truly appreciated by visitors.'

Our winners - who I am sure will act as an incentive to other tourism traders to set similar high standards, should be extremely proud of their achievement against such stiff competition'

And we in the Killin News heartily agree. *Well done Gillean and Bruce!*

New Year Dance

Lodge breadalbane St Fillans No. 815 held their annual New Year Dance on 1st January, 1999. Slightly fewer people attended than previous years, but this was deliberately done to allow more space for dancing. Tommy Walker's Band entertained as usual and was much enjoyed.

Again the dance was a success and raised money for 17 local clubs and societies. If your club missed out please contact one of the Lodge members for next year. A notice about next year's dance will be in Killin News and again tickets will be restricted. Thanks to all who attended and made it an enjoyable, trouble-free night.

Killin Community Council

Meeting held on Tuesday 8th December in Killin Primary School. No members of the public were present.

The first part of the meeting was taken up with a discussion with Mr Russell of Stirling Council about Breadalbane Park, who takes responsibility to book the Park for various events - is it booked locally (as has been the practice in the past) or booked through Stirling Council? Mr Russell said he would have discussions with his department about making an agreement for local booking which he approved of so long as the requisite insurance policies were taken.

A proposal to enlarge the parking area at the Cemetery has been put to Mr Howe who was willing to negotiate with the Community Council or Stirling Council about this.

Back Road to Auchlyne

Stirling Council had replied to the Secretary to say that this dangerous bit of road would be inspected but if deemed unsafe the road would be closed.

Millennium

There was a fairly wide-ranging discussion about what might be done in Killin to mark the Millennium - Clocks (one above a fountain) - Bonfire and Fireworks in the Park - a party for older residents and children (hopefully in the Hall!) - a bonfire on the top of Sron a' Clachan. It was finally decided, however, to arrange a meeting in the New Year of all village committees, or their representatives, to discuss the matter.

National Park

It seems that Killin may be within the proposed National Park. At the beginning of the year the Scottish Office will send a representative to speak to the Council about what is involved and it is hoped that interested parties, i.e. hoteliers, farmers, etc. will attend.

The next meeting of the Community Council will be on Wednesday 9th February. The public is encouraged to attend.

Annual General Meeting of Killin Initiative Committee

The AGM was held in the McLaren Hall on Tuesday 17th November. For the benefit of those who are not closely involved with the organisation of events in the village we should explain that the Initiative Committee is the committee which oversees the broad organisation of the Folk Festival and the Highland Games, each of which has its own committee to do the detailed organisation and planning.

The meeting was quite well attended by those directly involved and several members of the public.

John Mallinson gave his chairman's report. The Folk Festival had been a success, financially and otherwise. The Highland Games had also been successful in spite of problems with the publicity which had resulted in many people arriving on the wrong day. The Bro Aled Concert and ceilidh were a financial loss, but had brought other benefits to the village. He pointed out that the Initiative Committee had a valuable role to play, planning new events for the village. He reported that the committee gave £1000 to the Community Bus.

The secretary A. Aitken announced that he was resigning and wished his successor all the best. There were a number of constitutional problems which had not, in his view, been resolved. He also reported that the Auditor, Angus Inglis, had recommended that the Highland Games sub-committee and the Folk Festival sub-committee should each have separate accounts, which had not been the case at the moment, and operated by separate treasurers. No decision about this was taken at the meeting but the incoming committee was to consider the matter as soon as possible. This was generally agreed.

Over all, it was important to realise that both events took place in the context of a 30% drop in tourism nationally, and when this was understood, the Highland Games had been a clear success, and the Folk Festival an outstanding success.

Election of Office Bearers to the Initiative Committee Chairman: A. Stewart. Vice-chairman: Charlie Grant. Treasurer: Dougie Reid. Secretary: Fiona Stewart. Committee Members: David Syme, John Shuttleworth, Andy Aitken, Fiona Webber, Margaret Ireland, John Mallinson.

5th Anniversary Killin Traditional Music & Dance Festival 18th - 20th June, 1999

The committee started to plan the 1999 Festival way back in September. All the arranging is being done by the committee, with groups taking on the responsibility for various sections. It is very much a hands on situation, the popularity of the event, the support from the village, and the folk scene generally, has given the committee confidence to 'go it alone' (i.e. without engaging an outsider/professional organiser) There will be the opportunity to join the committee and lend a hand with what is the Village Festival.

The tried and tested format will be much the same with one or two slight changes. Old friends and new will be appearing, so here's a taste of what's in store. The opening concert will have Kieran Halpin one of Ireland's leading singer songwriters. Celle a group of friendly musicians, and Joe Mathers a master of the Irish ballad.

Saturday sees the new line-up of the Battlefield Band, guaranteed to get any audience on the edge of their seats, and the John Wright Band recognised as one of the best exponents of traditional folk.

To round off the week-end we have Aly Bain and Phil Cunningham making a welcome return to Killin, supported by Coila. Add to this 'Wind Walks Louder' better known as Chuck Warren with his Indian tales. David Campbell and Norman Chalmers will be in charge of Myths and Legends and Music, and Jock Duncan will have a bothy ballad session. More arrangements have still to be made, but this should whet your appetite for another fantastic weekend of Dance, Music and Song!

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Strathfillan Community Council Wednesday 2nd December

Traffic Speed in the Village - Letter sent to Central Police Superintendent Moffat. He replied that the solution was traffic calming measures. He would pass our letter to Central Scotland Local Authorities Consortium.

John Riley received the Provost Civic Award for services to the Community. He was presented with it in Stirling Castle on 30th October, 1998 by Provost John Paterson.

Response to SNH Consultation on the National Park - John Riley wrote a very comprehensive reply, in which he said that Tyndrum could become 'The Northern Gateway to the Park'. The meeting agreed with the proposal that planning issues would remain with the Stirling Council. It was felt that both Community Councils and LEA's should make up a large majority of the Park Board, (with advisor) or specialist members being appointed as associate members.

Local Democracy and Community Leadership consultation is about giving more power to Area Forums on such matters as grass cutting, bus shelters, local grants. Stirling Council were expected to recognise that Community Councils are the first point of contact for consultation within the area of that Council.

Briefing for the Government Framework for a Development Strategy for Rural Scotland.

Community and Economic- Development Committee Meeting

- (a) This framework had not adequately addressed the issue of support to rural communities.
- (b) Although the framework recognised the higher costs involved in delivering services in rural areas, there appeared to be no prospect of additional financial support from Central Government, i.e. lack of financial commitment and in particular no reference to the suggested establishment of a Rural Aid Fund.

Next meeting

Wednesday February 3rd 1999.
in Crianlarich Hall.

Children in Need

In response to the BBC Appeal for funds, the pupils of Killin Primary School got themselves dressed up (along with some teachers) and gave a 'full-throated' concert of songs on the front steps of the school. A large number of members of the public (and not only parents!) thoroughly enjoyed it and gave generously. The singers were accompanied by Sheena Chisholm - now a retired teacher. The splendid sum of £899 was raised.

Prize Winners

We are delighted to announce the winners of our Christmas Prize Winning Competitions. Kirsty Somerville (aged 8) painted a stormy night in Killin and Colin Woods (aged 9) entered a coloured pencil drawing of the McLaren Hall New Year's Dance. These two excellent entries were chosen as equal winners of the children's section and each of them have received £10, courtesy of the Bank of Scotland.

Unfortunately, the teenage section "*Hold The Front Page*" received NO entries and the substantial £20 prize will not be taken from the Bank of Scotland. This was disappointing, but will perhaps spur on our young adults to be creative next Christmas!

The first all correct entry picked from the bag for the adult General Knowledge quiz was Johnny Willison. Dalchenna, Craignavie Road, Killin who won £20 from the Bank of Scotland. The correct answers in this section were: 1. River Garry, 2. Dunedin. 3. Sir Alec Douglas-Home, 4. Bombay, 5. 25 December 1974, 6. Sir Harry Lauder, 7. Gary Cooper. 8. Disk Operating System, 9. Krona, 10. Wind speed. Congratulations Johnny - damn fine!

Our thanks go to all those who entered into the spirit of the competition and to the Bank of Scotland for their generosity in providing the prizes.

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New Year Dance: "Oh wad some pow'r the giftie gie us"

Bound in darkness, Killin's main street glistened in the beam of our solitary pair of headlights. We parked as instructed. We peered through the deluge at the misty outline off a large unlit building. All was quiet except for the rhythmic splashing of one man's footsteps. It was 8 p.m., 1st January 1999, and little did I know the lone kilt swaying towards the building in the rain was the harbinger of revelries never experienced by one who has not before ventured north of the border at New Year.

A few moments later. I was bundled under an umbrella to queue with a gathering crowd who clutched a collection of cool-boxes and bulging polythene bags. The queue leader's thumping on the grand double portals of the stone building, (now known to be the village hall) brought no result the swaying kilt had passed through and bolted the doors behind him.

At 8.30 a loud clank brought silence through the ranks. Immediately yellow tickets were brandished aloft and I was swept. Harrod's sale' style, through the doors into a funnel of benches to be spewed out into a large brightly light hall. Dragged to the side of the room, dazed, I was greeted with a whooping of exhilaration, similar to how I imagine a Springer might sound upon finding the first pheasant of the season, followed by the explanation 'We have a table'. A brown Formica table with uneven legs! Bemused I watched the emptying of the carriers. Understanding came as I studied the table spreading its feet under the weight of whisky, gin, wine, a small amount of water, glasses, meat pies, mince pies and fruit cake.

Very soon, a trio with two accordions, a drum and, to be admired later, exemplary command and control tactics took their

place high on the stage. Mesmerised, I followed their measured glances to the flood of damp, but not dampened, revellers surging into the hall. Once enough coats were piled for the night, a boom from the stage announced 'The Gay Gordons' and with experience, gusto and much accomplishment by the Tommy Walker Band awoke the spirit of Scotland.

The first flick of tartan and the first tap of leather coupled with the effects of a full day of first footing brought the floor swirling with dancers. Black patent, white satin, stilettos, walking boots, trainers and trackers pranced and thumped over and under. Tweed and denim, black lace, pink knit, white taffeta, T-shirts and décolleté blouses spun to the music. A long silky Sporrán and a lengthy gold locket beat unremittingly against their energetic owners. A bald head, a smiling face, one white plait, two laughing eyes, glossy black bobs and brilliant white grins whirled one after another in front of me. The flying reds, blues and greens of

various tartans entranced. Electricity zipped from reel to reel. Strip the Willow, Eightsome Reel, over and under and no one let go. Welcome the orient, join in a square, light as a feather, swing if you dare. The hall overflowed with an endless supply of energy and so we danced and drank and drank and danced and eventually the evening of unremitting hospitality sadly swept into tomorrow

Too soon it was time to depart. Just possibly a little inebriated, a vaguely sinful state but enjoyably traditional. A little similar to my Sassenach curiosity of your flying kilts. I fell asleep in the back of the car counting powerful knees and well toned hamstrings. I shall never forget you.

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COMMENT

In the last Comment Column of the Killin News we praised the efforts of the McLaren Hall Committee in "turning the financial situation of the Hall round from a loss to a small profit". It has been brought to our attention by Colin McRae that this was not entirely accurate. The "loss" referred to in the McLaren Hall Treasurer's Report was an operating loss compared with the running costs of the Hall. The overall finances of the Hall have never been run at a loss.

We extend an apology to Bruce and Gillean Ford of Invertay House. Circumstances beyond our control had them printed as Inversay House when they were listed as finalists in the Simply the Best Tourism Awards for 1998. We are delighted to announce that despite our error they went on to win the award for the Best B&B/Guest House category.

Another faux pas in the last issue (again beyond our control) was of course the Remembrance Day wreath which was actually laid by Mrs Judy Bowser of Auchlyne - not Judy Baron of Auchlune!!

Thank you for bearing with us when we make the occasional mistake, but as they say in the highest circles - things can only get better!

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Killin Weddings

Mandy and Colin Hay were married on 29th August 1998, in Killin Parish Church by Rev. John Lincoln. Mandy is the daughter of George and Joan Bickerton. She is a staff nurse at Perth Royal Infirmary and Colin is a community education worker in Perth. Mandy's sister Julie was bridesmaid and they had five nieces as flower girls. Mandy and Colin will make their home in Perth.



Killin Hotel

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Valentine's Day February 14th!



Special Valentine's Day menu - see flyer inside the Killin News

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75th birthday of the Killin S.W.R.I.

The President, Mrs Kate Winton, welcomed guests and members to the 75th birthday party of the Killin Branch of the S.W.R.I. held at the Bridge of Lochay Hotel. The top table consisted of the President - Mrs Kate Winton, Central Councillor - Mrs Christine Thompson, Group Chairman - Mrs Margaret Taylor and nine ex-presidents of Killin. The birthday cake which was beautifully decorated and made by Mrs Kate Winton. was cut by Mrs Isa Campbell.

A lovely buffet/dinner followed, ending with birthday cuke and coffee. Birthday congratulation cards were received from Mrs Christine Thompson, Mrs Margaret Taylor on behalf of the Breadalbane Group and Mrs Beryl MacLean who is holidaying in Australia and couldn't be with us.

After dinner Mrs Bunty MacGregor was presented with a well-deserved honorary member's certificate for 40 years of service to the W.R.I. This was followed by songs and recitations from Mr and Mrs Milligan and friends from Callander. Altogether a thoroughly enjoyable evening which ended with the singing of the National Anthem.



*Mrs Isa Campbell
cuts the 75th
Anniversary Cake*



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Mrs Bunty MacGregor*

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Nine former Chairmen and in front Margaret Taylor (group Chairman), Kate Winton (present President) and Christine Thompson (Central Councillor).



Co-op Acquires Killin Costcutter Store

Scottish Co-op has acquired the Costcutter store in Killin in a move to provide local shoppers with a much enhanced service.

At 1800 sq ft the store is three times the size of the Co-op's existing Killin Branch and will offer customers a much wider choice of products.

"Shoppers will no longer have to travel beyond Killin to meet all their food shopping needs and by retaining trade in the village, other retailers in the locality will also benefit" said Scottish Co-op group operations manager Ken McKenzie.

"The larger store will also offer shoppers greater value by providing a larger range of products, including a full selection of fresh foods, which are part of the 5p back for every £1 spent' Dividend Scheme. In addition, customers will have access to more promotional offers such as 'Buy one get one free'. Staff of the Costcutter store which was privately owned have transferred their employment to the refurbished Scottish Co-op.

This is the store to be bought in Scotland following the announcement by Scottish Co-ops parent group CWS of its intention to grow its convenience and market store base by acquisitions as well as new build.

This acquisition represents a significant investment in Killin for Scottish Co-op and endorses our long standing commitment to serving the needs of local communities throughout Scotland. We will be able to offer a comprehensive product range with the emphasis on fresh foods and a pleasant shopping environment which will meet the high expectation of today's discerning Co-op customers' said Mr MacKenzie.



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School Children's Christmas Party



Once again the Festive Season got off to a great start with the school party in the McLaren Hall. It's the custom each year for the W.R.I. to provide generously for the children, and most of this 'providing' is the hard work of the members themselves, cooking, baking etc. for days, if not weeks, beforehand, so that the children have a bumper feast.

The proceedings were started by the President. Mrs Kate Winton, welcoming all the guests and this was followed by an afternoon's programme of games, entertainment songs and dancing. After the feast was consumed the big moment arrived with the arrival of Santa Claus with his splendid sleigh loaded with parcels - something for everyone.

We'd like to thank the W.R.I. for putting on a great party for the children and of course we thank Santa at this busy time for coming to Killin.

Hall of Varieties

The Killin Drama Club raised over £700 at an old style music hall, which featured a series of variety acts. With two loquacious, eloquent, verbose Barkers introducing the acts we were treated to an evening of fun. Ranging from the WRI in fine form singing songs from the war years to Syd Haydock's Albert and the Lion monologues, an amusing rendition of Sonny and Cher's 'I've got you Babe' by Anthony Blythe and Rebecca Cameron was a delight.

All told a great co-operative effort from adults and youngsters, musicians, singers et al. The money raised will go towards the purchase of new seats for the Hall. The bumper hamper was won by Carol Campbell. We look forward to the panto!!



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Opening of the Salmon Fishing 1999

Morenish and Auchmore



The "Gang " at Auchmore before setting out.



Kenny Lang, the Piper.



*Traditional toast
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A wee boat in a big loch!



The Rev John Lincolm blesses the boats.



*Last minute preparations
at Morenish.*

Gun Club

Killin Gun Club held their last Club Shoot for this year on Sunday 8th November 1998, with a turn out of 28 guns. Many thanks to all who supported the Club this year.

Shoot results for 8th November 1998

Class (A) 25 D.T.L. 1. H. Campbell 72 2. G. Coyne 69 3. E. McAllister 68 4. R.M.C. 63 5. J.Sinclair and I. Menzies 59. *Class (B)* 1.T. Frost 60 2. G. Mullen 59 3. Jas. Sinclair 58 *Class (C)* 1. Cameron Frost 66 2. M. Hewson 63 3. J. Morris 60

Class (A) Sporting 1. R.M.C. 66 2. P. Cramb 60 3. J. Sinclair 57 4. G. Coyne 54 5. I. Menzies 48 *Class (B)* 1. S. Christie 63 2. T. Frost 60 3. Jas. Sinclair 57 4. J. McKay 51. *Class (C)* I.E. Paterson 39 2. J. Morris 36 3. G. Mullen & Cameron Frost 33.

Double Rise 1. Jas. Sinclair 44 2. M. Howson 42 3rd equal R.M.C. and H. Campbell 41. *Double Rise Trophy* Jas. Sinclair 44. *High Gun and Suie Cup* R.M. Cairns 129 *Veterans Trophy* Lennox 91

Annual Trophy Winners - Agg. Shield D. Robertson 502. Runner Sup Shield E. McAllister 498. Junior Shield M. Howson 374. Curry Rose Bowl H.Campbell 262.

Classification - D.T.L. Class (A) H. Campbell 372. D.T.L. Class (B) Jas. Sinclair 342. D.T.L. Class (C) M.Frost 302. Sporting Class (A) R.M.C. 359. Sporting Class (B) Jack McKay 275. Sporting Class (C) E. Paterson 245.

George Coyne, Secretary, Killin Gun Club

NEXT ISSUE

The Killin News Production Committee would like to wish all our readers, writers and advertisers the very best for 1999. We especially thank our advertisers without whose support the paper would come to an end. We try to keep our advertising rates from increasing, but we do offer a real positive advantage in that the Killin News is delivered by hand to every household and business in the area - and that beats all the national and provincial papers!

Copy and advertisements for the next issue which will be distributed towards the end of March 1999, should be with us by the end of February. Anything happening in April or May can be advertised in this issue.

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A Most Wonderful and Fulfilling New Year

The Killin "People" File

David McNicoll

David moved to Balnasium Farm, Lochtayside in 1949. His family farmed in Strathtay. David after a period as a gardener at Rannoch Lodge went in 1935 to work in the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh. In 1937 he went to work on a rubber plantation in Malaya.

At the outbreak of the Second World War he enlisted and reached the rank of Major. He was captured by the Japanese and survived 4 years as a POW. being released in 1945 (weighing just over 7 stone). After a year re-cuperating he went back to Malaya for a further 4 years. In 1949 he bought Balnasuim. Shortly after he met and married Muriel, the girl next door. They lived on and worked the farm until 1981 when they sold up and moved to Killin. They sold up according to David because 'I couldn't make it to the top of Ben Lawers!'

Biggest changes in and around Killin? Agriculture has declined. Nobody grows anything these days. As far as the National Trust well you had better not quote me on this...!! Killin and Aberfeldy have lost their marts and there has been a general decline in the agricultural community.

Favourite place around Killin? - Top of Ben Lawers. I was last at the top in 1980. which I was 68.

Where else would you like to have lived? - Anywhere near the Bens and Glens, probably a bit further east where it's drier. Nowhere near a town, they just give you hassle.

Favourite music? - Scottish dance music, for example 'Caddam Woods', played with the fiddle, bagpipes or even the mouthie!

Favourite book? - 'How green was my valley' by Richard Llewellyn.

Memorable characters around Killin? - Most of them are dead! There was an old man in Duallin. who was fond of saying "Money is the root of all evil, but give me the root any time!"

Unfulfilled Ambition? - To be a millionaire!

What's your best asset? - Can't think of one! (Muriel pointed it out 'he is extremely helpful and kind')

Favourite Journey? - I love to travel, mind you I have never been abroad since returning from Malaya in 1949.

Advice to youngsters? - I can't give them any advice, except don't get captured by the Japs!!

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The Shuttleworth family would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and remind you all that we are open every day. Our usual high standard of delicious food is available from
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MUSIC AT THE COACH HOUSE

The traditional music club meet every 2 weeks starting from 10th January until 21st March. Everybody is welcome to listen or join in.



A weekly program of live bands is planned throughout the summer and details will be published in the next issue.

Mastercard, Visa, Switch, JCB, Delta & Eurocard accepted.

Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers

We would like to thank every-one who helped to make our coffee-morning a great success, from those who donated baking and toys, to those who came along and bought our wares. We raised the total sum of £388.51.

We would also like to extend a friendly welcome to all children aged 0 - 3 years to come along and join us. We currently meet every Friday from 9.30 - 11.30 am in the Church Hall, except the 1st Friday of the month where we meet in the Nursery. So grab your mum, dad, granny or grandad and bring them along for a play and a chat.

Congratulations to Lisa Semple who won our hamper raffle and to Kathy Dynowski who won our 'Guess the Weight of the Cake' contest. The cake weighed 71lbs 8 ozs. A big thank-you to Kay Riddell and Frances and Ian McLaggan for selling our tickets.

*Lorraine Pritchard, Secretary.
Tel: 820836.*

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Happy New Year everyone! Looking back to 1998 we had successful courses in aerobics, yoga, cookery and 'Hop of the pops computing'. Indeed the demand for courses in computing continues to grow and, looking forward, the New Year starts off with a 'twin' 2 centre course in Desktop Publishing at Crianlarich and Killin (with a waiting list!)

Other new courses in hand are:- (contact tutor to enrol)

Starting - end of January for 10 weeks.

Spanish - tutor: Penny Driver (Killin 922)
Psychology - tutor: Theresa Robertson (Crianlarich 232)

also short courses of 3-4 weeks in:

Flower Arranging (mornings) tutor: Anne Shuttleworth (Killin 349)
Cookery - tutors: May Aitken and Lesley Kettle (Killin 358)
also short course of 3-4 weeks in Flower Arranging (evenings- dates tba) Tutor: Anne Shuttleworth.

starting 5th February for 8 weeks:

Photography - tutor: David Mardon (Killin 248)

Look out for POSTERS on display!
Don't delay PHONE right away!

Please do enrol promptly. We gather that folk were disappointed to learn that the short course 'Cooking for Christmas' had to be cancelled (lack of numbers made it non-viable only 4 names, and yet several more were indeed interested) no use just turning up on the first day - it doesn't work that way! Please ring the tutor or Morag Lithgow (Killin 440) beforehand.

Spring Greens - crop failure. Sad to report, response to our market research questionnaire- the wee green slip inside the last issue of Killin News - was only 6 out of 500, so it's back to our crystal ball. However, we should like to express our sincere thanks to Killin News for their generosity of free distribution as a service to the community.

Back to the future

If you have a 'wish list' or would like to teach a class, please speak to any Committee member: Helen Cole, Eileen McCarron, Jane Calder, Margie Hinks, Mary Storrar or Morag Lithgow (Secretary)



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Stephen Pritchard

FREE ADVICE AND QUOTES

LETTERS



Dear Sir,

Highland Games

In the past few months it has come to the Committee's notice that several people have been complaining that the Games do no incorporate enough for the locals.

There are two main reasons for this, one is that it is mainly attended by tourists and visitors who come to see the various competitions, the main attraction being the strongmen, the other being that because the Games are held midweek many of the locals are working.

One point we would like to make however, is that we have managed to put together a winning format over the past 5 years which has made Killin a major event in the Highland Games calendar. We have hosted world record breaking events 3 years running. We would be very wary to change this format when you look at how successful it has been, and the revenue it brings to the village, but we are of course always open to new ideas and if there was enough local interest then it would of course be considered for inclusion. It should be noted though that in the past we have attempted to get Killin folk involved in the Tug-of War, but this has ended up being shelved, due to lack of interest.

If you do have any suggestions for local involvement, as a single person or as a team please contact Fiona Davidson at 820708.

Fiona Davidson, Secretary, Killin
Highland Games.

Sir,

McLaren Hall Management Committee

As a past secretary of the Management Committee of the McLaren Hall, I would like to correct some errors to last months editorial.

Five years ago a substantial grant was applied for by the Trustees of the Hall, to carry out an extensive refurbishment plan. The plan was inspected and passed by the monetary bodies, providing half was raised by the village. A fund appeal was immediately set up and as usual the village rose to the occasion and raised considerably more than half. It should not be forgotten that substantial amounts were received from individual private donations. In excess of £47,000 was spent on the Hall. While the Trustees are responsible for this type of maintenance, the work was carried out with the full consultation of the Management Committee. Refurbishment consisted of a complete new heating system, double glazing and updating of the toilets, it seems very hard to believe these have become antiquated within five years. Some work was done in the kitchen, however when local organisations using the Hall were asked for their views on what was needed in the kitchen, only one club replied with no constructive ideas. With some of the extra money raised the Hall was redecorated, and new curtains and chairs purchased for the Lesser Hall.

Spending has always had to stay in line with income. Rentals are not easy to increase, many clubs find it difficult to meet increases. The Standard Grant you refer to is for this purpose, to help with running costs, heating and lighting etc. - nothing else.

Refurbishment has always and will always be on going. The present committee is no doubt working hard as will future committees. However, please do not forget, past committees have worked equally hard, giving freely of time and money, without them the Hall would not have survived until now. Some of your wording does not do these past hard working committees justice.

Yours faithfully,
C. Campbell, Ledcharrie, Luib.

Killin Golf Club

New Members Welcome
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Visitors always welcome
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Contact: The Secretary, Killin Golf
Club(01567)820312

OBITUARIES

Bill Naismith

Born in Hamilton. Lanarkshire, 6th July 1918. a 3rd child of a family of six.

Joined the army at the age of 19, served at Dunkirk. Middle East and the D Day Landings, mentioned in despatches 1945 and rose to the rank of Sergeant before being demobbed. Married Monica in 1945 and brought her to Hamilton where he joined the Glasgow Fire Brigade in 1946. Their daughter Heather was born the same year. Bill went South with Monica and Heather to join the Hertfordshire Fire Brigade where he served for 30 years, retiring as a Senior Fire Officer.

Bill and Monica moved to Killin the same year where they spent many happy years attending to the garden and the walking the dogs. He fitted into the village life well and was a regular attender of the Killin Parish Church. He will be sadly missed by his many friends.

Killin and District Telephone Book: Correction

Please note that on the back cover ' Burial Ground Records' should read Cemeteries Officer, Stirling Council. Viewforth, Tel: (01786)442559.

Roman Catholic Church -

Father McCruden's number should read 01877-330702.

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THANK YOU

Monica Naismith and family would like to extend their warmest thanks and deep appreciation of the care and concern they received during Bill's illness and the many expressions of sympathy after his death.

Morag MacNee wishes to thank everyone involved in the fund raising for the Oncology Department of the R.H.S.C. Edinburgh, during 1998, particularly the Auchmore families and the Clachaig Hotel, and wishes everyone a Happy New Year.

Cancer Research Committee

The local Cancer Research Committee would like to thank everyone most sincerely for supporting our coffee morning which raised the magnificent sum of £726.

For 1998 our 75th anniversary year the Committee raised £6165.07 with the great help from the people of Killin. This sum has been sent to Glasgow for research in Scotland. Thank you all very much indeed.

Telephone: (01567)820342

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Mervyn's Weather

Despite political sleaze, potential germ warfare and human disabilities, our weather carries on regardless, although at times, as witnessed in autumn 1998, somewhat disturbed. September and October 1997 were for the most part idyllic, not so this year when conditions have remained much as they have since late May. Rarely has there been a spell of settled conditions lasting more than two or three days. Rain and wind have been a regular mixture while snow and frost have hardly been recorded. Even in early December when parts of the North and East had a brief wintry spell, Breadalbane did not indulge.

So much is currently being written and said about Global warming one wonders just how much effect it is or is not having on our climate/weather. Obviously the scientists have discovered that something is happening to the protective ozone layer, but so many other factors are determining what happens in day to day conditions.

El Nino is held responsible for many of the extreme conditions in the Western Hemisphere. Is it possible that the British Isles are affected, albeit minimally? Volcanic eruptions can and do have a certain influence - suspended dust in the atmosphere. Add to this the cyclic nature of climate over a longer period and it becomes more and more difficult to establish any coherent pattern.

On top of all this there are those learned people who reckon that global warming would not necessarily imply higher temperatures for the British Isles, but that increased "calving" of Icebergs from the Polar Ice sheet could have an opposite effect on North Atlantic Waters. Time will tell!!

Mervyn Browne

Killin Green Bowling Club

At the Bowls Club annual dinner on the 27th November the prizes were presented by Mrs L. Humphreys

Winners were: McRobbie Trophy- Ladies Single - Jill Higgins. Pairs: Babs Gordon and Len Humphreys. Ladies Bowl - Jane Stewart and Jill Higgins. Points: Jill Higgins. Championship - Dr George Gordon.

S.W.R.I. Killin

The meeting on 3rd December was to have been a Christmas cookery evening but the demonstrator Mrs G. Malone was unable to come, so the president Mrs K. Winton, gave us a demonstration of garnishes in her place. She produced a most interesting salad which was donated as a quiz prize later in the evening. The proceeds from the raffle were given to 'Pennies for Friendship'.

Competitions: Christmas Card: 1. Mrs M. Naismith. 2. Mrs C. Stewart. 3. Mrs L. Lambert. Four Marzipan Fruits: 1. Mrs B. MacGregor. 2. Mrs M. Naismith. 3. Mrs M. Aitken. Hostesses for the evening were Mrs A. MacNee and Mrs G. Higgins.

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Killin Breadalbane Angling Club AGM

Elected Office Bearers:

President: A.Stewart.

Vice-president: K. O'Reilly.

Secretary: D. Murray.

Treasurer: A. Inglis.

Competition Secretary: I. Downie.

Committee: D. Twigg. S. Gillies. N. Cairns. N. Inglis. J. Scougall, HJ.Mantle. D.McLarty.

Competition winners:

Club Champion - Peter Ross Cup - Handicap Cup: I.Downie.

Pairs Cup: A.McLennan and I. Downie.

'Awa Cup: J. Scougall Snr.

Casting Cup:

A. Stewart: Shield for Heaviest Salmon: and Troph) for six best Salmon: N.Inglis.

Reports: A. Stewart reported on the progress with the submission to have the River Tay Protection Order continued, which must be presented to the Scottish Office on the 28th November. His thanks were recorded to all the members who had assisted, and the Riparian Owners who had signed the agreement forms and those who are given access to fishing and issuing their own permits.

The close co-operation between the Tay Board Bailiffs, the Honorary Bailiffs, and all the Club Trout Wardens in policing the waters of the Tay was emphasised. There would be a constant reporting procedure on any mis-demeanours by both salmon and trout anglers and action will be taken. Codes of conduct and methods of fishing will be monitored and evidence such as day and time, car numbers, boat descriptions and right numbers and

photographs will be collected and passed on to the authorities.

The Hill Lochs are now all within the jurisdiction of the Club and the terms of fishing are to be strictly controlled to prevent over exploitation, and there will be restricted access due to sporting activities. No parties will be permitted to fish some of the lochs except by arrangement with the Club.

There will be separate visitors permits for trout and coarse fish. The secretary and treasurer presented their reports which were unanimously accepted.

Salmon membership cards and ID cards are available from Kevin at Fishers Hotel. Trout membership cards and ID cards are available from JR News. A list for those wishing to join the Salmon section will be placed in the Newsagents. Applicants must be 16 years old and be members of the trout section and reside permanently within

the club area or pay council tax to either of the two authorities.

Appointments: In addition to the committee members, C. Higgins and M. Carter were appointed as club wardens.

Recommendations:

1) All Club Members are to have ID cards and two photos are to be given to A. Stewart and the cards are required to obtain the 1999 membership cards.

2) A Club News Letter is to be produced and if supported then this would probably be a three monthly publication.

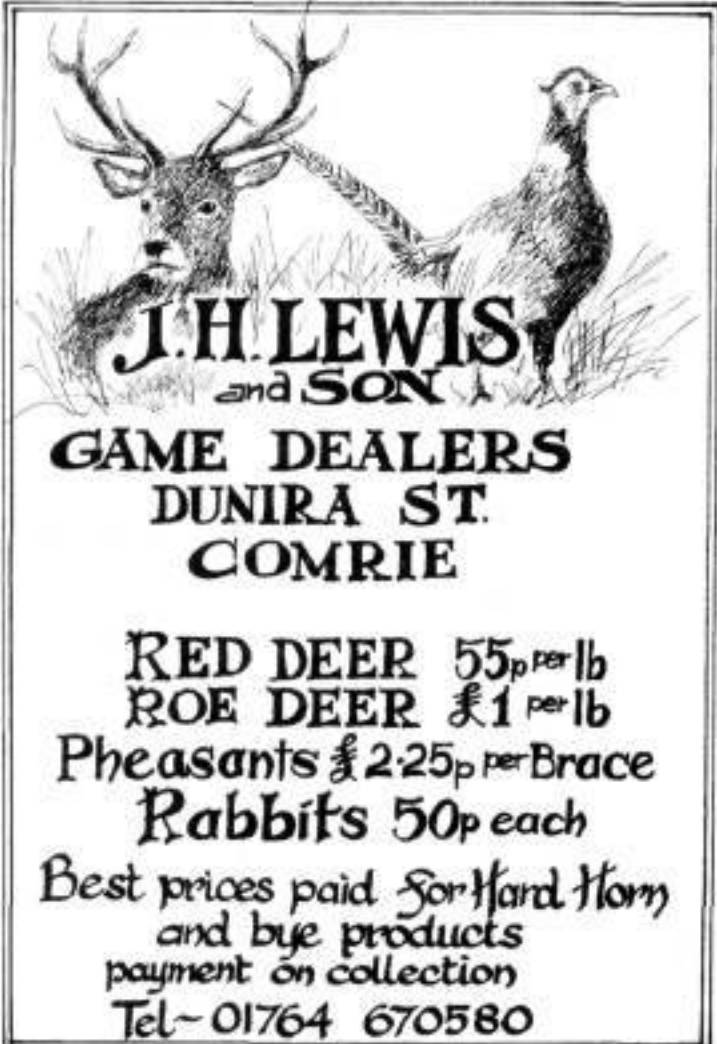
3) The Club Constitution is to be revised and produced in booklet form at a modest charge. All members should have a copy.

4) A Club Badge is to be designed.

Foot Note: On the 17th November news came from the Scottish Office that the Minister Lord Sewell had accepted the Protection Order Submission and reinstated the Tay Order.

Village Christmas Trees

On behalf of the village we should like to thank Judge Stroyan for the excellent village Christmas tree, and also for those at the McLaren Hall and the school. All of course delivered by Tim Frost. Thanks are due also to Willie Stitt and his helpers who erected the main tree (with supervisor Jimmy Gauld) and to Douglas MacRobbie for fixing the lights. We are also grateful to the Episcopal Church for the use of their electricity.

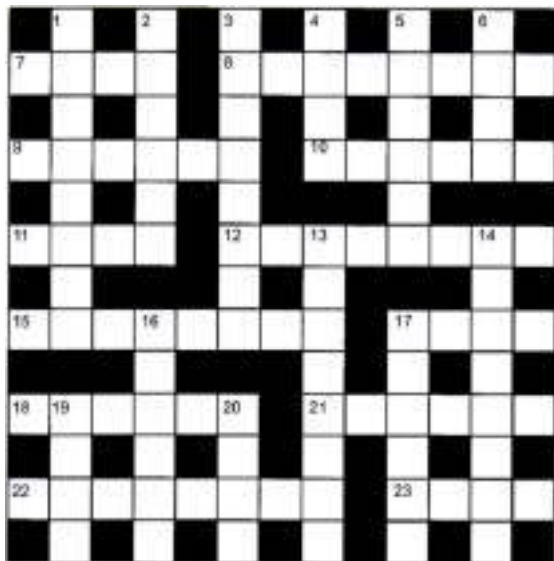


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Crossword By Aperra



ACROSS:

7. Beginner rang the queen back about traditional learning (4)
8. A very tasty kind of order (5 , 3)
9. Scatter a spare 500 (6)
10. The answer to Joseph's dilemma (2, 4)
11. Bill and Ben's little friend (4)
12. Modern development of the highway (8)
15. Stayed, concerning top journalist (8)
17. A strange kind of lily (4)
18. She is not so young but still broadcasting (6)
22. To increase it by putting one on leads to the opposite of subtraction (8)
23. The result of a collision with an iceberg? (4)

DOWN:

1. Is this how a beginner strives to finish (8)
2. Protect by loud action round the north (6)
3. Tom. Dick or Harry - No - Neil, Angus or Jake? (8)
4. A ring enclosure but not closed (4)
5. Recall to the House without reference (6)
6. Unexciting, like Matron in Lurex dress initially is (4)
13. A well organised person is the possessor of this (4, 4)
14. Could Moby Dick manage with out this diving necessity? (8)
16. Insect on edge in Northern Ireland (6)
17. Have the Oscars got confused and been passed from side to side? (6)
19. Cancel international event (4)
20. Where to go after the last word (4)

Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of the Killin News will be held at 8 p.m. on Wednesday 7 April 1999 in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel, Killin. Members of the general public are most welcome to attend and complimentary tea and biscuits will be served thereafter.

Better Seats for the McLaren Hall

We are well aware, as will most of you who have sat in the Hall at concerts, meetings etc., that the seats are somewhat uncomfortable! In fact it is known that some people deprive themselves of the pleasure of many Hall events, simply because of their fear of serious posterior pain! Well, we have good news for you.

At a coffee morning held by the Cancer Research Committee on November 29th, four sample chairs were provided so that a democratic decision could be taken as to which chair was the best for the Hall. The public who attended the meeting duly tried the four chairs and the 'bottom' line was that a ballot was taken - seriously a written ballot and David Syme took the votes away to be counted.

The result is that new chairs have been acquired based on the clear choice of those who actually sat on them. 100 at the moment are now installed in the Hall, with another 100 on the way! They are apparently quite new in design with padded backs and bottoms!

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Angus Inglis, Bill Douglas.

Postal Address: Kilchurn, Killin
Telephone 01567 820298

Solution to Last Crossword

Across: 1. Referendum. 8. Rhubarb. 9. Dipso. 10. Moor. 11. Oral. 12. Nap. 14. Nestle. 15. Pundit. 18. M.O.T. 20. Neat. 21. Salt. 23. Exist. 24. Handier. 25. Blanketing.

Down: 1. Raucus. 2. Fear. 3. Re-born. 4. Nodulous. 5. Un-pin. 6. Prime number. 7. Competitors. 13. Plankton. 16. Dealing. 17. Mashie. 19. Trial. 22. Anti.

Editorial Policy

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and business 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 reserve 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.