



Every two months

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KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 50 May 1999

Teuchter Fling

As they say in the highest circles - "Thing can only get better" - never truer than the Teuchter Fling Dance. This event organised by Pamela Farquharson (Killin Laundry) and friends, and held to raise funds for Cancer Research and worthy causes just seems to improve with age. There is something about a fancy dress night which brings out the fun in people. This year, the dance now in its fourth year, raised a staggering £903 for Cancer Research.

The costumes (some home made, some hired) depicted Popeye, Ghandi, an Admiral, a 1920's Vamp and a very pregnant bunny rabbit. The recent wet winter mixed with an overdose of



Killin News Resident Cartoonist Allan Chisholm swaps his pen for a cigar dressed as Bill Clinton with Catriona Inglis as Monica Lewinski.

McAllister). What a shame our Killin News ace photographer Mystic Meg (alias Kay Riddell) couldn't see into the future to realise she had cut off Bill & Ben's heads!

Prizes for next year are £100 for 1st Prize, £50 for 2nd. Prizes are sponsored by Douglas McRobbie (Electrician), Eric McAllister (Carpet Fitter) and Grant's Laundry. So get your thinking caps on now for next year's event.

fertiliser resulted in an outbreak of Bill & Ben Flower Pot Men with "Little Weed" - and of course some Hippies!

1st place went to Wurzel Gumidge and Aunt Sally (Lawrence & Jane Brown) and the runners up were Bill & Ben (Morag & Eric



Hopefully, Jane Brown wasn't the Ambulance Technician on call - patients would have thought they were hallucinating! Doesn't Lawrence all ways look like that at Firbush (you would have thought Jane would have tidied his hair!)?

It took us some time to work out who this chic sheikh was. Believe it or not, it's Gordon Aitken! We are reliably informed that there is no truth in the rumour that there is oil beneath the bottom car park!



Malcolm Ferguson

A Son of Killin and Local Benefactor

Written by Arnold Young

During the period when I was Secretary/Treasurer and then Trustee of the Malcolm Ferguson Charitable Bequest, I gathered information about the originator of the Trust from various sources. I have now retired as a Trustee, and perhaps this would be an appropriate time to pass on this information.

Malcolm Ferguson was born in 1814 at Morenish. His father, Duncan, was a crofter who died aged 65 in 1856 and his mother, Margaret Brown, died in 1848 aged 57. The gravestone is in the Old Cemetery and was erected by Malcolm "A Glasgow Merchant". Malcolm's early years were spent in Killin. His uncle, Donald Brown, had a meal mill and sawmill "at the west end of Killin on the Dochart". Young Malcolm refers to a trip made to Drummond Hill where trees were being felled for his uncle. These were formed into rafts on Loch Tay and when the wind was favourable the rafts were equipped with sails and sailed up to Killin. There the logs were brought ashore in the Lochay near the Parish Church and transferred to the mill.

After leaving school, Malcolm acted as tutor to the family of a gentleman in Glen Dochart and, while still a young man, went to Glasgow "to push his fortune", entering the services of Messrs. John Brown & Co., then the largest public storekeepers in the city. He later started his own business, Messrs. Malcolm Ferguson & Co. On his death certificate he is described as "Wine Merchant - Retired". He married Robina Richardson and they had one son, Seamus, who emigrated to the USA and was killed in an electric tramway accident in 1911.

Malcolm Ferguson wrote many articles

on Perthshire lochs and fishing expeditions and these were published in the People's Journal and also in the Oban Times beginning in 1878. They were later incorporated into books with the titles



"Rambles in Breadalbane"*(1891) - in which the photograph of him accompanying this article appears - "A Tour Through Arcadia", "Rambles in Skye" and "Fishing Incidents and Adventures"*(1893). These writings reflect the author's passionate love of the district of his birth, the beauty of which he never tired of extolling.

Malcolm organised the erection of a cairn on Ben Lawers on 4 July 1878 to replace one built 33 years earlier by the Royal Engineers which had disintegrated. About 30 Highlanders gathered stones and a cairn 45-50 feet at base circumference and 20 feet high was built by two masons and completed by 4 pm. This took the height of the Ben over the 4,000 feet mark. He organised a further

team effort when he had the "Queen's Jubilee Cairn" erected on the crest of Ben Ledi on 14 June 1887.

He retired to live in Callander and in 1893 he donated the tower clock to St. Kessog's Church in Callander, the present day Rob Roy Centre. In 1910 a Trust, details unknown, was set up in Kenmore and in the same year he set up the Malcolm Ferguson Charitable Bequest in Killin. He died at Morenish House on 13 March 1912 aged 98 and was buried in Glasgow Necropolis.

The Malcolm Ferguson Charitable Bequest was set up by Deed of Mortification on 2 June 1910 and the first meeting of the Trustees was held on 24 October 1910. The Chairman was the Most Honourable the Marquis of Breadalbane KG and the Trustees were the Rev George Wm McKay, James Donaldson McRae, auctioneer, Peter Stewart, draper and Inspector of Poor. The sum of £ 1,000 was deposited to the credit of the Trustees and clear instructions as to the distribution of any accrued interest to the "poor and deserving inhabitants of the village of Killin and immediate surrounding district" are included

in the Deed of Mortification. The Trust continued to carry out his wishes during the period 1910 - 1942 and a total of £1,191 was distributed. During the years 1943 - 1960 the books of the Trust were not kept up to date and all the Trustees died and were not replaced.

The Trust was reconstituted in 1960 and has continued to carry out the originator's intentions yearly. During this later period £2,210 has been distributed. The present Trustees are the Rev J Lincoln. Mr W Douglas and Mr C McRae The Secretary is Mrs S Aitken.

**denotes: both books available from Killin Library.*



Fracas At The Dochart Bridge

Archibald McNab of Acharn was fined two hundred Scots Merks at the Barony Court of Breadalbane for being the ring leader of an "unwarrantable convocation" at Bridge End of Dochart. A number of McNabs "armed with guns, swords, pistols and dirks appeared, to the great terrors of the country and to the breach of the Kings peace". Ah well, things as usual! The stramash happened in 1684.

AW

*(Proceedings of the Society of
Antiquaries 1932)*

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New Appointment

Suzanne Player has recently been appointed by Stirling Council as Community Animator to work in the Killin area.

This appointment, specifically for Killin, is a response by Stirling Council Community Services to concerns expressed by local people about Killin being viewed as "the last outpost" and consequently missing out on services and opportunities provided by the Council and other agencies in Stirling District. It is not a clearly defined post but Suzanne aims to work alongside community members and to support local people by encouraging them to participate in decision making which will affect this community, thereby giving a voice with real influence to the people of Killin.

Suzanne lives near St Fillans and understands the problems (as well as the joys) of living in a rural community. The appointment is only until November this year, during which time she hopes she can be a useful resource for the community.

Her aims are to:

- help find out how people feel about particular issues



- identify Council members or agencies who can help resolve any problems
- bring together representatives of agencies and organisations with local people to reach joint decisions on the way forward
- Carry out background research for community projects
- help to identify potential funders for projects and assist with funding applications

Suzanne would like to hear from anyone in the village or surrounding area who would like to discuss any issue they consider important to this community. She can be reached on 01567 820154 (answerphone/fax) or 07801 695109 (mobile) or 01877 331766.

Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club

Summer Programme

Listed below are a range of activities that we can offer adults and children during the summer months

- | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| • Abseiling | • Hillwalking |
| • Gorge walking | • Orienteering |
| • Rock climbing | • Archery |
| • Kayaking | • Open canoeing |

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Children Full day £12.00 Half day £6.00

If you are interested in attending any of these courses please contact Fiona Buchanan for further details Tel: (01567) 820737 or pickup a booking form at the Killin Library.

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POLICE NEWS

Incidents involving crime have been fairly few since the start of the year. Incidents that have been reported have involved vehicles parked in laybys whilst the occupants are off walking in the hills. Upon their return they find their vehicles broken into and property stolen. To overcome this we are continually advising that people should not leave valuables in the car and we have been placing signs at these laybys and car parks. If you see anything suspicious please note any registration numbers and descriptions of persons and report it to the Police. This can always be in confidence.

You will now have noticed that yellow lines and parking restriction signs have been erected in the village. Local officers with assistance of the traffic warden from Callander will be enforcing these restrictions. The most obvious problems are stopping at the School Gate to drop off or pick up children and stopping on the corner outside the newsagents. Both these points are particularly dangerous, and stopping for five minutes or less may be the cause of an accident occurring.

Road accidents in the area are a particular concern both to the Police and the local

population as each serious/fatal accident causes the roads to be closed for several hours with no easy alternative routes available.

To combat this the Traffic Department along with local officers will be carrying out regular speed checks in the area to try to reduce the number of accidents. Injury accidents in the Killin/Crianlarich/Lochearnhead area to April 1998 were 24 which resulted in 20 serious casualties and 27 slight casualties. The figures for the year to April 1999 were 31 accidents resulting in 18 seriously injured and 42 slightly injured. Ensure you don't become a statistic - reduce your speed and help us reduce these figures.

Constable Alex McGregor

Editorial Note: In case any of you were unaware of the new signs — it was the night that the erectors managed to cut off all the telephones in the village and a good proportion of the electricity too!! It was also the advent of the dug up pavements which were left for people to fall over - quite a memorable occasion really - don't make it even more memorable by getting a ticket!

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- Egon Ronay recommended bar food in the AA new guide "Britain's Best Pubs"
- Les Routiers recommended Dining Room
- Live music Friday and Saturday

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Chef's Homemade Soup	served with crusty bread	£2.25
Clachaig pate	served with a dash of Drambuie & brace of Oatcakes	£3.25
Fresh Fruit Melange	with a Compote of Fresh Fruits marinated in a Ginger Wine Syrup	£2.75
Highland Mushrooms	Deep Fried served with Crisp Salad and Garlic Mayonnaise	£2.95
Prawn Cocktail	served with Marie Rose Sauce & Brown Bread	£3.50

Entree

Darne of Scottish Salmon	roasted served on a Strawberry Salad with a Lime Butter Sauce	£9.95
Trout MacNab with	Herb Beurre Blanc	£9.75
Harrissa Chicken	with Cous Cous and lemon and cummin yoghurt	£9.25
Medallions of fine Scottish Venison	served with a Cranberry & Port Sauce	£10.50
Sizzling Steak Garni	8oz. Steak served on sizzling platter with mushrooms Van Dyke tomatoes & onions	
	Fillet £12.95 Sirloin £11.95	

Chef's selection of fresh Vegetables and potatoes or Side Salad



Junior members and helpers of Killin Drama Club with Gladiator "Wolf" on their recent visit to the Albert Hall in Stirling on 28 March. The final total raised for the M E Foundation by the Drama Club was £286.50.

The 5th Anniversary Killin Traditional Music & Dance Festival

All is set for another weekend of the very best of Scottish and Irish Folk Music, with a few surprises thrown in for good measure. By the time you are reading this issue the Festival will almost be upon us, so be warned the early ticket enquiries are very good and Lesley Syme will only be too happy to reserve your seat.

The Committee's plans are coming together for the final run up, and by the middle of May the programme will be on sale. Now is the time to start thinking if you can spare a couple of hours to help in the festival shop or on the camp site, particularly on the Friday afternoon. Every bit of assistance is needed so please give your names to Frances at the Post Office and details of when you could help out.

Killin will be the focal point for three days of quality music in concerts, workshops and competitions, all backed by the best of Scottish hospitality, so our visitors will return home satisfied with their visit, and that is very important.

Alex Stewart.

Killin Tiddlers & Toddlers

The Tiddlers & Toddlers group will be hold a "40/60" sale in early November. The money raised from your donations is divided so that 40% goes back to you and 60% goes to a fund for the Christmas Party. Everyone gains!

Please start gathering up any unwanted good condition toys and clothes (0-5 age group). Contact any member of the committee for an uplift or phone Lorraine Pritchard (Secretary) 01567 820836 for more details.

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Killin Community Council

A meeting was held of the Killin Community Council on 13 April in the Lesser McLaren Hall.

Present: W Rew (Chairman), J MacPherson (Vice-Chairman), W Douglas (Treasurer), C Grant, C McRae, J Mallinson, G Ford (Tourist Association), A Blythe (Tourist Association), L FitzGerald (Killin News), A Walker (Killin News), G Aitken, S Aitken, J Gauld, I Campbell. 2 other Members of the Public, S Player (Stirling Council Community Support), M Stewart (Planning Department, Stirling Council).
Apologies: F Stewart & P Christie.

The main item on the agenda concerning the bottom car park and toilets beside the Council yard was discussed at length.

The background story is that in 1991 Gordon Aitken (A&B Services) was approached by the Council (Central at that time) to ask if he would consider swapping his yard behind Main Street for the bottom car park. Various feasibility studies were undertaken but no definite decision was ever reached. A change of governing council then gave birth to the new Stirling District Council and Gordon was once again approached about 8 months ago. Environmental Services requested that the Roads Department carry out a feasibility study on the Car Park and they reported back that it was "surplus to requirements". Gordon discussed his imminent move to the car park with Bill Rew who was surprised not to know anything about this. As Chairman of the Killin Community Council he should have been informed by Stirling Council. In the meantime, the Roads Department carried out another feasibility study and this time reported back that the Car Park should be retained to allow visiting coaches to turn round. So, Gordon's relocation has been put on hold and fate of the car park and toilets will not be resolved for some months yet.

The Community Council suggested that A&B Services had been unfairly treated by the Council, and pointed out that they felt that Stirling Council should assist with A&B's relocation and every effort should be made to keep it local in Killin. They also stated that Killin cannot afford to lose the toilet facility at the bottom end of the village and either the existing toilets should be revamped or relocated. It was also stressed that if the village lost the bottom car park, then another car park

should be built in the vicinity to accommodate the increased demand for tourist parking and also the need for coaches to turn around. Several relocation sites were suggested for A&B/the car park/toilets but no solution was found. The Community Council stressed the point that they had no objections to A&B's business, their argument and disappointment had been with Stirling Council who had totally failed to keep them informed of what was happening in the village. Stirling Council apologised and will now keep the Community Council up to date with village news and they in turn will keep the villagers informed.

The next agenda item also reflected badly on Stirling Council's lack of communication with the Community Council. Bill Rew had found out completely by chance that there had been a proposal to erect a band stand in the Breadalbane Park. Mr Stewart suggested that as no planning application had been submitted perhaps there was no credibility in it.

A discussion about the possible siting of waste skips ensued. Bill Rew pointed out that Stirling Council policy (and other Councils) is not to site skips, as hazardous

material which should be disposed of differently, might be dumped in them.

Following requests for the siting of a "No-Cycling" signpost at the shortcut between Main Street and Ballechroisk, it would appear the Council is unable to assist until the landowners can be identified.

It was reported that a total of £1010 had been raised by the Community Council for Dr Blaney leaving Killin.

Several other items were raised for discussion including trees and shrubs at Dochart Bridge, dangerous lay-byes in Glen Ogle, lollipop person at the School. Dog fouling, Rights of Way Society and numerous others (7 pages actually), too many to report on here. The best way to find out (in detail - apart from the Killin News) what is happening in your community is to attend your Community Council Meetings. They are held in the Lesser McLaren Hall once every two months on the second Tuesday of that month - the next meeting being on Tuesday 8 June which incidentally will also be their AGM. So come along and give your support to those who voluntarily work hard for the betterment of your community.



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Bats to the Future

The Strathyre Learning Centre is wholly run by Falkirk College of Further & Higher Education.

The Centre has been situated in an ex-Forest Enterprise office (log cabin) since its inception and over the years we have enjoyed an excellent relationship with our landlords. A situation has arisen where they require to realise some assets to fund other necessary investments in the area. They have accordingly applied for planning permission for two houses and the demolition of the cabin and adjoining shed. We have a lease until the end of the year.

The College wishes to remain in the area: indeed, the government is encouraging

the expansion of learning centres. Strathyre has delivered many positive outcomes to both full and part time trainees in terms of employment, self-employment, and access to further education and nationally recognised certificates. We wish to continue to do so. There does not appear to be any conflict between our programme and that to be offered at the McLaren High School in the near future, we shall in fact be complimentary, offering expanded educational opportunities to local people.

On a lighter note, there are bat colonies in both the cabin and shed. These may have a bearing on the proposed demolition depending on the nature of the colonies, whether they are "maternity" or otherwise in nature. We resist all claims to paternity! Lesley Kettle and I are hanging on by our toes in anticipation of the outcome. We hope to serve the community for many years to come.

Gerry Power, Centre Manager

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Awards For All

Community groups in Aberfoyle and Killin received a cash boost of nearly £10,000 thanks to the National Lottery Awards for All Scheme.

The McLaren Hall in Killin and the Aberfoyle Memorial Hall each received grants of £4817 and £5000 respectively in the Easter cash bonanza. The McLaren Hall's grant will be used to purchase chairs.

Groups not used to making funding bids will be relieved to know that a new simplified application process is available. Small voluntary organisations with incomes of less than £15,000 per year, who need financial assistance to extend their activities can contact (0645) 700777 for an application form.

Killin News AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Killin News was held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel on Wednesday 7 April at which 6 members of the general public were in attendance.

After a delicious supper provided by Margaret Ireland and her staff, it was down to business. The Editor reported on the successful and busy year past and looked forward to the Killin News progressing even further in coming years. Thanks were extended to all Killin News advertisers, also to regular writers for the paper who are not on the Committee and the paper "boys and girls" for volunteering to deliver the Killin News.

May we also take this opportunity to thank the Bridge of Lochay Hotel for allowing us the use of their lovely dining room for our meeting.

Editor

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- Revised menu from 1st May**



The McLaren Hall

It is now five years since your Management Committee asked for your help. In 1994 the community raised £11,000 towards the upgrade of the McLaren Hall and now with our Five Year Plan we hope to make further improvements.

We have received a grant from "Awards For All" to help with the cost of the new chairs, but we still need to raise additional funds for:-

- Upgrading the heating system further
- Improvements to the balcony, stage floor and stairs
- Upgrading the toilets including the installation of hot water
- Refurbishing the kitchen and contents
- Replacing the window curtains in the main hall

The completion of these works will confirm the position of the hall as one of the best in Perthshire.

We will be applying to organisations for financial help, but we do need to prove that we care enough about our hall to raise some funds of our own. Please help us to

achieve this by donating in the tin at Killin Library, paying into the appeal account in the Bank of Scotland, Killin or by post to the address below. Thank you.

Glenda Mardon
(McLaren Hall Secretary),
Fagus, Manse Road,
Killin, Perthshire. FK21 8UY

Editorial Note:

By helping the McLaren Hall raise funds for improvements we do not just create a better building for the village. The hall is the tool which facilitates events such as the Teuchter Fling which in turn raise funds for National bodies such as Cancer Research. It is accommodating enough that we are able to hold the Festival Folk Concerts there which are enjoyed not only by locals but also by visitors who in turn generate wealth for the local businesses. On a more local level, it is used by the Heritage Society, Carpel Bowls, WRI, Badminton Club, Drama Club and many others, who all pay for its use and thereby

*add to its' coffers. It was the instrument which allowed us at the Killin News to host the Fork Supper, which raised funds for our new computer, which enables us keep you informed that they need **more money!***

People of this district are famed for their generosity, let's ensure that Killin has a hall which is once more the envy of all of Perthshire.

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Stirling Enterprise Discovery Day Killin

Stirling Enterprise (STEP) is bringing a Business Rural Team to Killin for a Discovery Day to be held in the McLaren Hall. Killin on Tuesday 15 June from 10.30 am-3.30 pm.

The Team headed by Jim Nicol who is the Enterprise Development Manager and Les Silver the Marketing Adviser will include Graham Lambie - IT Manager, and Janet Campbell - Business Adviser. They will be assisted by Gerry Power and colleagues from the Strathyre Learning Centre.

You are cordially invited to explore and gain an insight into Business Communications and Information Technology relevant to your business needs. There will be opportunities to use various software packages with demonstrations available of the latest technology that may benefit your business.

As well as Business Advisory Services, there will be opportunities to discuss the idea of starting up your own business. Be sure to come along you'll find it an interesting experience.

Balquhiddar Fete

A Car Boot and Table Top Sale will be a feature of the Grand Fete in Balquhiddar on Sunday 30 May. The event will be held at Kirkton Farm (opposite Rob Roy's Grave) at 1 pm. To book a table (limited number available in hall and field) contact Cathie Vanderwatt on 01877 384298.

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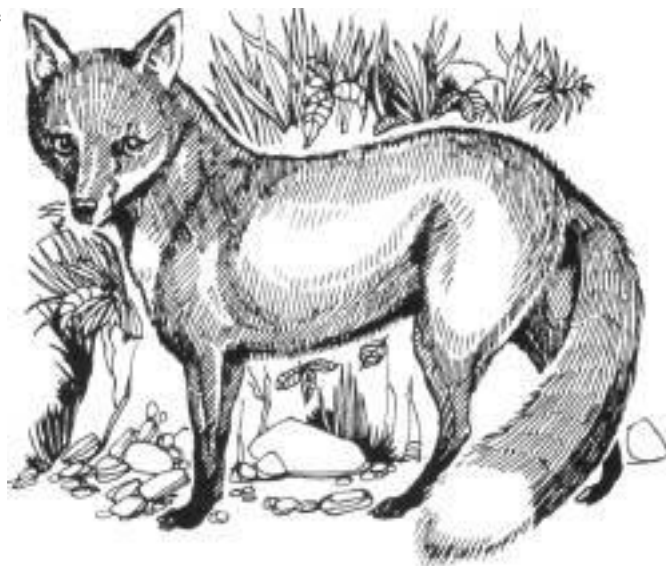
Fires, Fleas and Foxes

By the end of April the burning season is over and fox-denning has begun. Not that much burning is managed on the hills around here as the area is too wet. The aim is to burn away strips or patches of old heather, thereby allowing new young shoots to grow for the grouse to eat. The strips and patches give a mixture of heather ages, and old heather is especially useful as shelter. This activity has a legal season to ensure the safety of ground-nesting birds.

Although we have only had a few puffs of smoke here, there are reports of fire and brimstone in the drier East. In Deeside, the weeks of good weather have allowed successive days or burning. On these large estates which employ a number of keepers a great deal of successful burning has been possible. An added bonus is that the fires kill off ticks which can be very harmful to the grouse.

Talking of ticks, fleas, lice and the like there is a countrywide increase in these wee beasties in domestic animals and in the human population. We are told that this is due to comfortable homes with fitted carpets and central heating which prevent many being killed off by the

cold in winter. Most cures need to be used with care as they contain very strong chemicals. So you may be interested to know that natural oils such as tea tree, lavender and geranium will keep the wee biters at bay. This seems like a sensible alternative - unless you have a bulldog called Butch who probably won't want to go out smelling of lavender!



If we have a shortage of opportunities for burning, the same cannot be said of foxing. The shepherds will tell you that there are always some about. Recent Wildlife Network approximate figures for Britain are: 240,000 adults at the start of the breeding season and 400,000 cubs are born annually. Anyone who has raised a cub will know the vast amount of food that they consume (anyone with a teenage son will know what I am talking about!). The same statistics claim that 100,000 are run

over on the road, 110,000 die of natural causes, 190,000 are killed by shooting etc., which means that the population is kept about level.

Denning time, with long days and nights on the hill waiting for the fox to come in or go out of the hole can be an exciting time. The terriers seem to have a calendar which tells them when to get excited. This time of year never passes without remembering the late old Fred Simpson of Ballechroisk. For many years he was the foxman of the area and seemed to know every foxhole from Killin to Tyndrum - and all his travelling was done on a bike! When he retired his house was like the 19th hole of the golf course - the last of the day to keep him up to date with the day's activities and to get a bit of advice. It is good that there are some areas of life where we can respect the knowledge of our elders. It is regrettable that Fred's stories were never recorded.

Lastly, a word of advice for you lambing shepherds. Apparently, Llamas are the answer! A Cornish farmer who was raised in South America knew that foxes and llamas did not mix - the llama will kick the fox who is then not keen to return. He has lost no lambs since introducing a few llamas into his fields. What I would like to know is will this lead to South American pan pipe competitions, llama sheering, WRI taco stands and the wearing of gaucho hats at the Killin Show!?

Tim Frost

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The "M" Word

There was a time when upon each occasion of typing the word "Millennium", a spell check had to be run - now it just flows from the fingers! The hype surrounding this occasion, whether it is celebratory or technological (the dreaded Bug!), is becoming rather tiresome. You cannot lift a newspaper (including this one) without reading the word. The Millennium has captured our imaginations, we are ever hopeful that our quality of life, or our outlook on life, will somehow change just because we go into the magical year 2000. The Collins Concise Dictionary refers to the word "Millennium" as "a time of peace and happiness in the distant future". What a lovely thought - let's aim for that.

The previous Millennium year (1000) the world was a big place. It is reported that Leif Ericsson discovered North America in that year - no he didn't invent the mobile phone! Now the world is much smaller, there are no countries left to discover - unless we look to the universe. The year 1000 also saw what was thought to be the end of 200 years of Viking attacks

throughout the coastline of Britain. But it was probably just a brief halt whilst they celebrated the Millennium with a party and were kept quite busy building a "time capsule" - who knows? Apart from rape and pillage, the Vikings left their mark to this day in our language, words like husband, by-law, outlaw, sister and happy were picked up from Vikings who settled in Britain.

And what of the start, the very first year ADI. Well apart from the obvious - which we all tend to forget whilst making our plans - the birth of Christ - there was also the discovery of a new type of wheat which farmers had started growing to make bread. Subsidies weren't around then, probably just as well we might have had wheat "grazing" on our hills.

The Romans (unwitting early advocates of the European Community!) had invaded Britain by this time and British aristocrats were importing olive oil and wine from Spain and high-quality tableware from Gaul (France) - so when all is said and done, not much has changed over the Millenniums.

COMMENT COLUMN

During the past year as Editor of the Killin News I have become increasingly aware of the amount of voluntary work which goes in Killin and surrounding areas. It is common to think that "voluntary work" consists of visiting the sick in hospitals, helping with Oxfam or the likes, which is all very commendable, but in this area it is far more widespread than that.

The McLaren Hall Committee give their time and energies freely to ensure that the villagers have a comfortable meeting place. We may or may not agree totally with what they do - maybe purple chairs would have been nicer?! - but on the whole we appreciate very much that they are prepared to volunteer their services for the betterment of the community. The Millennium Committee foremost in our thoughts just now, is another volunteer force - again, we might not agree with all their plans, but these people have the courage and enthusiasm to give up their time to pursue this venture for the benefit

of us all. Charlie Grant's Celebration Day for the Millennium is another mammoth voluntary task. The villagers who raise money for Cancer Research or Cancer Sufferers through pancake barbecues, soup stands, fancy dress dances, put in a vast amount of effort - all unpaid. Charitable Bequest trustees, The Killin Community Bus Committee, Killin Community Council, Killin Mountain Rescue, the ladies of the WRI, - and dozens of others - there is no hidden agenda with these people - they do not have their "pockets lined" in any way, or get back door employment contracts for cousins, uncles, sisters - whoever. The stories of corruption we hear from the cities do not happen here.

We are indeed very fortunate to live in this area of outstanding natural beauty but we are equally generously endowed by the enrichment brought to our lives now and for the future through our local "volunteer force".

LF

Poem

*Busy, Busy in Lyon Road
Buildin' new hooses
Quite posh abodes.
Then all of a sudden -
No where to be seen,
the builders who were so incredibly keen.*

*Now, buildin' a hoose
Takes an awfully long time
Believe me - I know -
he's still buildin' mine!
But where can they be,
these builders unknown
Perhaps if you know -
you will give me a phone!*

Ed

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Mr Brown Goes Off To Town In 1847

Everyone agreed that Mr Brown of Millmore, Killin, sawed as good a log as any in the county. Indeed his Grace, the Duck of Buckingham dragged in 250 feet of larch for Donald's skilled attention. With a healthy clientele and such patronage how could he fail?... well... Donald's credit arrangements would have been frowned upon by Messrs Dunn and Bradstreet, and his habit of raising invoices up to three years after the event was not conducive to a healthy cash flow.

In 1847 Donald waved a regretful and impecunious goodbye to Killin and with his little family, except Margaret who went into service in London, moved to Glasgow. A bustling Glasgow, nourishing, if not be "the Preaching of the Word", expanding with New World trade. So Dad and Malcolm settled in one tavern, Edward was placed in a spirit shop, Mary went into a respectable tavern (Malcolm & Dad's we gather was not exactly the Central Hotel), while Janet was with "a woman who keeps lodgers". Unfortunately (Donald's' understatement often nears the sublime) "the whole of them catch the smallpox".

The outlook is not bright, Donald's lack of business acumen is however balanced by a fierce and unquenchable flame of optimism and warmed by it. he pens a letter to William Walker, sometime Postmaster and Sheriff's Officer at Killin. Can William help him collect some of the old debts from his saw milling days? If he can, there will be a penny or two in it for him. Can William extract One Pound from Peter Clarke at Lix and "three days working at his boat" from Peter and John McAlpin? Archibald Campbell at Ardvorlich "is quite aware of his account" and as for Angus McNaughton at Ardhule, Donald "needs no doing of his account as he is quite aware that he is owing some for milling". Alexander Dewar's son Robert won't pay the wood for his house, so Alexander himself must pay. and if Donald McCallum thinks that "a few potatoes and a drop of kale warmed up" will settle his account — bubbles!!! Duncan McGregor needs a reminder and William should bear down heavily for the three and ninepence owing from His Grace, The Duke of Buckingham. As a postscript, Donald

understands "that my father is no more and are there many more afflicted by the same disease?".

William does his best with what he lacks a little in clarity as to the what, where and how much?!

In the meantime, things in Glasgow are improving, The family is together at 35 King Street, care of Carmichael the spirit dealer. Donald and Malcolm are selling lemonade round the town for Malcolm "has learned in the cellar to bottle from Mr McDougall" - feachie. All have recovered from the smallpox and a pony (sic) harness and cart are on order to facilitate the business - hopefully cash in hand. Two pence have come off the cost of a stone of potatoes, Margaret is "liking her place well" in London and on a trip to Port Dundas, Donald counts twenty four vessels "disloading" grain and potatoes plus a further number of ships from London with beans and potatoes. Donald is evidently very impressed by the potato.

Back in Killin, William has not much success, some are fled, some are dead, some have "already settled the account" and many cheques are in the post.

Some time has passed and lemonade is selling well, well enough for Donald to take a day off and visit Callander where, who should he run into but his old mate

and debtor, Peter Clarke of Lix, from whom "he never received payment during all the time he was at Millmore" other than "thirty stone of hay three years ago". Peter has a capital plan as both are pressed for money. Why don't they go along to the Bank and jointly sign a bill for Thirty Pounds? "There you are Donald, Fifteen Pounds each and I'll pay you the money I owe you out of my Fifteen:.. Donald, perhaps under the influence of some of Mr. Carmichael's spirits, is overwhelmed at such a simple yet audacious scheme and puts his name ALONE to the bill in the sum of Thirty Pounds. After some business in Thornhill optimistic Donald is back in Callander and presents the bill to Mr McDonald in the bank. Shock, horror, Peter Clark is off on his toes with the lot. Donald's only solace is the enigmatic advice of Mr. McDonald, that he "must go where his money is lying".

This is unfortunately the last we know of Donald and his doings. We can hope that Malcolm guided the lemonade business to prosperity and that Peter Clarke suffered some pangs of conscience.

The Duke of Buckingham did however pay his Three Shillings and Ninepence - noblesse oblige!

Many thanks to Cameron Walker (Allan's brother) for obliging us with this piece at very short notice. Ed.

Killin Drama Club

At the end of March, the Killin Drama Club entertained us with a "Holiday Snap". This comedy by Michael Pertwee and John Chapman gave lots of scope to an increasingly polished group of performers.

A very British sort of farce with the standard French windows, lots of opening and shutting of doors, innuendoes and mildly naughty jokes. However, this was a holiday flat in Portugal, newly opened and under the care - or lack of care - of a wonderfully half sloshed Commander Chittenden (Anthony Blythe).

Two naughty couples (Colin McRae with Samantha Hibbert and Gordon Hibbert with Rebecca Cameron) double booked,

escaped from their spouses and are having an irregular liaison. The appearance of a dotty mother-in-law and a wife of a friend completed the cast. Glenda Mardon was like a cross between Margaret Rutherford and Joyce Grenfell and Rick Wells gave his usual smooth performance. Lesley Syme had me baffled as I knew she was prompting but sure enough she appeared in the last few moments.

In a farce with so many absurd situations, timing is of the utmost importance and this was well accomplished. Congratulations to the Producer, Charlotte Blythe, and to all concerned for a good night's entertainment.

AW

The Optional Excursion

An English lady wanted to spend a holiday in a German village in the mountains. As she did not know any German, she wrote to the local teacher for help, hoping he would understand English. She asked him to send full particulars of the cottage she planned to rent and, in particular, did it have a WC?? The teacher understood all of the letter, except for the abbreviation WC, so he asked the local priest if he knew what it meant. Together they came to the conclusion that the lady must be a devout Wesleyan Churchgoer, so replied as follows:

My Dear Madam,

The WC is situated five miles from the cottage in the centre of a beautiful pine forest. It is open on every Tuesday and Sunday, which is unfortunate if you are in the habit of going regularly. You will be glad to know, however, that many people take a packed lunch and make a day of it. As there are a great number of visitors, we would advise that you arrive early to get a good position with a seat. A bell will ring 10 minutes before the WC opens and closes. I would recommend you to go on Tuesday as there is an organ accompaniment on this day.

If you know well in advance when you want to go, we shall try and reserve a seat for you. You will find Hymn sheets behind the door for your personal use. Unfortunately my wife and I have not been for eight months which pains us greatly, but it is such a long way.

*Yours very truly,
ANON*

We are grateful to our friends from "**The Villagers**" newspaper (Strathyre, Lochearnhead & Balquhiddy) who kindly allowed us to copy this for our readers to enjoy.

Aerobics Coaching

Glen Dochart Adult Education Group are looking for people interested in becoming Aerobics Tutors, to take advantage of the Aerobics Coaching Course on offer from the Community Support Rural Team. The course which is free (except for a £10 registration fee, payable on completion of the course) is planned to start in September in the Callander area. For more information contact Lynne Gibbons on 01877 331766.

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"Not a lot of people know this!"

Continuing our quest for curious and interesting snippets of information of local and near local interest we turn to Doune. Apart from being famous for gunsmiths, the castle where as the song says "Lang may his lady look frae her Castle Doune ere she hear the Earl of Moray come soonding through the toon", we have the story of the building of the bridge over the River Teith. A story of spite and revenge. James Spittal, wealthy tailor to the King of Scotland was making his way home to Doune and came to the ferry. Consternation - no money. Ferryman - "no crossing until I see the colour of siller" (silver). The outraged tailor bides his time and buys the land on either side of the river and erects a

bridge "to the ruination and piteous distress of the ferryman". All this in 1535. They didn't mess around in those days!

On a more local note, Ardchyle in Glen Dochart (up past Lix Toll) was once a busy little centre for weaving in the early eighteen hundreds. Robert McNaughton the weaver, wove a plaid for Queen Victoria to his own design from wool spun by the Marchioness of Breadalbane.

More riveting nuggets to follow in later issues - unless there is a popular uprising to suppress the facts.

AW

Scotland The Optimist

At this time of writing, we are all getting geared up for the Elections for a new Scottish Parliament. It is strange to think that by the time this is delivered through your door it will, as they say, "all be over bar the shouting"! But life goes on a pace, and by the time the next edition of the Killin News is delivered, it will be so far in the past - everyone will have forgotten. The Killin News remains apolitical and ever hopeful that whoever gets in will help our community as much as they said they would before the election.

Local Weddings

Coach House Hotel

The wedding of Peter Shuttleworth (partner and chef at the Coach House Hotel, Killin) and Magdalena Jaworska from Poland, took place at the Church of Scotland, Killin on Saturday 17 April 1999.

It was a fine day and the groom and best man (brother Mark) arrived early. The bride arrived with her father in a horse drawn carriage. She had two bridesmaids, her best friend Joanna and Peter's niece Rachel. After photographs at the Church and the Falls, the reception took place in the Coach House Hotel.

The romance started with pen friend letters followed by Peter taking a two week holiday in Poland. During this short time, the romance blossomed and resulted in Peter returning within the month to propose. After Christmas in Poland and



a busy New Year at the Coach House, Peter and his brother Mark set off by car - destination Poland to fetch Magdalena and her belongings.

A visa time limit of six months from December and a busy summer season looming at the Coach House, meant that wedding plans had to be hastily drawn up.



Magdalena's parents, and elder brother Michal, together with her best friend Joanna came from Poland for the wedding which was also captured on video so that relatives and friends can also enjoy the day.

It is a shame we can't do proper justice to these photos and print them in full colour. You will just have to imagine the grooms' mother in her red tartan outfit, petrol green bridesmaid's dress and cape, colourful tartan kilts in the background and red and black liveried coach - obviously a wonderful day for them all.

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A Village History

Continuing on from the late Ella Walker's "A Village History" in the last issue of the Killin News, we hope you enjoy the next segment. There is still more in store and it will be continued in our next issue in July.

The Clans of Breadalbane

The Campbells of Glenorchy

The history of Breadalbane and of Killin is of necessity inextricably interwoven with that of the Campbells of Glenorchy who became Barons of Finlarig, and later, in the 17th century, Earls of Breadalbane. They entered Breadalbane as landowners in the 15th century and established themselves at Finlarig on the north bank of the river Lochay near the head of Loch Tay. Later they "birsed yont" as one of their Chiefs expressed it, and built Taymouth Castle at the eastern end of Loch Tay and settled there, in the year 1580.

A favourite hunting ground of the Scottish Kings, the forest of Mamlorn lay in the upper reaches of Glen Lyon and Glen Lochay, and the Glenorchy Campbells became Forest Wardens, so winning Royal favour and gradually by fair means, by trickery or by out-and-out violence they amassed an Estate which finally stretched across Scotland for a hundred miles, from the Atlantic in the west to Aberfeldy in the east.

Finlarig was a strongly fortified Castle, and from there successive Chiefs exercised the "power of pit and gallows"! The Campbells were always namely as being "great justicians", but in the majority of cases it proved to be rough justice indeed! Only a small part of the wall of Finlarig Castle now remains standing, but the beheading stone, with its hollow for the head, and groove to drain away the blood can still be seen. Only the gentry had the privilege of being beheaded, the "commonality" were hanged on a nearby tree.

The Burial place of the Breadalbane family is also at Finlarig, but the Mausoleum is in a ruinous state. In it rest the remains of all the Chiefs with the exception of the founder of Finlarig

who fell with "the Flowers of the Forest" at Flodden.

After the middle of the 18th century, when the Breadalbanes had established themselves, and were no longer obsessed with the acquisition of land and power, they proved in the majority of cases to be wise and benevolent landlords who did much to improve the conditions of their dependents. On the death of Gavin, 3rd Marquis in 1922, death duties and taxation necessitated the sale of a large part of the Estate, and since then it has gradually dwindled until now the once powerful family are known no more in their own country.

The Clan Macnab

As long ago as the 12th century there are records of grants of land to the Macnabs - Clann - an - Abba - the sons of the Abbot, descended from the lay Abbot of Glendochart. Prior to the 17th century their stronghold was at Ellanryne on the east bank of the river Lochay, but this was destroyed by General Monk's orders in 1654. and thereafter they established themselves at Kinnell House on the south bank of the river Dochart.

They were a hardy, warlike Clan, of whose exploits many tales are told, perhaps the best known being that of the vengeance wrought on the clan MacNeish, who lived on an island in Loch Earn, by "Smooth John" Macnab and his eleven brothers. Some Macnab retainers had been sent by the Chief to Crieff to fetch home some delicacies for the Christmas celebrations and on the way home they were waylaid and robbed by the MacNeishes. who proceeded at once to devour the spoil. When the old Chief of the Macnabs was told of it he looked round at his twelve sons and intoned "the night was the night if the lads were the lads". The lads were! Headed by the eldest, Smooth John, they filed out and down to Loch Tay where their boat lay; lifting it upon their shoulders they carried it across the hills to Lochearnside, a distance of 8 or 9 miles as the crow flies, but a good deal further over the rough hill tracks, launched it on Lochearn and rowed out to the island

stronghold of the MacNeishes. They broke down the doors, slew all the MacNeishes with the exception of one small boy, who contrived to hide himself. They then returned the same way, carrying in triumph the gory head of the slain Chieftain. And since that day the crest of the clan Macnab consists of a bearded head surmounted by a boat and the motto "Dreadnought"

Virtually the last of the old Chiefs was Francis, the subject of Raeburn's wellknown portrait "The Macnab", he was a riotously extravagant man, living in the old feudal manner ignoring alike mountainous debts and clamouring creditors. When at last he died in 1824 at a ripe old age, his successor, a nephew, was forced to emigrate to Canada where many of his clansmen followed him. The estate was claimed by the then Lord Breadalbane, the principal creditor.

The recent history of the clan, however, is happier than that of the Breadalbanes, as their former lands were bought back in 1949 by the present Chief Archibald Corrie Macnab of Macnab C.I.E., so Kinnell has once more a Macnab laird.

The Clan Gregor

The clan which is reckoned to be the oldest in Scotland, Clan Alpine, had a close connection with the district, but they early fell foul of the Campbells, and their courage was no match for the Campbell guile, with the result that one by one their lands fell into the hand of the spoiler, till finally their very name was proscribed and they became in very sooth "Children of the Mist".

Seven miles up Glendochart there stands near the road the gable-end of a house which was once the home of Rob Roy and from which for a time he carried on his trade of droving. Also, in spite of old enmities, he acted for a time as bailiff on the Argyllshire estates of the first Lord Breadalbane. The appointment however did not last long, and Rob took to less peaceable occupations, but he must have been a familiar figure in his day to the folks of Killin and its neighbourhood.

Carpet Bowlers - versus - Green Bowlers

For those of you who are not familiar with these sports, here is a wee bit of background on the two clubs: the Green Bowlers are the ones who are out playing on the "Green" in front of the Pavilion on the nice, idyllic, summer days. The Carpet Bowlers are indoors in the Lesser McLaren Hall during the cold, wet winter nights. You might think that it is the same people who do both - but in the main you'd be wrong. The two games are completely different, and neither have any similarity to ten pin bowling, which is a totally different beastie. So, every year they have two competitions one on the green - one in the hall. Hospitality is provided by the hosting club thereafter.

The annual return match between the two bowling clubs took place in the Lesser McLaren Hall on 9 March 1999. It was a super night, the camaraderie was obviously more in evidence than competition, with the "Carpets" at times coaching the "Greens". This excellent evening was rounded off by some wine, a few drams, and tea, sandwiches and home made cakes, served by Hazel Guild and her helpers - wonderful.

Incidentally - on the night the "Carpets" won (for the seventh successive year!). When the scores were tallied from previous match in the summer, the points were equal on 32. However the "Carpets" were way ahead on shots and won 124 to the "Greens" 65.

If any of you are interested in joining in at either sport, I guarantee you will be made most welcome. The "Carpets" have just about finished their season but the "Greens" are about to start theirs. Both sports would be delighted to hear from you, contact Hazel Guild (Carpets) 01567 820294 and Wyn Davidson (Greens) on 01567 820575.

Killin Badminton Club



This year's winners of the Gents and Ladies singles are respectively George Mitchell and Fiona Tickner. George's swing must have improved since he sold Costcutters - he last won the shield about 10 years ago!

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 golfers 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.

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Killin Carpet Bowlers

The Carpet Bowler's prize giving took place in Killin Hotel on Saturday 10 April. After an excellent buffet supper. President Dougie Livingstone assisted by his wife Kate made the presentations. Upon giving thanks to all members of the club, Dougie made special mention of Hazel Guild for all her background work, tea making and support during the season and presented her with a floral bouquet.

Results for the year:-

Singles - Chris McLarty; Pairs - Jock Guild & Tom Bolton; Triples - Jock Guild, Hazel Guild & Neil Forsyth. Rinks Handicap - John Ogilvie & Jean McHenery; Points Competition - Neil Forsyth. Rinks 1st - J Willison. N Forsyth, J Ferguson, T Bolton. Rinks 2nd - C Grant, A McHenery, C McLarty, A Stewart. Knock Out Cup - J Willison, C McLarty.

The Carpet Bowlers retained the Alec Cameron Trophy (Green Bowlers). Killin retained the Triples Trophy at Lochearnhead for the second year running. Chris McLarty & Alan McHenery won the Open Pairs at Crianlarich.

AW

Killin & District Calendar of Events 1999

May

- 22 *Ploughing Match* at Daldravaig, Glenlochay at 2 pm
 28 (or 4 June?) *Mendelssohn on Mull Concert*
 (St. Fillan's Church, Killin)
 28 *Killin Golf Club Mixed Open*

June

- 5 *Killin Golf Club Ladies Open*
 18/19&20 *Killin Traditional Music & Dance Festival*
 Events throughout the village
 18/19&20 *Craft Fayre* Demonstrations and stalls
 20 *Killin Gun Club Shoot* at 1 pm
 25 *Kirk Singers Choir* from Fort Lauderdale High School, Florida
 (programme of folk songs, negro spiritual & gospel music)
 tickets available from Killin Library & Tarmachan Tea Shop
 26 *Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band* - Killin at 1 pm

July

- 2 *Sheep Sheering Competition* at Kenknock, Glenlochay
 6 pm till late

August

- 4 *Killin Highland Games*
 21 *Killin Agricultural Show*

Advanced Notice for October 22nd -

McLaren High School Orchestra Concert (Arleen Barlow - soprano, Lydia Buttigieg - pianist, Marie Therese Vassallos - mezzo soprano)

Summer Music In Balquhiddier 1999

A great way to end a Sunday is with "Summer Music in Balquhiddier". This unique series of classical music concerts continues this year in Balquhiddier Church. Now in its 13th year, the 1999 programme has become established as a national concert series featured by Classic FM Radio and in the music columns of the national and provincial press.

This year's series of Sunday concerts starts on 27th June with the Cappella Nova Quartet singing four-part harmonies. Murray McLachlan, the popular piano recitalist returns on 4th July. The young singers of the RSAMD will perform selections from opera on 11th July, followed on 18th July by the Northern Sinfonia String Quartet.

Australian Craig Ogden, dubbed "a worthy successor to Julian Bream" returns on Sunday 25th July to perform a recital of classical guitar and this time he will be accompanied by his wife, Claire Bradshaw, mezzo soprano. The brass ensemble Athenaeum Brass will visit Balquhiddier on 1st August, followed by The Baermann Clarinet Quartet on 8th August. Doune Wind the Edinburgh based ensemble will bring the series to a close on Sunday 15th August.

All the concerts start at 7pm and finish at 9pm. Admission is by programme only which can be purchased at the door, for £6.00 and concessions are available at £5.00. This informal and friendly concert with refreshments served during the interval, creates an ideal atmosphere in which to enjoy some of the UK's most outstanding musical talent - what a wonderful way to end a Sunday!

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Announcing

Kenneth and Norma Lang, 4 Auchmore, Killin are delighted to announce the birth of their son. Euan John Lang on 29 March 1999. Euan John arrived at half past midnight and weighed in at a healthy 7 pounds and 15 ounces. Norma and Kenny extend their thanks to friends and family for the many cards and gifts received. Mother and son are doing well, with one losing and the other gaining weight.



Kirk News

One of the things that is hopefully as true about the church as it is about the gospel is that both can be relied upon to be unchanging in uncertain times. The gospel continues to be the good news of Jesus Christ in bringing the opportunity for man and God to enjoy a close relationship.

The Kirk does what it can as a body of people to be available to others in times of need. People coming to the church for weddings, baptisms and funerals are invited to understand something of the spiritual significance lying behind the ceremonial.

So it is that week by week the more obvious signs of church life go on. Most notably through the Sunday morning service at 10.00am, in the Minister's work as he visits the schools, the sick, conducts weddings and we mustn't forget that Mr Lincoln is the Minister of Balquhider as well.

In the Sunday School, Gladys Farquharson's long and faithful service has been so essential in helping so many children to learn something of the good news. In the absence of regular teachers, help from a rota of parents continues to be much appreciated.

The challenge of being unchanging is not to be boring, and to meet the needs of the present day in a meaningful way. Together with many other churches there is no doubt we fail this challenge at times. However in small ways things do change. On 9th May the Minister was away at the General Assembly, members of the congregation conducted the morning service themselves. Those present considered the theme of the feeding of the 5000 and found it to be a different experience from their regular fare.

In July and August we are fortunate to have the services of a student minister to work alongside Mr Lincoln. Liz Clelland hails from Menstrie and is in tune with the issues of the day and hopefully will become a familiar and welcome face around the parish.

Plans are progressing for the redevelopment of the Session House into a more useful set of rooms for the Sunday School as well as other small village groups who may want to use them. Planning is one thing - raising the funds will be a truly Millennium Project going on well beyond Hogmanay, hopefully funding will be in place before the next millennium!

Phil Simpson

Killin Gun Club

The Killin Gun Club held their first shoot of the year on Sunday 28 March. A total of 35 guns turned out on one of the wettest days possible.

Results were:

Down The Line

Class (a): 1. F Frost - 69. 2. J Sinclair - 68, 3. G Coyne - 67.

Class (b): 1. A Donaldson - 60, 2. B Donaldson - 59, 3. E Paterson - 58.

Class (c): 1. A Gowans - 61, 2. J Ward - 54, 3. equal C Frost & J Morris - 51.

Sporting

Class (a): 1. G Ross - 63, 2. equal R Cairns & J Sinclair - 60.

Class (b): 1. E McAllister - 63, 2. J Miller - 47, 3. Equal B Donaldson & G Coyne - 45.

Class (c): 1. A Gowans - 59, 2. Equal T Frost & K Campbell - 42.

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We look forward to welcoming you with our new customers at Natures' Corner.

Please come along and browse.

Open 7 days per week (from 12.30 on a Sunday).

Dear Editor

Lairig Ilidh

I read with interest in the last issue of the Killin News, the reference to La'irig Ilidh, the pass which leads from Lix Toll to the head of Glen Ogle, in the first installment of "A Village History" by the late Ella Walker. The name was recorded by places names' researchers earlier this century and is referred to by William Ross, the Gaelic bard:- "Is ge do dhirich mi Laire Ile Tha mo spid air falbh uam". Broadly translated this means "Even although I go up La'irig He, my energy-departs from me".

Perhaps Ross had hoped to recapture his youthful zest by climbing the pass, only to find that even there among his beloved hills his body was not as young as it once was.

A la 'irig is a long pass and the name He or Ilidh appears to derive from the burn (Allt Ilidh) - water names are among our

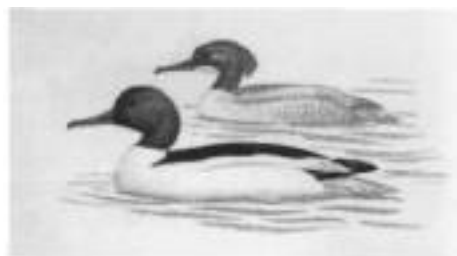
oldest - which drains from the lochan of the same name at the head of the pass. The meaning is obscure although the ending - idh, eg.. Lo'chaidh (Lochay), is common in stream names. The name also appears elsewhere. Perhaps best known in Gaelic are Strath Ilidh (Strath of Kildonan) and Bun Ilidh (Helmsdale) which mean the "valley" and "mouth" of the Ilidh (River Helmsdale) respectively. Nearer home the name Isla (river and glen) in Angus is believed to derive from the same word.

I recall being informed by Ella Walker and the late James Anderson that the pronunciation of Ilidh was "eelee" - the first syllable is long. This being so we can safely debunk the spelling Lairig Cheile on OS maps. Hopefully this is a matter which can be corrected.

Gregor Hutcheson
Glen Gyle, Collace, Perthshire

Dear Editor

The article in the last issue of the Killin News headed "A Worrying Trend", which referred to saw-billed ducks (Red Breasted Merganser and the Goosander). This reminded me that the "Tay River Fisheries Board" used to, and I believe.



still do, pay a bounty on the head of every Merganser and Goosander shot. This bounty, I believe, was increased during the nesting season. Little wonder, these birds are a lot scarcer nowadays. A few years ago I saw a pair of breeding Mergansers shot on the banks of the Dochart! What of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds now?

John Willison,
Dalchenna, Killin

Dear Editor

My wife Stella and I, one time residents of Killin at "The Cedars" are regularly sent the Killin News and would like to express our appreciation to the production team of an exceptionally interesting and readable publication.

Although our stay in Killin was short, 1990 - 1994, we feel very much as if we "belong" and the Killin News prolongs that feeling. We read, with great interest, of all the activities taking place and I have fond memories of the Bowling Club. As a beginner in 1990 I well recall the cry from the skip - "You're no up!". Happy-memories indeed.

For family reasons we had to move south in 1994 and we have settled very well here

in Sussex. Although we enjoy the milder climate, we do miss the hills, open spaces and the quieter pace of life. However, Stella is from Edinburgh and we cross the Border every year to visit our family. Somehow we always seem to find ourselves turning right at Lix Toll! We shall be coming again this year and look forward to our visit to Killin and hopefully meeting some of our friends, to whom, through the "Killin News" we extend our very best wishes.

Thank you so much for sending the paper to us and we look forward to receiving future issues. Best wishes for continued success.

Stella & John Wise
Steyning, West Sussex

Killin Community Bus

Jimmy Gauld and Allan Walker recently attended an interesting meeting of the Community Transport Association in Inverness. They discovered that the Scottish Office is making money available for the purchase of new minibuses for local groups. Over the next few months, the Killin Community Bus Committee will be investigating various possibilities for the purchase of a new bus.

The AGM of the Killin Community Bus will be held on 5 May when a new Committee will be formed and reports given on the community bus.

Julie Lincoln

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STIRLING ENTERPRISE DISCOVERY DAY

Tuesday 15 June 1999



Stirling Enterprise (STEP) Kicks off its rural campaign in the McLaren Hall, Killin on Tuesday 15 June from 10.30 am - 3.30 pm.

A STEP Rural Team consisting of Jim Nicol - Enterprise Development Manager, Graham Lambie - IT Manager, Les Silver - Marketing Adviser and Janet Campbell - Business Adviser, will be in attendance, assisted by Gerry Power and colleagues from the Strathyre Learning Centre.

The team cordially invites local business and individuals to explore the opportunities available and gain insight into Information Technology relevant to their own business needs. There will be opportunities to use various software packages by use of Laptops, with demonstrations of sending and receiving faxes and messages, as well as multimedia processes. Also samples of setting up Web Pages for increasing business, plus use of training packages etc., at no cost to you.

Be sure to come along to discuss business advisory and support services, or the idea of starting up your own business - you'll find the day interesting and valuable.

Subjects covered include:-

- Word Processing
- Spreadsheets
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- Book Keeping Accounts
- Internet Web Sites
- Communications
- Year 2000 Millennium Bug
- Information, Advice and More

For further information on this FREE event contact Stirling Enterprise -
FREEPHONE 0800 389 3050

News From Your Millennium Committee

The Millennium Committee held a meeting on Monday 19th April when it was agreed to issue the following statement of progress to the people of Killin.

In view of the prior booking of the McLaren Hall for Hogmanay 1999, it has been decided that the Committee's formal celebrations will take place on Hogmanay 2000. We are looking at various options to mark the coming Hogmanay and will shortly announce details.

The video project is currently awaiting final decisions on funding.

The time capsule cairn and the Dochart Bridge access are progressing to a meeting stage with the Council Planning Department. A list of possible contents from individuals and organisations for the time capsule will be circulated during this Autumn.

The clock at the McLaren Hall has undergone a feasibility study by a local architect and we are awaiting outline plans.

A design consultant is being met concerning the commemorative windows for the Church and we hope to proceed with the Church sub-committee for this project in the near future.

As a result of a meeting with Judge Stroyan, the clearance of Fingal's Grave and formation of paths to it was agreed in principle.

Clearing of the railway line will be decided at a meeting with the relevant landowners prior to Council consultation.

Health and Fitness for the millennium is progressing and by the year 2001 we hope to have the village superfit!!

The Committee decided on the following fund-raising ventures, the proceeds of which will be used for Millennium projects.

- Auction
- Fancy Dress Sponsored Bed-Push
- Car Treasure Hunt

If anyone has ideas for further fund-raising events which we could hold, please do not hesitate to contact either Colin McRae or Fiona Davidson.

New Years Night Dance


1st January 2000

The annual New Years Night Dance run by the Masonic Lodge will be taking place as usual, with a good proportion of the proceeds being distributed to the local organisations. There is already a demand for the tickets and this early intimation is to ensure the villagers are able to reserve their tickets from the normal sellers, namely David Graham, Douglas McRobbie, William Stitt and Alex Stewart. After the 1st of December, tickets will be available to visitors through the same sources. So book early to avoid disappointment.

Grand Auction

When two committees decide, totally independently, on the same fund raising project, and by coincidence discover they are planning this for the same time of year, what do they do? Join forces of course and agree to share all expenses and proceeds. This amicable arrangement has been formed between the Community Bus and Millennium Committees. The Community Bus Committee will put their share towards a new bus and the Millennium Committee will use their share to offset the costs of projects undertaken as permanent memorials to celebrate the Millennium. Notices will be put up with the details as soon as final arrangements are made.

In the meantime, any items for the sale will be gratefully received, either as donations or with part of the sale price of any item. Mr J. Gauld will be available as an independent consultant should any person wish advice on items which they may be willing to submit to the auction either on a percentage or reserve price basis. Please contact Colin McRae, Alex Stewart or Charlie Grant, for further information or with donations. It is hoped to produce a catalogue prior to the sale date, and both committees ask for support for these worth while causes.



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OBITUARIES

On Saturday 20 March 1999, **Simon (Sam) Twigg**, aged 27, died peacefully at Craigdarroch, Killin. He lost his short but brave battle against cancer. Sam's strength of character, courage and great dignity helped his family and friends through what was to be a very traumatic chapter in their lives.

Sam attended Killin Primary School and then went on to the McLaren High School in Callander.



Before embarking on his career at Rosyth, Sam spent four years working part-time in Killin's last bakehouse. Many a Saturday night or Sunday morning we would all call in for fresh rolls or pies on our way home from the pub. At the age of 16 he went to Rosyth Dockyard to train as a Mechanical Engineer, progressing to Project Engineer on Type 42 Destroyers. Whilst at Rosyth he met Loraine and they set up home together in Glenrothes. They married in April 1993 and their daughter Samantha was born in September 1997. Sam's passion for politics was reflected in his position as Chairman of Central Fife Conservative Association.

Sam will always be remembered for his practical jokes in which he also excelled. When he was 11 he was practicing Morse Code in the garden and managed to alert a RAF helicopter with a SOS signal. The helicopter hovered over the garden for some time with its search light beaming. Meantime, he locked himself in the shed for several hours! This caused much hilarity which was Sam's speciality.

Sam will always be fondly remembered by his family and friends alike for his sparkling eyes, his cheesy grin and his unique ability to laugh at life.

Written by his friends Pamela Farquharson & Sandra Shearer (Osler)

Mary Sandeman died on 8 January 1999 in Stirling Royal Infirmary. She was born in the South Devon village of Sidmouth on the sea coast and it was here that Pat Sandeman and his Royal Artillery Battery was sent to guard the coast from imminent invasion in June/July 1940, after rearguard evacuation from Dunkirk.

Mary was the eldest of three daughters of Mr & Mrs Trump of Lodge Orchard, Sidmouth, and Pat met Mary when setting up the battery on the coastal cliff in front of the Orchard. They became engaged within two months, when the battery was sent off to reinforce the East Coast near Lowestoft. They were married in Salcombe Parish Church in April 1941, arriving by train in Exeter the previous night when the town was bombed. The honeymoon (as such - on seven days leave), was spent at the Clachaig, Killin, where Pat's sister was evacuated with her two children.

After the next campaign - Normandy to the Rhine, they were eventually reunited, had two children, Mary, a singer and David, who was drowned in Loch Tay following a plane accident in 1975.

Mary and Pat were very happily married for 58 years. Her gracious spirit filled our lives and all those she met, and we are enriched with her love.

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THANK YOU

Roger and Diana Twigg would like to thank everyone in the village and elsewhere who gave us such tremendous support and encouragement whilst our son Simon, his wife Loraine and their baby Samantha were staying with us, during his illness and after he died. Without your help, we doubt we could have coped.

Thank you also for the many flowers and cards we received throughout these past six months.

A collection for the Killin Nursing Association at Simon's funeral in Glenrothes raised the magnificent sum of £402.65.

*Kind hearts are the gardens
Kind thoughts are the roots
Kind words are the flowers
Kind deeds are the fruits.*

Killin Community Council would like to thank all those who contributed to Dr Blaney's leaving fund. Your generosity was appreciated and a figure in excess of £1000 was collected, which Dr Blaney will use to purchase a Grandfather Clock as a reminder of his time in Killin.

Isa McIntyre would like to thank all her kind friends who sent good wishes whilst she was in hospital. She is now home and getting settled down again. Many thanks.

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Willie and Annie Allan wish to thank everyone for their support and friendship following Willie's recent stroke. Willie is now much improved and they are both enjoying their new home in the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home where they are extremely comfortable. They especially want to thank Willie's golfing pals for their visits and for regularly taking him along to the Golf Club. Many thanks to you all.

Pat Sandeman, his daughter Mary, and grandsons Duncan & Iain wish to thank the people of Killin for their kindness during the illness of Mrs Mary Sandeman and thereafter during their bereavement. Thanks are also extended to the doctors and nurses in Killin who helped them through this difficult time.

Davie Murray would like to thank all those who contributed to his retiral fund last year. He now has some decent gardening tools.

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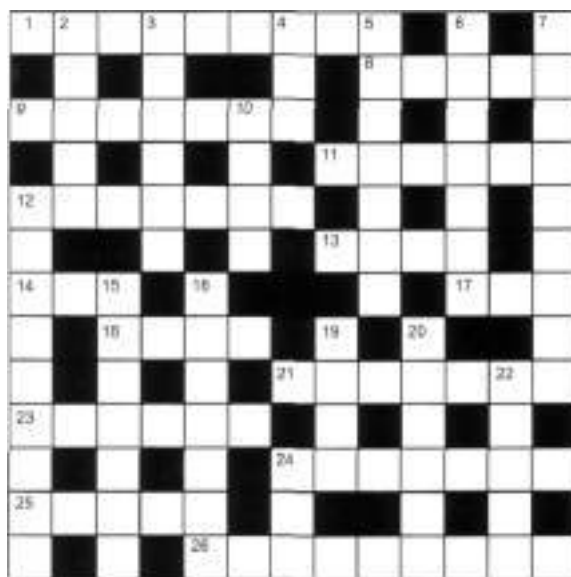
Crossword By Scorpio

ACROSS

1. Cataract - a sight for sore eyes! (9)
8. The Oriental was tardy. Puff up with success (5)
9. He is followed by fruit for instruction (7)
11. The inky part of the rainbow? (6)
12. Sounds like a reward for information (7)
13. Warm and cosy part of the inn (4)
14. Soft, murmuring sound (3)
17. Lose direction from covering in winter sport (3)
18. Quietly set the table for pleasure (4)
21. A fault or in default of (7)
23. Kind of sandwich that is here to stay (6)
24. Confused taste followed by the French create an American city (7)
25. Bury (5)
26. Fruit (9)

DOWN:

2. A fault finding fish (1, 4)
3. Bear with fortitude (6)
4. Expect and successful too (3)
5. Jack Spratt was this (4, 3)
6. Deserters swallowed mixed drinks and ended up with scoldings (7)
7. Disgusting in centre volt in green pastures (9)
10. Time to enquire for a job (4)
12. Upset a canister to find out by enquiry (9)
15. They have the power of choosing (7)
16. Tap sea bird for a plan (7)
19. A hundred years old in confinement (4)
20. Very critical woodlouse (6)
22. Man-made fibre (5)
24. Dry (3)



Solution to last Crossword

Across: 1. Wayfaring, 8. Oriel, 9. Oppress, 11. Off day, 12. Ailment, 13. Bean, 14. Sec, 17. Gnu, 18. Hale, 21. Example, 23. Tarots, 24. Annoyed, 25. Notre, 26. Red Setter.

Down: 2. Amphi, 3. Forums, 4. Ins, 5. Golf tee, 6. Bidding, 7. Playhouse, 10. Sing, 12. Assistant, 15. Charity, 16. Flatter, 19. Oxen, 20. Import, 22. Liege, 24. Add.

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Cleaner required

The McLaren Hall Management Committee requires someone to clean the Hall once per fortnight. In the first instance this would be for 4 hours, the wage being £4 per hour. If you are interested, please contact the Secretary: Glenda Mardon, Fagus, Manse Road, Killin FK21 8UY (Tel. 01567 820248).

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.

Cancer Committee Dates for your diary!

Come and have soup, filled rolls, tea, coffee and cakes on Saturday 19 June. We will be in Breadalbane Park all day from 10 am for the Music Festival Weekend.

Make sure you don't miss out on our Cheese & Wine Evening which will be held in the McLaren Hall on Friday 9 July between 8 and 10 pm. Tickets are £3.50 from Committee Members or phone Judy Forster on 01567 820298.



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Hogmanay Celebrations 1999

Plans for a whole day of celebration are now well underway for 31 December 1999. Entertainment will kick off at 10 am on the 31st and continue on until the wee small hours of the year 2000.

The Children's Party will start at 10 am. This will be for children under 5 years and will go on until noon.

A Tea Dance for our more "mature" generation is scheduled to start at 2pm until 4pm.

From 6 pm till 9 pm there will be a Disco for all youngsters up to age 18.

At 9.30 pm the Late Dance/Party will start with music provided by the "Lochside Ceilidh Band" - what a fabulous way to bring in the New Year, especially going in to the Millennium Year.

Funds raised from these events will be used to assist local charitable ventures such as the Community Bus. Tickets are available from Charlie Grant, telephone 01567 820 342. Tickets are bound to be very much sought after for this Celebration so phone Charlie and reserve your tickets NOW.

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The Angling

C
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A flush of springers, the likes of which have not been seen for many years, suddenly burst upon the west end of Loch Tay and then the River Dochart had its turn. Dougall MacGregor and Stefan Schumann led the way with four in one outing! It is seventeen years since four salmon were landed from the same boat. The tally mounted, until over thirty salmon were recorded in twelve days of fishing.



The Club's beat saw George Hunter bring off the first salmon of the season, and with favourable water heights some stalwart members began to have sport.

Congratulations to our newer anglers, Michael McLaren added his first salmon to last seasons grilse, and to the writers pride, my son David on his very first outing caught a fine 10 pound specimen. There have been no reports of salmon being released locally, we are behind other parts of the system, to date seven have been released on the Tay and nine on Loch Faskally, so how about some of the future bounty being returned.

On the Tay Liaison Management Plan, the training session at Taymouth was well attended by members from the Killin Club who are now fully aware of methods to be used and procedures to be followed when looking after the waters in the Killin area. It is worth while naming those who gave up their time to be there: Dr Alistair Inglis, Angus Inglis, Neil Cairns. Syd Haydock, Mary MacKay, Colin Higgins, Ian Downie, Taff Mantle and myself. The packs required for recording activities will be issued to these bailiffs shortly.

Members will note that by 1 June at the latest, access to the hill lochs to the south of Loch Tay will be strictly controlled with a new chain and padlock. Keys will be available from the newsagents for a refundable deposit of £5. The emergency services and duty bailiffs will have a key to the main padlock. These restrictions together with no access during sporting activities are with the agreement of the riparian owner.

Members are reminded that on 23 May the Bearsden Club will join in our annual competition, members should contact Ian Downie on 0141 357 2198. On 13 June, the Vale of Leven Club will have their outing to the Loch and boats and ghillies are required, also helpers for the bar-b-q. Contact Kevin at Fishers Hotel for this. The trout competitions will be underway as you read this so come along and support the club and your fellow members.

Alex Stewart, Club President

Would advertisers and writers please note that copy for the next issue of the Killin News must be received on or preferably before our deadline of

20 June 1999

Thank you for your co-operation

KILLIN NEWS Production Committee

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