



Every two months

PRICE 50p

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue No. 52 September 1999

6th Killin Highland Games: Better Than Ever!

A very large crowd, estimated at over 4,000 filled Breadalbane Park and enjoyed the Games in the glorious sunshine (specially laid on for the Games!).

Music pervaded the air. The ubiquitous sound of the pipes from the splendid Vale of Leven Junior Pipe Band - lone pipers practising amidst the trees which surround the park - the various piping competitions - the Scottish music provided for the teams of first class Highland Dancers - all succeeded in creating a huge carnival atmosphere. This wonderful idyllic Scottish scene was enjoyed by visitors from across the globe. One French couple from Lyon confessed to being completely captivated by the whole event.

The famous team of international strong men, not forgetting the lady, all competed bravely under the hot sun. David Webster was the highly efficient and articulate on-field commentator, and the crowds were visibly impressed with the high quality of the performers. The cheers went up whenever another amazing feat of strength took place. One such event in fact, produced a world record when one of the team, Glen Ross, managed to lift a log weighing 175 kilos (almost 80 pounds) in the power lifting category.

The various side shows and stalls were interesting and this year we had the most exciting amusement ride ever seen in the park, Jean and Margaret will vouch for



that - it was so good they went on it twice! Good food and drinks were available and throughout the park people had blankets spread on the ground to enjoy their picnics in the sunshine.

This year the Games were formally opened by the Games Chieftain, Brigadier Sir Gregor MacGregor of Macgregor, Bart., who performed the traditional sword and shield ceremony, with the Games Queen, Lesley Graham and her attendant, Debbie McAllister on hand.

Off the park, the hill racers endured the sweltering sun (which everyone else was enjoying). The oldest entrant (not our own Dochy MacDonald!) was Leem Vohverk from Fort William. The winner was Sandy Bennet from Kinross with a time of 23 minutes 45 seconds. The "Tossing the Caber" event was won by our own local painter and decorator, Bobby Lafferty. The children's mini Highland Games (sack race, tyre pull, sprint, wellie throw, caber toss and the obstacle course) was also extremely entertaining and well attended.

In the piping arena, many prizes and trophies were competed for in the different categories. The Nancy Munro Memorial Shield was won by Thomas Fraser. This shield was originally presented by Donald John Munro of Killin in memory of his mother who took him round the piping meetings. Don John now teaches piping in Boston, USA.

Charlie Grant, his Games Committee, the many financial sponsors and all the additional host of helpers deserve our thanks for a splendid Highland Games.

SA



Community Council

"Recycling is NOT a viable option. . . ."

A meeting of the Killin Community Council was held on Tuesday 10 August. Invited guest, Brian Devlin (Stirling Council Technical Services Department) spoke about refuse collection, street cleaning, costs and problems faced by the refuse men. He explained how "fly tipping" has become more of a problem and also traders leaving rubbish at the side of the bins. He pointed out that refuse wagons are now tracked by a satellite to enable Stirling Council to know the exact position of each bin lorry at any time. Plans are also underway to have them police linked. Looking to the future, he detailed the limitations of landfill sites, they are not to be looked upon as everlasting dumps. Stirling Council is actively pursuing alternative methods for disposal of rubbish. Recycling is not at present a viable option, it costs a great deal of money and currently there is no real market for recycled glass and plastics. William Stitt suggested that a bank be installed to recycle aluminium cans. Brian Devlin will make enquiries concerning the feasibility of this. Gordon Aitken highlighted the problems of people dumping unwanted furniture. Brian Devlin pointed out that for a small charge (£5 per visit), unwanted household items can be uplifted from houses by Stirling Council, therefore this form of dumping should not happen. John MacPherson explained the problems encountered with rubbish being dumped at the lochside, and was assured that wheely bins are now anchored along the A84 and the lochside and will be regularly emptied. The Council is also considering setting up remote cameras to catch the litter louts.

Charlie Grant asked why the bin men would no longer pick up bin bags? Brian Devlin explained that since the advent of wheely bins, it was decided that it could be dangerous for bin men to uplift other litter and that talks need to take place between Trades Unions and Stirling Council before this could be resolved. Charlie then asked, if it was dangerous for the bin men to pick up litter, then why do the school children and the Village Officer do it? *Touche!*

The dangerous situation posed by the positioning of the telephone box at Lix

Toll junction was discussed. Brian Devlin said that planning permission would have to be obtained for any re-location and also the Roads Department would have to assess the extent of the danger posed.

The trees at the Dochart Bridge were once again declared a hazard as they block the line of sight. W Rew stated that the Community Council now had the authority to insist that the landowners cut them down. Pat Christie also pointed out that the priority signposts at the bridge should be re-sited as they are far too high and too far away from the bridge. John MacPherson suggested putting up clearer signs for tourists, especially pointing out that it is a single carriage bridge.

National Park - Public Meeting

Linda FitzGerald raised the matter of the National Parks. She suggested that villagers should be approached to ascertain whether Killin should be in or out of Scotland's first National Park. Suzanne Player suggested that a public meeting should be arranged as soon as possible with as much information available as can be obtained. She also said that representatives from all bodies likely to be affected should be invited to put forward the full picture.

Gordon Aitken had no further communication from Mike Stewart (Stirling Council) concerning the re-location of A&B Services since the last meeting. There was voiced disappointment from all present as Mike Stewart had portrayed himself as the man who was going to make things happen, he had implied that the re-location was imminent, with just a few teething troubles to be resolved. It would now appear that he had taken no further action.

The public toilets in the bottom car park had been vandalised on the night of the Killin Highland Games. W Rew said that we will push for toilets in the park as a replacement. Suzanne Player will attempt to chase up Mike Stewart, failing this, Fiona Davidson will take the matter up with the Head of Services or higher to Keith Yates.

Repairs to the wall at Fassiefern were once more discussed and yet again no solution was found other than W Rew will approach Stirling Council to ascertain if they would be willing to finance this

repair. William Stitt mentioned that the danger this wall posed to children should be pointed out to parents and children, as they tend to use it as a short cut to and from the park.

Fiona Davidson said that a copy of the map sent to her by R Barron (Rights of Way Officer at Stirling Council) had been put on display in the library as requested at the last meeting.

Stirling Council is awaiting a response from Central Police concerning the proposed appointment of a lollipop person.

Extended car parking on the grass beside the council houses in Craignavie Road had been requested. The Community Council will write to Stirling Council to intimate that there are no objections to an additional car parking area.

Charlie Grant pointed out that he has two bookings for caravan rallies in Breadalbane Park and wanted to know the situation with regard to confirming these. Fiona Davidson said that the draft agreement from the Council is waiting to be approved. W Rew said that this matter should be looked into further and be fully discussed at the next meeting. William Stitt said that Stirling Council should be asked for proof of ownership of the park. Fiona Davidson replied that she had already requested a copy of the Deeds from Stirling Council but these were not forthcoming, neither was there any information available from the Central Registrar in Edinburgh.

If you would like to air your views on any of the above matters, please write, E-Mail, Fax or phone us at the Killin News.

Should you wish to discuss any Community Council work or anything in the village which you think could be improved upon, please get in touch with Bill Rew, Chairman of the Killin Community Council, Lismore, Killin. He will be delighted to hear from you.

The next meeting will be Tuesday, 12th October at 1.30 pm in the Lesser McLaren Hall.

Killin News Across The Globe

We are aware that the Killin News is sent to friends and relations all over the world. During the next year we would like to run some photos and articles on the far flung places it is read. Send us a photo of someone holding a Killin News with perhaps the Statue of Liberty - gondolas in Venice - Disney Theme Parks - Edinburgh Castle - whatever, in the background. We will publish it and put it forward for a competition at the end of the year.

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Class Of '99

The new Primary 1 at Killin Primary School this year has 11 children - more than last year's new intake. When we visited they had been listening to a story about Morgan the Fog and sorting things into groups by colours and type. They were very enthusiastic about everything they do and liked their new reading books and learning new words. Playing in the shop and the house are popular activities and they enjoy using the computer to dress teddy and type in their names. With such enthusiasm, Mrs. Bastock, their teacher, has a very promising new class.



The new pupils are from left to right (back row standing): David MacAskill, Jordon Farquharson, Jinny Dowling, Camilla Tigwell, Aimee Macleod, Jack Gibson. And (front row sitting): Kevin MacKenzie, Dale Pritchard, Megan Rhys, Laura Aitken and Stuart Berrow.

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Structure Plan

Stirling and Clackmannanshire Councils have recently been working together to prepare a new Structure Plan for our area. The aims of this plan are to "shape the way your community changes and develops between now and the year 2016". An essential part of this joint venture was to draw up a draft plan, present it to the public to obtain feedback prior to finalisation of the "Structure Plan". In order to do this a summary of the aims and objectives was prepared together with a questionnaire, a copy of which was to be delivered through every door in both Council areas.

The Killin News first became aware of this "Structure Plan" when our Editor attended a meeting in Stirling on a totally different subject and overheard a conversation about how this Plan affected all of Stirling Council's area. Completely unaware of this "Structure Plan", the Editor then started to make enquiries locally. She discovered that no one in Killin had received any notification of the Structure Plan, no Questionnaire had been delivered through any doors in Killin, no copy existed in the Killin Library, there were no visible posters informing Killin residents about "Structure Plan Workshops" being held in several towns and villages (not Killin) from May to June. The explanation from Stirling Council was that the private company contracted to deliver the Questionnaire and Summary neglected to delivery any to Killin - but Killin was not alone in this neglect. Criannlarich, Tyndrum, Lochearnhead, Strathgryre, Balquhider and Callander, to name but a few, were also neglected!

This all came to light around the beginning of June, the next issue of the Killin News was due out around 16 July.

The Killin News offered the services of our volunteers to deliver with the Killin News a copy of the Questionnaire and Summary through every door in the Killin area. This offer was declined as the deadline for return of the completed Questionnaires was 28 May and as Stirling Council pointed out "it didn't really affect Killin much anyway". The Editor pointed out to Stirling Council that they hadn't even mentioned "Killin" on their illustrated map! As part of their "Upland Countryside Area" (the Trossachs, Aberfoyle, Criannlarich, Killin and Tyndrum) we are affected by the Plan which "encourages new development in existing settlements that will help to support local communities by providing new jobs, housing and other opportunities. This must be balanced with protection of the environment, part of which will form the new Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park."

The Editor also broached this subject with Mick Stewart, (Planning Department Stirling Council and leading officer on the proposed National Park) at the Killin Community Council meeting on 8 June. In an attempt to make amends, a copy of the "Draft Structure Plan" was delivered to Killin Library and the Killin News together with several copies of the out of date Questionnaire and Summary. Stirling Council hastily arranged a public meeting in the McLaren Hall on Tuesday 20 July. This was only advertised with a few days notice so it was not surprising that only 14 members of the public were present. Another member of the Killin News Committee attended this meeting. Alison Scrambler of Stirling Council Planning Department announced at the start of the meeting that the deadline for return of the Questionnaire had been extended to 6th August and that everyone

in Killin should have received their copy of the Summary and Questionnaire by now. It was apparent from those present at the meeting that this was not the case and that the delivery company had failed once again to do the job properly. It was pointed out that there was no indication of a later date for return of the Questionnaire on the form, therefore any people who did manage to have a copy were unlikely to act as the published date had passed. This means that the views of the people of Killin would not be considered in finalising the "Plan".

Concerns raised by villagers about planning restrictions placed on private individual applicants, were unable to be answered, although planning had been granted to developers for the old cattle market houses and for an additional 30 houses to be built in Fingal Road. Another concern of a villager was whether facilities for clearing up after people given rights of access to the countryside were to be provided. Alison Scrambler said there would be no resources available for this purpose.

So, people of Killin, it's down to you now. Do you have an opinion? Are you happy and content with the way your elected {highly paid} representatives have treated you? Are you interested in plans Stirling & Clackmannanshire Councils are implementing which WILL affect Killin?

Copies of the Killin News are delivered to Stirling Council, through these pages you can make your voice heard. It doesn't matter whether you want to congratulate Stirling Council, commiserate with them in their endeavours to put a wrong right, or to condemn them for once again ostracising Killin. Give us your comments, the Killin News will make sure they hear them.

The Killin News thanks Suzaane Player for her assistance in Hosing with Stirling Council when our Editors voice fell on "deaf ears". When Ms Player's contract expires later this year, Killin will once again be just a voice in the wilderness. Perhaps Stirling Council will realise from their latest fiasco that being geographically situated on the extremities of the Stirling Council area, we need a permanent "Community Animateur".



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Killin Football Club

It is with regret that the Committee has to advise that there will be no league football in Killin again this year. Since the break-up of the successful 1997/98 team it has proved impossible to find a pool of players willing and available to play regular Saturday football. This is a problem faced by all village teams where most young men leave either to find work or to further their education.

Although there will be no team this year, the club will carry on in the hope that the situation will change in the near future. Until then the Committee intends to promote football, especially in the junior ranks, as and when opportunities arise. This may include, for example, assistance with the cost of youngsters to attend coaching sessions. As such fundraising will continue. By the time you read this report the Annual Duck Race will have taken place, river levels permitting - (hope you all bought a duck!). Also the "100 Club" offers weekly prizes of £50 and £20 - there are a few spaces available so if you would like to join drop in to Fishers Hotel or see Bill Douglas or Dave Osler.

102 Not Out!

Mrs Dunbar who lives in the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home celebrated her 102nd birthday on 5 July 1999.

Visited by two older members of the Killin News team (Alan & Sinclair!), she expressed disappointment, saying she had been told to expect two young men. Swallowing our pride, we found Mrs Dunbar to be as bright as a button, surrounded by cards and flowers including 102 carnations.

Mrs Dunbar, a native of Glasgow, came to the Falls by a long route, her two previous residential homes in the Trossachs and Callander having closed. Although she lived in Glasgow all her life, she was born in Belfast and was brought over when she was just 2 years old. She told us that she remembered the Titanic disaster and the stunned reaction. "Oh no, not the Titanic".

Mrs Dunbar worked as a milliner at Trerons in Glasgow and walked from Springburn to work and back every day - a fair distance. She spoke of the open



topped trams and sitting upstairs with an umbrella up on wet days.

A recent disappointment (apart from us!) was that the signature on the telegram from the Queen for her 100th birthday, was a facsimile and not the real thing.

AW

The Millennium Committee

The Committee is working hard with members of all the working parties. They are confident at this stage that the planned projects for the Millennium will be in place by the end of the year. Fund raising has begun, with the recent auction raising £310. A further fund raiser will be a "Car Treasure Hunt" on 19 September starting 4 pm from the McLaren Hall. Come and join in the fun.

A planned "Fireworks Display" to bring in the New Year will take place at the Dochart Bridge. Viewing will be from Gray Street, to ensure safety for all.

A £5000 grant was awarded to the Committee for the "Video Project", from the "Awards for All". This enabled the purchase of a digital camera with accessories, leaving funds for other items along the way. Please inform the Committee of ALL events to ensure they can be recorded.

The "Time Capsule Cairn" project has been submitted for formal planning. A stone carver has been contacted to help with the design and completion of suitable inserts, to be incorporated in the construction. If anyone is able and willing to help on the construction, or any project, please contact Colin McRae.

The "Commemorative Windows" are at consultation stage, with various ideas being looked at. These will then be considered by the Church Committee,

"Clearing the Railway Line" is progressing very well. This is due to the co-operation of the landowners. Many members of the community have expressed an interest in this. It is hoped work will begin shortly.

The "Clock for the McLaren Hall" has advanced to a final idea being submitted to the architect for final drawings.

The "Clearing of Fingal's Grave", is also progressing favourably, due to the co-operation of the landowner.

"Health and Fitness in the Community" is up to you! We are all hoping to be up to scratch by the Millennium!

The success of all projects will be greatly helped by the involvement of as many of the community as possible. We ask for positive thinking, to ensure Killin leads the way in celebrating the Millennium.



Visit Of The Choir Of The First Presbyterian Church Of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA

On 25 June in association with St. Fillan's Episcopal Church, Killin, about 30 teenagers from Florida put on a splendid concert in the McLaren Hall.

The Choirs first number was performed in a horseshoe shape round the audience on the floor of the Hall, giving a sort of stereophonic effect. The programme ranged from songs showing the Christian connection of the group to Zulu folk song with drum and tambourine. The second half included songs from Roger & Hammerstein which really had the audience tapping their feet. It was good to hear these songs sung with the authentic American accents and enthusiasm.

The turnout after a weekend of the Killin Music and Dance Festival was a bit thin on the ground. However it was a wonderful concert and those who didn't make it, missed a real treat.

Gus Macdonald

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Thank you for your co-operation and be assured, if you need to discuss your medication, our Staff are there to help and advise.

Killin Initiative

A meeting of the Killin Initiative Committee was held on 26 July, during which a provisional report on the Killin Music & Dance Festival was presented by John Mallinson. The weekend was judged to be an outstanding success, despite the weather, and for the first time there were pre-booked concert tickets for the Irish night on Friday, followed by two sell out concerts on the Saturday and Sunday. A large part of the success was attributed to the early bookings of top artistes which resulted in the advance publicity being responded to very quickly. Early indications show a possible financial surplus in the region of £1,600 although some accounts were still to be received and funding still to come in.

Charlie Grant gave an up date on the forthcoming Highland Games which indicated that financial support was slightly up on 1998. Fiona Davidson resigned as Highland Games Secretary and was thanked for her work in preparing for this year games.

Following on from the Committee Meeting was a meeting to which representatives of the local hotels, guest houses and the Killin News were invited. The purpose of this meeting was to ascertain their support for the Killin Music & Dance Festival and to voice concerns of the Festival Committee on the future of the event given the Killin Hotel's intimation of their intention not to allow the hotel premises to be used as a venue. After much discussion, representatives of the hotels guest houses present assured the Festival Organisers of their support and assistance. A show of hands indicated a unanimous vote for the continuance of the Festival for the year 2000.



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Local man Duncan (Dochy) MacDonald recently took part in not one, but two sporting charity events.

The first was the "70 Wild Miles" in aid of Cancer Research. This event now in its 11th year, starts at Glencoe at the White Corries Ski Centre. Dochy mounted his bicycle here and cycled 47 miles across Rannoch Moor to Tyndrum and then on to Taynuilt. He then got to "rest" his sensitive parts in a canoe - no, not a leisurely paddle around - but a 10 mile, arm wrenching, "blazing paddle" across Loch Etive into Glen Etive. Exhausted - (I am at the thought of it) not Dochy. It was onto his feet next for a run through Glen Etive back to the start at Glencoe. And, just in case you thought Dochy did this over the course of a week or so they cycling took 2 hours 13 minutes, canoeing took 1 hour 44 minutes, the run took 2 hours making a total of 5 hours 58 minutes - all in the same day! You might think anyone doing this would think "Never Again!" but not Dochy. Aged now 53, he has participated in this event for the past 5 years and looks set for another 5 years. This



year he raised £830 taking his personal total over 5 years to £3,170 - another superb accomplishment.

Dochy's second event, was the Highland Cross, a 30 mile run from Kintail on the west coast of Scotland, through Glen Affric, immediately followed by a 20 mile cycle to Beaulieu on the east coast. This unique coast



- to - coast mid "summer" biathlon took place on the Saturday of Killin's Music Festival - remember all that rain in one day! Well, spare a thought for Dochy who completed this event in 5 hours 10 minutes. He raised £300 in sponsorship which combined with the two other members in his team (Graham Steel from Aberfeldy and Morag McLeod from Deanston) made a total of £700. Money raised by the Highland Cross for Highland Charities over the 16 years it has been "running" is now in excess of £1.2 million!

Dochy remarked that the hardest part of these events was not the training or taking part but because he does this year after year, he finds it difficult to keep asking people in our small but generous community for sponsorship. The people of Killin and district give so much to so many charities. The photo shows Dochy running through Glen Etive -just so as you will recognise him when he comes knocking on your door next year for sponsorship.

" The Riverview Bistro "

New for this season, the Riverview Bistro is a particularly charming venue for relaxed dining - no formalities, just excellent food, all served with a view of the River Lochay.

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McLaren Rugby Club

Drop Kick Into The Next Millennium

1999 is a big year for McLaren Rugby Club, promotion to the second division and the unveiling of the new pitch herald some bold new moves for the club. Last year's season was a mixed bag, with the home pitch being deemed unfit for play, away matches were played away while home matches were played away as well! McLaren had no choice other than to rent pitches from fellow adversaries Strathendrick and Stirling County, a bitter pill to swallow! Since then some remedial work has been done and the pitch will once again be available for home games in its picturesque setting in the shadow of Ben Ledi, lush and green and fertilised by the local sheep! Thanks go to the school and the Council for their hard work and support seeding the pitch.

Although all eyes will be on the "Lion Rampant", at Murrayfield during the World Cup, McLaren have their eyes firmly focused on their own goal of growth and opportunity for the season 1999 - 2000. This, they hope, will carry them forward into the next Millennium and on towards their first decade as a club. McLaren is one of the few small

clubs which benefits from having a strong bedrock of support. This includes all the people of the McLaren community area including McLaren High School, McLaren Leisure Centre, the Community Council and a number of local businesses.

Of course, there are the unsung heroes who watch the games from the sidelines, attend the fund raising, run the players to and from the games (in what ever state they may be in). McLaren Rugby Club draws from a widespread community with players and supporters from Dunblane, Doune, Thornhill, Aberfoyle, Strathyre, Balquhitter, Lochearnhead, Killin and Callander and sometimes even New Zealand and South Africa!

In an effort to raise the profile of the club, McLaren aim to invest some of the clubs hard earned cash in a range of activities during 1999 - 2000. Money will be spent on new training equipment for the minis, midis and seniors. This will include crash bags, rugby balls, corner flags, a fixture board and possibly the creation of a new training area. To bring more players into the club they intend to reach out to the

local rugby communities and encourage young and old rugby players to come and play with them. This will be achieved by transporting coaches, training equipment and players in their "Trossach Rugby Rucker", to other towns and villages in the McLaren area.

The "Trossachs Rugby Rucker", made its debut in Strathyre and saw a good turn out of new players from all around. A hard training session on the community green was followed by a gentle training session in the Ben Sheann Hotel and was enjoyed by all, especially the voracious Strathyre Midges!

If you are interested in taking part, join the McLaren training at the McLaren Leisure Centre on a Tuesday or Thursday or look out for the "Trossachs Rugby Rucker" coming to your town. You could also phone the Club Captain on 01877 331617 or the Club Coach on 01877 339150 to find out where and when the next training session is. You can train with the club either to get fit or to play competitively in the league. All are welcome! The next game is on Saturday 18th September.

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Earl Haig Fund Scottish Appeal

Last year Killin raised £594.96 which was an excellent contribution to the Fund. May I thank once again our collectors who do so much for our fund raising. The Scottish Appeal raised £1,111,500 in 1998. During 1998 the Fund was distributed as follows:

£423,163	Help for individuals
£384,434	Assistance to other
	Ex-Service charities
£304,561	Sheltered Employment
£ 95,571	Pensions Department
£ 62,235	Men's Homes

This year's Remembrance Sunday is on 14th November. We shall be collecting from 8th November. We are looking for a collector for Ardeonaig. If anyone would be prepared to assist, would they please contact me.

Our usual parade and prayers will be held at the War Memorial after the Sunday Service. I look forward to seeing you there.

David Dowling



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Killin Floral Association

The Killin Floral Association would like to thank all individuals and businesses who have sponsored the hanging baskets in the village. After a tentative start, warm and sunny weather encouraged plant growth and the baskets have looked quite splendid. Plans are in hand to further improve planting for next year.

Watering remained a problem throughout the season and it is hoped that the Association can acquire some proper equipment for next year. An application to the "Awards for All" scheme, for the purchase of such equipment, was turned down. This was extremely disappointing when other groups have received huge sums of money for shorter term projects. However, other sources of funding are being looked into and a further application to the "Awards for All" scheme will be made to purchase equipment to enable us to give the baskets a better start and other items to enhance the look of the village.

Congratulations to all the village for the marvellous display of window boxes, hanging baskets and tubs. The Association was particularly pleased to see an increase in the number of commercial properties with floral displays. The Children's Sunflower competition will be judged over the first three weeks in September, the results will be in the next Killin News.

Now, what you have all been waiting for - this year's results:

Commercial - Best Floral Frontage

- 1st Mr & Mrs B Ford, Invertay House, Lochay Road
 2nd Mr R Lewis, Capercaille Restaurant, Main Street
 3rd Killin Crafts, Main Street
 Commended: Mr J Christie, Grannie Campbells, Main Street

Domestic - Hanging Baskets

- 1st Mr I MacGregor, 3 Dochart Road
 2nd Mrs Campbell, Leadhas, 7 Ballechroisk
 3rd Mr & Mrs W Rew, Lismore. Manse Road

Domestic - Window Boxes

- 1st Mr & Mrs Smith, 4 Dochart Rd
 2nd Mr & Mrs I Hunter, 6 Dochart Road
 3rd Mr A Walker, Barnacarie, Main Street

Domestic - Tubs

- 1st Mrs R MacDonald, 12 Ballechroisk
 2nd Mr I MacGregor, 3 Dochart Road
 3rd Mr C Higgins, Cedars, Main Street

Best Garden View From The Road

- 1st Mr & Mrs I Hunter, 6 Dochart Road
 2nd Mrs Campbell, Machany, Main Street
 3rd Mrs Grey, 3 Stewart Road
 Commended: Mr & Mrs N Inglis, 18 Monemore.

*Bruce and
Gilleen Ford
outside
Invertay
House (right).*



*Ian and Mairi
Hunter pictured
amongst a myriad
of colour. What a
shame you can
only see it in
black & white!
(left).*



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Stirling Voluntary Association

Stirling Voluntary Association's role is to provide support, information, advice and access to resources for voluntary organisations which operate within the Stirling Council area, as well as to represent the interests of the voluntary sector at local, regional and national levels. SVA offers assistance to the full range of voluntary organisations from small local groups to large organisations. Membership is free until at least the Year 2000 Annual General Meeting.

SVA has recently appointed a Rural Development Worker Drew Yule to support voluntary organisations in the rural areas. He will provide help and information on setting up groups, making grant/funding applications, assistance with constitutions, legal issues, policy issues, annual reports, access to the FunderFinder computer package and the use of a conference room. SVA can also offer temporary desk space, the use of photocopiers, fax and word processing.

input into Link (the quarterly newsletter, and access to its library), directories of grant making trusts, books on the management of voluntary organisations and a variety of other subject.

The SVA are holding a one day Funding Conference for voluntary organisations in the Albert Hall on Wednesday 29 September 1999. There will be speakers from the Camelot Foundation, Lottery Board, ESF and Local Authority Funding Officer and also a variety of interesting workshops.

Drew has planned a visit to Killin in the near future to meet people from various voluntary bodies. If your organisation needs help, guidance, or information on where to apply for financial assistance, make sure you contact him.

If you require any information or wish to book a place on the Conference, please phone Drew on 01786 469916 or fax SVA on 01786 475261.

Iron Age Round House

This summer I decided that with the support of my girlfriend Kate I would build an iron age round house - a mini crannog. The remains of crannogs are confined to lochs in Scotland and Ireland, and the Crannog at Kenmore is the only reconstruction of such a dwelling in the world. Working closely with the staff at Kenmore Crannog Centre I soon discovered that only the posts should be in a circle and that the pitch of the roof had to be 55 degrees. We calculated the length of the poles required for a 4 metre diameter round house and negotiated a deal with Forest Enterprise for 40 poles, preferably Alder which grows here in abundance and is generally straight.

My parents, Willie & Gina Angus who live at the Glebe, Killin gave me permission to build this round house, albeit temporarily, in their front garden. Ten posts were driven into the ground and a ring beam was secured on top using cleft ash pegs. The conical roof was then put up. each upright pole pegged to the ring beam at the bottom, and bound to a point at the top. The rings to attach the thatch around such structures would most likely have been made of hazel. Hazel in this area would traditionally have been managed as a coppice to produce nice straight poles, but much of the hazel now has a range of stem sizes. The carefully

selected hazel was woven between the roof uprights to give us something to tie the thatch to. By now the structure looked like an upturned basket and it was time to think about thatching.

Crannogs were originally thatched with reeds from the Tay, but these are now too expensive. We heard that bracken had also been used in the past as thatch, so with this in mind we set off up Glen Lochay and much to the amusement of the farmer's wife, asked for permission to cut bracken. Needless to say, it came free of charge! The bracken was pulled to retain the dark root and the leaves were removed by hand. This was labour intensive hard work and we gained enormous respect for iron age man.

The photo depicts the round house in an unfinished state, sitting in my parents garden. Shortly it will be dismantled, put on a trailer and taken to Fife. We plan to take it to Vogrie Country Park for the Vogrie Festival. It will be erected beside my pole lathe turning stall with information about its construction and the kind of people who would have lived in a round house. We hope that next year we will be able to construct the round house as a demonstration and run courses wherever people will have us.

Crannog Events Calendar

Saturday, 18th September, 1999

As part of the Perthshire Food Festival, the Centre is promoting tasty and seasonal cooking, Crannog-style, in launching a new children's cookbook in the City Halls in Perth, complete with cookery demonstrations for children and adults alike!

Tuesday, 21 September, 1999

Launching the rural dimension of the Perthshire Festival, the Crannog Centre is hosting a Celtic Banquet, featuring a sumptuous prehistoric-themed menu prepared by award-winning Perthshire chefs. Dinner includes roast wild boar, venison, salmon, fungi, and a range of fruits, cheeses, dairy products, breads, biscuits and beverages. All accompanied to music around a cosy log fire in the Crannog.

Sunday, September 26th 1999

Join in our annual *Discovery Day* celebration. Microscope madness, simulated 'digs', artefact handling, and underwater drawing make a popular comeback in this day of fun for the whole family.

Sunday, October 31st 1999 - Celtic Fashion Event. Spot the best dressed Celt in town as Scottish designers and models get together on this unique catwalk.

For further details please contact the Scottish Crannog Centre, Tel: 01887 830583; fax 01887 830876; or email at info@crannog.co.uk. Full details also will be updated on the web site at www.crannog.co.uk.



Julian Angus, 30 Roseneath Terrace, Marchmont, Edinburgh EH9 1JW. Tel: 0131 229 4289.

The Resurrectionist

Continuing our hunt for unusual items of interest and to spice up the more mundane journalistic reports in the Killin News, we come to Logierait. Not too far from Killin on the Aberfeldy - Ballinluig - Pitlochry Road, lies Logierait, once famous in having a Royal Castle. The Regality courts of Atholl were held there and Rob Roy escaped from its gaol in 1717

However, to digress slightly, most of you will have heard of Burke & Hare, who were members of the fraternity who supplied bodies for dissection to the medical schools in Scotland. They murdered people and sold the bodies. More numerous were the "Resurrectionists" who nipped around kirk yards, dug up the recently deceased and in turn sold them to the medical schools. Although the bodies of executed felons were for two hundred years handed over to the surgeons, demand outstripped supply.

Needless to say folk got fed up with the activities of the body snatchers and went to considerable trouble to stop them. Graves were protected with heavy iron gratings and in some places such as Crail in Fife, watch towers were erected to house armed watchmen. The lower in Crail has an inscription, "Erected For Securing The Dead. ANN, DOM.MDCCCXXVr. You may ask. "what's all this macabre tale to do with Logierait?". Well, most of the graves with iron gratings are near to Edinburgh in Fife and the Lothians and are known as 'Mort Safes'. Logierait has three of these 'mort safes' in the kirk yard.

To conclude, the trade of the "resurrection men" came to an end when Parliament passed an act in 1832 allowing the unclaimed bodies of paupers dying in the poor houses to be taken for dissection in the medical schools. You could say that overnight, "the bottom fell out of the market!". Thus did Scotland attain its eminence in medicine, or at least in surgery. A cheery wee story touching on Logierait.

Opportunity Knocks

A drama club casting meeting for the winter panto will be held on Thursday 16th September at 7.30pm in the Lesser McLaren Hall.

The "People" File

Jo Ross

Jo was born in New Zealand in 1925; her grandparents having emigrated during the Highland Clearances. She had a tough colonial up-bringing and moved to London aged 6, after her father returned from Naval Service and took his family 'home'.

The relocation from the open spaces of early New Zealand to rented rooms in London, and walks in Kensington Gardens, "where the grass smelt awful", was a dreadful shock. She attended boarding school in Sussex, and whilst her mother held aspirations for her to become a doctor, Jo's interests were in the arts, drawing and literature.

She won a scholarship to a dancing school where she studied remedial work, anatomy, corrective exercises and dancing. She opened her first branch of this work in Paris and worked mainly with children. She lived on the famous 'Left Bank' which was then the Artists' quarter and had a wonderful life. She then moved on to Cape Town in South Africa to open another school, but World War II instigated her return to England.

She joined the WAAF and had various postings in England and Northern Ireland. However, her most enjoyable tour of duty was as Officer in Charge of WAAF on Benbecula in the Outer Hebrides with a Polish squadron.

After the war and a disastrous marriage which resulted in her becoming a mother without a husband, she settled in a farming village in Kent and began a career teaching small children. At the end of the 60's she spent a year touring Scotland in a small caravanette looking for somewhere to settle. Eventually, with some help from Mr Stitt, she moved to High Creagan (which was then in a derelict state) with her 4 ponies, 2 goats, 3 dogs, a daughter and foster daughter.

Do you have a favourite place in Scotland?

Coming to Scotland has been like coming home: it was the place of my forebears. If I have to choose a special place it would be a big rock at the top the hill behind my house. It has a quality of quietness and strength and when I sit there the world seems wonderful.

What kind of travel do you enjoy?

At my age, it is best to travel in retrospect. I often sit in my garden or by my winter fire and visit my favourite places in thought: the mountains of North East Turkey, the deserts of the Silk Route to China, Egypt, and best of all wonderful Iran, are all much easier that way.....

What type of music do you like?

Music is important to me. My favourite classical pianist is Svatislav Richter, and my special conductor is Carlos Kleiber. I often listen to Bach, Scriabin and Messiaen.

What book has had a lasting impact on your life?

Impossible to say. The 'Lord of the Rings' is an old friend. A great story and unexpected wisdom hidden in its pages.

What is your favourite food and wine?

Vegetables freshly gathered from my garden that morning. As for wine a good Chardonnay or Claret please.

Unfulfilled ambitions?

I'm too old for ambitions. The older I get the more they become a sort of acceptance of what is given. I take each day as it comes.

Advice to the young?

Life is a wonderful thing to have - enjoy it, don't abuse it. Don't be afraid, try not to hurt anyone and never hurt for your own gain. Live life to the full and have fun. The grass isn't any greener on the other side!

JB

The Guild Coffee Morning

The local Guild held a coffee morning at the end of July. This was well attended, the scones and shortbread were lovely - as were the goodies on sale. They raised the magnificent sum of £900, which was donated to the Church.





Mervyn's Weather



The cold, wet June mentioned in these notes in the last issue of the Killin News obviously infected July also, for until 25th of the month the pattern was similar. Then, "hey presto", summer arrived!

From then until today's date (the "Glorious 12th" August), conditions have been, with the exception of a couple of thundery downpours, dry, albeit during the past week, markedly cool. Indeed had it not been for the above thunderstorms, the magical 17 days without precipitation, which constitutes official drought, would have been achieved. However, the seasons plough onward relentlessly. Already some trees, noticeably birches and some beeches are changing to autumnal colouring. For some reason or reasons the chlorophyll constituent which gives the green of the leaves, seems to be running out of steam; likewise, the hill pastures are prematurely turning sere and senescent. Heather, however is in fine bloom.

The eclipse, despite all the publicity and hype, was, here at Ardtalnaig something

of an anti-climax. At the appointed hour, light did diminish somewhat and looking west over Killin, the sky appeared dark and ominous, but no more so than had an approaching rain cloud appeared. Gardening continued apace and weeds were still nauseatingly visible, the afternoon pleasantly warm.

In contrast, those who were around during the eclipse of 30th June 1954 (which was total in Unst in Shetland) may remember that at the time of totality the darkness, coupled with an overcast sky was comparable to a mid-summer night and at this point a strong cold southerly wind added to the unpleasant conditions.

Much hay and silage has been secured under ideal conditions. Hill ewes clipped and soon will come the speaning of the lambs - and one is forced to wonder, like the shearing of the sheep - to what end? For like the eclipse, the lamb and wool prices look like being a non-event!

*Mervyn K Brown
Milton of Ardtalnaig*

The Mail Must Get Through!

As you are probably all well aware of by now, the Killin News, with help from last year's "Fork Supper", the "Awards for All" and proceeds from the wee Telephone Book, is now totally - Hi Tech! Scanner, Digital Camera, Fax, Electronic Mail, Internet - almost no



need for the Royal Mail. But, occasionally technology and old fashioned methods go hand in hand, as proved recently by Fiona Buchanan from the Doctor's Surgery. Fiona came galloping in our driveway on "Gem" her eight year old Irish Draught Cross Thoroughbred, with a Pony Express style delivery of a floppy disk!

More Frost Forecast For The Scottish Hills!

Morven Frost recently received an award for the best student on the HNC Highland Keeper course at Thurso College.

Morven, a son of Linda (Teacher in Killin Primary School) and Tim (Gamekeeper at Boreland and writer of a regular column for Killin News) has now taken up the post of Underkeeper at Badanloch in Sutherland.



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Local Woodturner Exhibits At Blair Atholl Horse Trials

Killin woodturner. John Farmer was invited to exhibit his craft at the Blair Atholl Horse Trials over four days in August. The invitation arose through Scottish Native Woods who are based at Aberfeldy and had heard of John's craftsmanship. The group is currently involved in the promotion of Scottish Birch Wood, they encourage sawmills and woodworkers to use this much neglected wood and are backed by the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund and also the Bank of Scotland.

The group supplied John with two planks of Downy and Silver Birch to create items for a Birchwood seminar at the Battleby Centre. These were displayed along with many other crafts/trades, as a prelude to the Blair Atholl Horse Trials. This invitation was quite a feather in John's cap. From the wood supplied by Scottish Native Woods he made an authentic model of an Arkwright Spinning Wheel (pictured here) which has his own innovations built in. He also made a pendulum clock, dishes, spirtles and honey dribblers. Some of John's craft can be viewed in Corrie Crafts in Killin Main Street.



John's experience in woodturning goes back to 1947 when as a school leaver he was taken on as an apprentice turner in Turnery village. The machinery was antiquated and dangerous and the tools primitive. There was no such thing as Health & Safety in those days, "We gave blood for our trade", joked John. Some local students now benefit from tutoring in John's modern and fully equipped workshop. It is good to know the skill of woodturning is in safe and secure hands.

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Millennium Burn Out- Or Just a Spark To Get Us Going?

We (humbly!) wonder if our report in the last issue of the Killin News concerning Stirling Council's Millennium plans to burn an effigy of Robert The Bruce, had any bearing on their recent about-turn? More likely is that they were forced to re-think the ridiculous idea due to public pressure portrayed in the national press, radio and television. But we like to think that maybe the Killin News had some influence - dream on!

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Champion Weather

It was Helen Taylor's first time as secretary for the Killin Show and her biggest concern beforehand was the weather. She needn't have worried - the sun shone and it couldn't have been a better day for wandering round and enjoying everything that was going on. There were animals, side shows, competitions and displays, as usual something for everyone, young and old, locals and visitors alike.

The Comrie Pipe Band led the procession from the bridge to the show site and there were cheers for all the entries in the float competition, which was won by Killin Playgroup Tiddlers and Toddlers, travelling in a boat as Noah's Ark. Lots of mums had been busy making impressive animal costumes and painting animal faces.



The Millennium Committee, the Drama Club and the Brownies also featured prominently.

In the park the Highland cattle, always an attraction, ranged from the smallest, Elsie, who raised £75 for Cancer Research in a Guess My Birthday competition to the largest, the Champion bull Samson of Glen Ogle, owned by Judy Bowser. Even Samson looked



Samson gazes on.



.....as a re-tread gets under way

Elsie, another bonny baby



Bonniest baby Bryony, in the arms of proud Mum

small next to Peter Matyjasek's two Clydesdale horses, Ted and Syd, who were being re-shod by blacksmith Kenneth Mitchell and being sat on by the children. Ted and Syd were off duty from taking out trees on the Craggs at Callander.

There were plenty of entries for the cattle and sheep competitions, with particularly good interest in the sheep this year. 11 of the 21 awards for sheep went to Ardveich.

Smaller animals in the competitions went from dogs down to Stig the Rat, who won the 'Any other Pet' section. Even birds made an appearance with an impressive show of falconry from Perthshire Falconry Services with goshawks, falcons and an eagle, made all the more interesting when one of the birds temporarily went missing!

The stage in the arena was the focal point for several events.



at the Killin Show



The Bonniest Baby competition was won by Bryony Semple, daughter of Lisa and Scott.

The Highland Dancing display then inspired children watching to get up on the stage afterwards and try it for themselves. There were also impromptu swordfighting displays and other games as children really enjoyed themselves playing on and under the stage - carefully watched by nearby parents. Later the sheep shearing demonstration took place there - on such a warm day no doubt the sheep were glad to lose their warm coats.

Around the arena were plenty of things to take part in from haggis hurling and golf chipping to a bouncy castle, go-carting and fly casting, with demonstrations of crookmaking and displays of vintage tractors and other more modern agricultural equipment. Duncan Gillies amazed watchers with his chainsaw carvings of a

chicken, a squirrel and an eagle, which were later auctioned off for nearly £400.

Whilst all the activity was going on in the park, the crafts and produce show was attracting visitors to the McLaren Hall. Once more there was the curiosity to see who had won what and the marvelling at the size of some of the vegetables and the beauty of the floral exhibits. There must be some lovely gardens in and around Killin.

The baking and produce entries made one feel hungry almost hungry enough to eat the ingenious edible animals made by the children. Gardeners were heard speculating on the secret of Hector Hall's large leeks and cooks on the recipes used for winning entries. Many people were



Champion gundog Cara, shown by Darren Webster

resolving that next year they too would put in an entry of some sort.

In the park the MC, Colin McRae, was calling for teams for the Landrover pulling and amazingly seven teams 'volunteered', including the Tyndrum Girls - watch out Cameron's Men if the girls put in some practice before next year! Mutters of 'never again' were heard afterwards - but mostly from people who had said the same thing last year!

After the presentation of the awards by Mrs Pat Christie, a truly successful show drew to a close. Thanks to a lot of work by many people an enjoyable day was had by all.



Principal results from the Show appear on page 22.

Overheard from a group of unusual tourists - "What a great show ! Why can't we have one like this back home ? "



A Village History

Introduction of Home Industries

The Second Earl did much to try to improve the lot of his tenants. He brought workers in flax and wool from England and even from the Continent to teach their crafts to the people. About a mile and a half from the village on the North bank of the River Dochart can be seen a little huddle of ruined houses known as "Ard-nan-Gall" or "Hill of the Strangers" so called because here lived a community of Flemish weavers brought to Scotland by the 2nd Earl.

This good work was continued by the 3rd Earl, and spinning and weaving became quite a thriving industry in the district. Thomas Pennant, the traveller and historian, writing about Breadalbane in 1769 tells that "the country manufactures a great deal of thread. They spin with "rocks" which they do as they watch their cattle on the hills, and £1,600 worth of yarn was sold out of Breadalbane at Fairs* during the year, the yarn is bought by buyers from towns of the South for manufacture into cloth".

In 1770, 954 stones of Flax were dressed in the lint-mill at Killin. Dr. Gillies, in his book "In Famed Breadalbane", tells us

that these "scutching mills" were first built in the Highlands by Ewen Cameron, a native of Breadalbane, who was the first to teach the use of the spinning-wheel and jack-reel. The woollen yarn required for home use was woven into cloth by local weavers of whom there were many in the district (1).

*Fairs held in Killin (other than St. Fillan's Day) were:-

5th May - St. George's Fair (old calendar).

12th May The Little Fair.

The Friday before 1st Wednesday in November known as the "Little Hallowmas Fair".

Tuesday before 11th November - Killin Martinmas Fair.

(1) The Statistical Account for 1793 states that in the Parish of Killin there were:- 63 Weavers, 38 Tailors, 36 Wrights, 26 Shoemakers, 20 Flax Dressers, 10 Smiths, 9 Masons, 8 Coopers, 4 Hosiers and 1 Dyer.

It must be remembered that the "Parish of Killin" includes Tyndrum, Crianlarich and several other smaller settlements.



*Ella Walker (deceased),
Village history author*

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The Old Mart

Work is now in full swing developing the site at the old Mart in Lyon Road. After a period of nine years Lynfern Developments Ltd., have finally been granted permission to build a total of sixteen houses for private ownership at the site to be known as Craig Lyon Mews.

It is planned that the scheme will consist of four three-bedroom and twelve four-bedroom houses and interest has been promising with the two properties nearing completion together with the next two to be constructed having already been sold.

The properties will enjoy a high specification of fixtures and fittings. Insulation and soundproofing are well in excess of the required standard. Double glazing and Total Control Central Heating will be included together with a non-ventilated hot water cylinder. This system produces hot water at similar pressure to the cold and also does not require the cold water tank to be sited in the attic.

Safety and security has been given top priority. External doors will be fitted with spyholes and a five point locking mechanism. In addition, a safety chain device is incorporated and can be operated by the simple turn of a knob before opening the door. To comply with latest fire regulations upstairs windows as well as tilt opening can be swung inside to open fully either for cleaning or to facilitate escape in the event of fire.

Externally the houses have been designed to complement the adjacent properties and the completed scheme will be a welcome and attractive addition to the village.



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Volunteers Please !

As you may be aware, the Millennium Committee is planning to carry out two projects in the village which require the help of local volunteers. One is the clearance of the old railway line section between Lyon and Pier Roads which may in time be incorporated into a local path network. The other project is to clear the pathway to Fingal's Grave. Grants are available to assist in the completion of these projects, but the success of any application depends upon

local support in the form of volunteer input. We would like to take this opportunity to thank the local landowners for their consent to carry out these projects and also the people who have already helped or volunteered. However, we would ask that any one who is interested in helping with either of the ventures to contact Michael MacLaren on 01567 820737 or any other Millennium Committee member.

Never Mind "T in The Park" Here's "to" Legless In The Park!

Annie MacNee and Jimmy Reilly
captured outside the Beer Tent!



Jobs For Killin

An issue around where local jobs are advertised by Stirling Council was recently highlighted when a vacancy for a local job was only advertised in the Job Centre in Stirling and nowhere locally.

In order to address this issue, Community Services have agreed to erection of a notice board in the Killin Library which will be used to advertise local jobs. This is to be a community facility and if local employers wish to make use of this service to advertise situations they have vacant, they are very welcome to do so. We hope to have the jobs board up shortly to display jobs available in Killin and surrounding areas.

Suzanne Player

Stirling Council Libraries
Health Matters
Programme for 50+

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Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club

We are at present trying to encourage junior members to come along and have a go at green bowling. We have a few experienced local bowlers who are very keen to teach juniors (and adults for that matter). Until recently the equipment for juniors was very limited until Honeywell Control Systems Ltd, Livingstone stepped in. Honeywell have an "Employee Sponsorship Programme" which aids employees or their immediate families with fundraising activities for charities or sporting activities. Liz Stevens our Treasurer is an employee of Honeywell who very kindly donated £100 to purchase bowls initially for the Brownies but to be used by all juniors who want to play. We would like to thank Honeywell Control Systems for their overwhelming generosity.

Supermarket Sweep With A Difference!
In the not too distant future we will be holding a trolley dash in conjunction with the Scottish Co-op. The tickets will cost £1.00 and if you are the lucky winner to will be able to dash around the Co-op for one minute filling your trolley, so gel in

Rare Wildlife Spotted

A late August afternoon around 4.30 pm. an otter was sighted west of the Bridge on the banks of the River Dochart. This rarely seen animal was quite happily tumbling along the shore line when the river was low.

The decline in the otter population since the 1950's is believed to be attributed to increased use of pesticides causing water pollution which build up like a poison in the otter. It just goes to show how pure the Dochart must be!

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training! Tickets are available from Committee members.

The results of the Haggis Hurl at Killin show are as follows: Gents - Jim Ronald, Crianlarich. Ladies - Helen Gunn, Tyndrum. Juniors - Callum Dykes, Thornhill. The winner of the treasure hunt was Robert Waugh. Lawers.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank A&B Services for kindly donating a new wheelbarrow. Special thanks also to the Killin Hotel and McRae Butchers for sponsoring the haggis hurl and Laurence Brown for helping all day. The amount raised for the Club was £265.10.



The photo show the Brownies and their Leader Fiona Mitchell, receiving their set of bowls from Liz Stevens.



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Summer Fun In Killin

An average of 12 to 16 boys and girls spent a good part of each day of their school holidays at the Sports & Leisure Pavillion. Competitions were held in table tennis, putting and pool throughout the summer. The end result was Euan MacKenzie was winner in all three sports and Colin Woods was runner up in all events. Prizes and trophies were awarded at an end of holiday party.

The photo shows Euan and Colin with their awards.



Clay Pigeon Shooting

Local shooter, Eric McAllister travelled to By well for the English Open Competition and came back with the A Class Championship with a score of 100/298. He then took part in the Scottish Championship at Loch Ness a week later and won the Friday event with a core of 100/299, followed by a score of 100/293 on the Saturday. This made him High Gun over the two days with maximum 200 kills, thus qualifying for a place in the Scottish team to take part in the International competition in Ireland. Another local man, Gordon Webster also qualified for a place in the Scottish team. Not bad for a small village!



Killin and District Agricultural Society

The Society's Annual Clipping Competition was held on 2nd July at Kenknock Farm by kind permission of Mr John Cameron. The results were:

Machine Section Open: 1. Quentin Whitehead, 2. Fraser Wilson, 3. Una Cameron.

Local: 1. Fraser Wilson, 2. Mark Armstrong, 3. Jimmy McDonald

Hand Section Open: 1. Willie Shaw, 2. Dick Steven 3=. Jimmy McDonald &

John Taylor

Local: 1. Dick Steven, 2=. Jimmy McDonald & John Taylor

Ladies: 1. Una Cameron, 2. Aileen Fisher

Stockjudging: Donald Macaskill, Anna Wilson

Youngest: Willie Taylor

Oldest: Dick Steven

Secretary: Mrs Lesley Lacy, Lawers.

Killin-In 'A Class' Of Its Own!

We are always delighted every time we see Killin mentioned in the press, but never more surprised than to read about it in the latest copy of the "Mercedes" magazine summer 1999. The article was about a 1,400 mile tour of Scotland's finest malt whisky distilleries in an old F Reg. Mercedes 280 SL. "Looping south past Schiehallion, we followed Loch Tay to a beautiful group of waterfalls at Killin. Then came one of the event's highlights, a hillclimb over the Scottish Hydro road at Kenknock. Quick, exciting and remote, this test had it all, then led in searing sunlight to a beautiful 20 mile descent of Glen Lyon."

Have you seen Killin mentioned in an unusual place, write in and tell us?

Love Tennis

Sandy Blacklaws barely budged from his armchair during Wimbledon fortnight, but since then, at the ripe age of 82 he has been playing tournament tennis in pursuit of the European ranking veterans' title at Frinton-on-Sea in Essex.

Sandy, a former resident of Killin, worked for the Bank of Scotland until his retirement. During an interview for the Perthshire Advertiser, Sandy commented that "If I stopped playing for the winter, I just wonder if I could get the body moving again! I have no special diet, I eat what I want to eat. I have always enjoyed the sport and I am looking forward to Frinton".

Sandy and Kathleen have lived in the "Fair City" of Perth since 1977, but still have a great affection for Killin and its folk.

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Advertisers Alert!!

Would advertisers please note that adverts to appear in the Christmas edition of the Killin News must be with Judy by **20 October, at the latest**. If you need any assistance with the layout of your advert, please get in touch prior to this date. Thank you for your continuing support and co-operation.

Ambulance Service Request

As we all know, December 31 1999 will be exactly one year away from the Millennium. Despite this, it would seem that this New Year has been chosen by all as the time to have the major celebrations. As I am sure you are aware, this will be an extremely busy time for all emergency services, not least the ambulance service. Ambulance service resources across the country will be stretched to the limit, and with the counties second largest street party being held in Stirling, Forth Valley Division will be no exception. Killin Ambulance Station is part of Forth Valley Division and it is intended to provide the best medical cover possible for the local community. In order to make the task easier, I am requesting that all organisations or individuals planning an event or function locally, forward me the following information:

1. Location and type of event or function
2. Date and expected start and finish times
3. Approximate anticipated attendance
4. Stewarding and First Aid provision
5. Name of event contact person should ambulance crews be called

Michael MacLaren, Killin Ambulance Station, Lyon Road, Killin. FK21 8QH



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Killin Heritage Society

The Society's winter programme of talks begins on Friday, 1st October, with "Routes to your Roots". The speaker is Elma Lindsay, Local History Officer for Stirling Council, and a total devotee to the study of family history. It would be a good idea to attend the meeting equipped with pen and paper, as Mrs. Lindsay has plans for members and visitors to undertake a little practical work on their own family history, if they wish, during her talk.

On Friday, 5th November, the Society will welcome Dr. K.J.H. Mackay, whose subject will be "Northern Lights". Dr.

Mackay is an expert on the study of auroras and will be bringing a telescope with him, so we hope for a cloudless sky that evening.

On Friday, 10th December, Paul Matthews, Curator of Glasgow Botanic Gardens, will talk to the Society about the history of the Gardens and their marvellous plant collections.

A varied and interesting start to the winter programme. New members and visitors are always welcome at the meetings which begin at 8.00 p.m., in the Lesser MacLaren Hall.

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The Scottish Childminding Association in partnership with Stirling Council would like to recruit and train people interested in providing childcare for 0- 14 year olds in rural Stirling.

Ideally you will have a background of working with/caring for children, e.g. babysitter, teacher, creche worker, nursery nurse, parent etc., but more importantly, you will have an ability to understand children and an interest in all areas of their development.

Stirling Council are keen to extend pre-school education into rural areas. This may be an opportunity to develop a career which fits in with your home and family, and offers a service to your local community with out of school care, creche provision and providing a holiday service to local hotels and bed and breakfast establishments.

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Good, flexible childcare is essential for working parents. In rural areas, ver often, a combination of bad weather and long distances to travel make it more important that local childcare is available to everyone. By registering with Stirling Council as a childminder. you will receive the training and support to enable you to provide this much needed service.

For more information or an application form, please contact Lynne Murray, Development Officer for SCMA on 01877 331157.

The following cups were won at the Killin Show 1999:

Handcraft - Elizabeth Lumsden, Homecraft - Audrey Sword, Baking - Bunty MacGregor, Produce - Margaret Inglis, Vegetables and Flowers - Marion McRae, Floral Art - Helen Taylor, Girls - Jillian Laurence, Boys - Robert Brown. WRI Silver Salver - Killin.

Champion Sheep was won by McLarty at Ardveich and Reserve was won by F Wilson shepherd at Carrie. Champion Fleece was won by K. Taylor at Dall. Champion Cow was owned by Mrs. Bowser as was the Reserve 2 year old. Champion Cross Sheep was won by Neil Forsyth, shepherd at Innishewan.

A full and detailed list of results can be obtained from Mrs Helen Taylor.

Glen Dochart Adult Education Group

New classes for the next season which runs from the first week of October for 6 - 8 weeks are:

Alexander Technique (Lyn Bartlett)
Massage (Moirra Robertson)
Photography (David Mardon)
Dog Training (Sylvia Goodwin)

Spoilt for choice?! For more information contact Penny Driver.

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In glorious sunshine on Friday 30th July, Joan Tinker and Jimmy Smith were married at Acharn Registry Office. The reception was held at Cruachan Restaurant. Jimmy has been the local postie in Killin for many years and he and Joan have set up home in Strathyre.

Golfing Success

Some villagers may remember John and Kathleen Blyth, former residents of Killin. We heard recently that they won the Scottish Golf Executive Club's mixed foursomes tournament at Aberdour in April, with a score of 65.5.

Congratulations from Killin.

The Angling

C
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r

A shadow was cast over the Killin Breadalbane Angling Club recently with the sad loss of one of its stalwarts, Willie Allan. He and his contemporaries laid the foundation for agreements with local riparian owners which was the basis of the first

successful submission of the River Tay System to obtain a protection order. We all hope the trout are still rising for him on that loch next door.

The salmon runs have suffered, believe it or not, from lack of water! Any likely to appear now will be rather well developed for spawning and best left to that activity. The trout however are still feeding well and good catches are falling to sedges in the evenings. The competitions have ended on Loch Tay and the hill lochs are providing excellent sport. The Breacalich was fished by 14 rods, with 19 fish being weighed in. The best, a smashing 1 pound 9 ounce specimen caught by John Scougall. The race for the Club championship has closed up with John now leading Alec MacLennan by just 2

ounces. John also stole the lead in the heaviest fish section and to cap it all won the Handicap Cup as well. With all the hill lochs under the Club's jurisdiction being fly only, restraint must be shown by all who fish, keeping to the bag limit. Excessive catches will decimate stocks. The record book in the newsagents must be signed by all who intend fishing them and the numbers are restricted to 1 guest per member with 12 rods allowed per day.

My thanks to all who assisted Peter Anderson with the angling corner at the Highland Games. The annual trip to Loch Lomond had 12 participants who spent a very enjoyable day with the Vale of Leven members. No game fish were caught but perch and pike featured with Alex Sommerville winning with a fine 19 pound pike. As the kitty for the day was not won, it was donated to the funds for the Lomond Senior Citizens Christmas treat.

Please remember the AGM and prize giving is on 5th November in the Clachaig Hotel, followed by a buffet supper. All members and riparian owners along with those interested in the aims of the Club are cordially invited to attend. Will last years trophy winners please return the cups to myself by 16th October.

Finally, the Club is seeking to rent suitable premises from October to the end of February to house the Club's boats in order to carry out essential work. If you have anything which may be suitable, please contact me as soon as possible.

*Alex Stewart
(President)*

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Obituaries

Willie Allan died on 28 July 1999 as a result of an accident. He was born in 1911 in Falkirk, one of a family of twelve. In 1938 he married a local girl, Annie Scott, and they had four children, May, Isabel, Douglas and Billy. They lived most of their lives at 5 Lyon Cottages, Killin.

When Willie left school aged fourteen, he served his apprenticeship as a hairdresser in Falkirk and Dundee before coming to work for Danny Campbell in Killin in 1930. He took to the village life immediately and was a keen member of the local mountaineering club. During the war, Willie served in the Royal Navy from 1940 until the war ended in 1945. He was mainly on destroyers and saw action in the Atlantic and in the Mediterranean. He was on the HMS Wishart on D Day in 1944. After the war he resumed his job with Danny Campbell and eventually took over the newsagents and hairdressers when Danny retired.

It was in the 1930's when it was discovered that Willie had a very fine tenor voice and he started singing at local concerts in the area. In addition to singing in the Kirk Choir every Sunday, he was an Elder of Killin Church and was

also Session Clerk for a time. Even though he was very involved in village life, singing was always his priority and in the early 50's he started taking an interest in Gaelic and joined the Aberfeldy Gaelic Choir and also competed in the Aberfeldy Mod. Though he was not a Gaelic speaker, he won the Ewan MacDiarmid Trophy two years in a row, then went on to win the silver pendant at the National Mod when it was held in Inverness in 1959. He then stopped competing for many years but after he retired from the newsagents he thought he would have one last go, and won the Cuach Bhragad Albainn, the top award at the Aberfeldy Mod at the age of 68.

If singing was Willie's favourite pastime, angling was his other great passion. He was an accomplished fly fisherman, and in 1956 he was capped for Scotland on 3 occasions. He enjoyed salmon fishing on Loch Tay and was also interested in all sports. He was a stalwart of the bowling and curling clubs for many years and even took up golf at the age of 65 and played at least twice a week with the "Seniors" summer and winter right up until last year. Willie was a keen Mason, a Past Master of Lodge Breadalbane and one of the longest serving Masons in the Lodge.

Willie is survived by his wife Annie, his four children, five sisters and two brothers, nine grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren. He will be sadly missed.

Violet Joan Lynne, 6 Fingal Road, Killin died 30th July 1999 at Stirling Royal Infirmary after a short illness.

Joan left Jersey, Channel Islands, in June 1940 with the rest of her family, just before the German Occupation. Her father, a Scot, was taken as a prisoner of war in Germany at the time.

The family spent the war years in Scotland to be near the rest of the family. She leaves a daughter Carol, and two grand-daughters Yvonne and Simone. Joan will be sadly missed by her family and friends.

John McPherson, Farm Manager of Daldravaig Farm, Glen Lochay.

John was taken ill suddenly and died in the Stirling Royal Infirmary on 17th June 1999 at the age of 62. He was born in Lanark and lived at Broomerside. One of a shepherding family, his abiding interest was in Blackfaced tups and his dogs. He held the "Top Price" record for a tup lamb at Stirling in 1975. His father was at Edinchip for a time.

John and Cathie moved to Daldravaig in 1989. John played with the carpet bowlers in Killin, but his real interest was always in his work. His only daughter was on honeymoon at the time of his unexpected death. We shall miss him about Glen Lochay.



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Killin's New Arrivals

"Hello Killin from your newest resident. My name is Emma Catherine Aitken. I was born at Stirling Royal on Friday 16th July 1999 at 6.33 pm. I weighed 7 pounds 11 ounces and measured 49.5 cms in length. My Mum Sheila and my Dad Gordon were delighted when I arrived safe and sound. I have a big sister, Laura, who has just started school."



Route Map Removed

It has been pointed out that the local route map indicating some local rights of way has had to be removed from the library as it is inaccurate.

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Anthony, Kay, Oliver, Jinny and Antonia Dowling of Gardeners Cottage, Kinnell, Killin are delighted to announce the arrival of Tegan Sophia on 22nd June 1999, weighing 7 pounds and 1 an ounce.

When Tegan decided she was on the way, Kay was making Oliver's "Bugs Day" outfit and this was finished in record time before she left for the hospital in the car with Anthony. By the time they got as far as Callander, it looked as if the baby would arrive in the car so they went quickly to the police station and asked the police to call an ambulance. The speedy arrival of the ambulance was a great relief to all - especially the policemen on duty who thought they might have to deliver the baby! Kay arrived at Stirling Royal Hospital with only minutes to spare.



*Pictured with their new baby sister, from left to right are:
Antonia, Jinny, Tegan and Oliver.*



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Thank You

The family of the late Willie Allan wish to thank all their relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind thoughts and support, also cards received following their recent sad loss. Thanks also to the Killin Mountain Rescue Team and to the Police and a very special thanks to all the people young and old who took part in the search on Wednesday night into Thursday morning. Thanks also to Hilary and her staff at the Falls of Dochart Residential Home for their devoted care and kindness to Willie. Thanks also to the Reverend Lincoln for his most uplifting service and to all who paid their last respects at the Church and graveside.

D Allan

Eileen Frost

Many sincere thanks to all the staff, residents and visitors of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home for their care and friendship to Eileen. Also thanks to the doctors and nurses who cared for her. We also appreciated the many cards and kind messages. Eileen only lived in Killin for several months, but very much enjoyed the friendliness of village life.

The Frost Family

The Killin Highland Games Committee would like to thank the Killin News for lending us the photographs to be used in the programmes and other promotional material - it was much appreciated.

Cathie, Joyce and Martin would like to thank everyone for their letters, cards and flowers following John's sudden death. Thanks also to those who paid their respects at the crematorium.

Daldravaig Farm

On behalf of my daughters, Yvonne and Simone and all members of my family, I would like to convey my deepest thanks and appreciation for all the care and attention extended to my mother, "Joan Lynne", from our local practitioners and the doctors and medical staff of the Stirling Royal Infirmary.

I would also like to thank all relatives, friends and neighbours for their kind messages of sympathy

Carol MacKechnie

Dear Killin

Thank you for your hospitality and a wonderful holiday from 31st July to 7th August.

Caroline thinks it was very kind of you to put on the Highland Games for her birthday on 4th August. We all had a really enjoyable time, and Stuart would particularly like to thank those who put on the Children's Games. We would also like to thank the staff of your Co-Op and the young lady in the "Wee Bake Shop".

*Myra & Tommy Banks (Granny & Grandad),
Stuart (aged 5), Craig (aged 2),
Caroline & John Lauder.*

Many thanks once again to Maureen, John, their staff and customers of the Clachaig Hotel for their help and generosity in raising over £330 from the "counter charity bottle" in aid of the Oncology Department at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh. Thanks also to the Highland Games Committee for presenting two tents from which we raised the sum of £177 for the same charity.

All help and donations were very much appreciated. Thanks again.

Morag McNee for Killin & District.

I would like to say a big "thank you" to all my many friends who made my 50th birthday at Innishewan such a memorable event. Special thanks to Helen Taylor, Helen Urquhart, Auntie Pat, Jane Anderson, Frances Cushley, Lesley Lacey, and all the staff at Suie Hotel. I would also like to thank my boss, Judy Bowser, for the use of her shed, without which there would have been no party. Many thanks to you all.

*Scotty Wyllie,
Innishewan Farm, Luib, Crianlarich.*

An open letter to the People of Killin

For those of you who are not familiar with me let me introduce myself I am a medical student studying at Dalhousie University in Halifax, Nova Scotia in Canada and I recently spent four weeks as an apprentice with Dr. Syme at the Killin Medical Practice during the months of July and August.

It has been only one week since I left Killin and I already miss the people and scenery of Killin. During my rotation I not only extended my medical education but I also had a social experience which I will never forget. I felt genuinely welcome not only at the surgery but around the community, and in people's homes during our visits to patients in Killin as well as in Crianlarich, Tyndrum, Lochearnhead, and Ardeonaig. I was fortunate enough to bear witness to the open and kind hearts of the people of Killin in times of levity and, unfortunately, tragedy.

I will forever remember Killin and hope to return some time in the future. I would like to thank all those at the surgery in particular Dr. Syme. A very special thank you is extended to fellow Nova Scotian Johnny Mudd and her husband Stanley, without whose help I would never have experienced Killin the way I did. I hope to develop a website detailing my visit to Killin displaying some of the many (but not enough) photos of the village and its people I took during my stay. To anyone who wishes to contact me, I can be reached by e-mail at jjung@is2.dal.ca.

Jason Yung

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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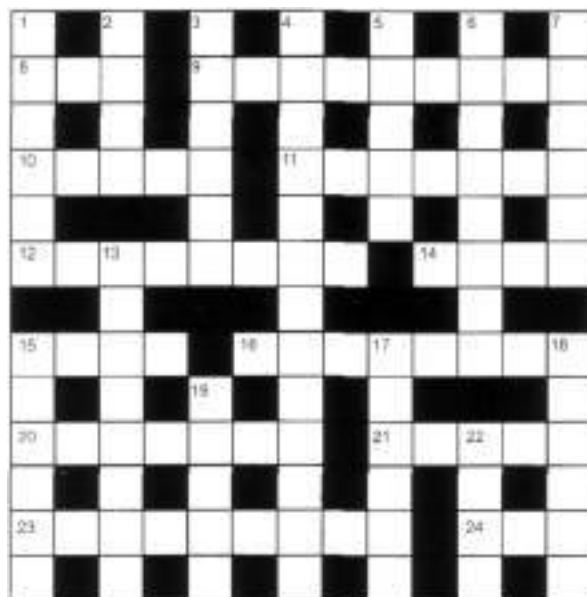
Crossword By Scorpio

ACROSS

8. The fish came back as a medic (3)
9. Declared - can undo north eastern puzzle (9)
10. His band could benefit us (5)
11. Blow up in apartment out east (7)
12. Use sun so to relate to the senses (8)
14. Death announcement made former member go to Italy (4)
15. Food is always in what Eric eats (4)
16. Commander in chief noted for western confusion (8)
20. Nourishing, but can affect visibility (3-4)
21. Palace to visit in Frisco New Town (5)
23. Rising (9)
24. Surgeon's issue (3)

DOWN:

1. A garment could help with mail delivery, we hear (1,5)
2. Analyse metrically (4)
3. Golden entrance for French confection (6)
4. Very old policeman or perhaps a collectable item (7,6)
5. Given to bouts of antisocial behaviour (5)
6. After the wedding, grab the cash (8)
7. Victory in Europe missile got confused and was given publicity (6)
13. Is there a possibility? - Certainly not (2,6)
15. One Peter given to repetition (6)
17. In original place (2,4)
18. Ancient Boeotian city (6)
19. Footsore or hackneyed (5)
22. Lady's fingers (4)



Solution to last Crossword

Across: 8. NHS 9. Irritated 10. Sting 11. Whisper 12. Superman 14. Glad 15. Idol 16. Saturday 20. Provide 21. Moron 23. Smothered 24. Ire.

Down: 1. Onasis 2. Asti 3. Linger 4. Brown as a berry 5. Stair 6. Stippled 7. Adored 13. Promotor 17. Unmade 18. Yonder 19. Niche 22. Rail.

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The latest date for us to receive advertisements and written copy for the next issue (the Christmas Issue) of the Killin News is:

20th October 1999.

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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.

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IMPORTANT NEWS *for the* ELDERLY *and* CARERS

WILTSHIRE FARM FOODS

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Winter is approaching and getting to the shops may at times be difficult. The solution is our HOME MEALS SERVICE. Delicious and Nutritious Meals delivered frozen to your door - ready to simply heat and eat!

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Millennium Celebrations Hogmanay 1999

Tickets for the Millennium Celebratory Dance being held in the McLaren Hall at 10 pm on 31st December 1999 into the wee small hours of 1st January 2000 are very much in demand. The band for the evening will be the Lochside Ceilidh Band and the event will be licensed to sell alcohol until Millennium morning.

At the moment, tickets are only available to locals, but like all Millennium events, they are in great demand. By the end of October, tickets will be on general sale to everyone - so don't leave it too late to get yours. Avoid any disappointment and order yours NOW from Charlie Grant on Killin (01567) 820342.

Two Dances in two nights - what a wonderful way to start off the New Year with your toes tapping. Who said "nothing every happens in Killin"?!

Two fabulous nights of entertainment, both raising money for worthy causes in Killin - get you tickets now.

New Year Dance

Ticket requests for this highly popular annual dance on the night of 1st January 2000 are streaming in. The organisers don't wish to local revellers who always support this enjoyable evening to miss out, so please contact the ticket sellers now to avoid any disappointment. Remember, the capacity of the McLaren Hall is 450. The ever popular Tommy Walker's Scottish Dance Band will play as usual. Tickets are £5 and concessions £3 and can be reserved from Douglas McRobbie, Willie Stitt, David Graham and Alex Stewart. The tickets will be available from November. David Graham

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