



Every two months

Online Edition

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 57 July 2000

Is this The End of the Road For the Killin Ambulance?

The Scottish Ambulance Service advise us that they have the continuance of the Killin Ambulance Station Under Review .

The effect on the residents of Killin, Lochearnhead, Crianlarich and Tyndrum would be disastrous if it were to close. On our doorstep one of the most dangerous roads in Scotland the A84/85. The Community Councils of Killin, Strathfillan and Lochearnhead will strenuously oppose any attempt to discontinue or reduce, ambulance cover in this area.

The £850,000 which went to Callander for their new Resource Centre is to accommodate Ambulance Services also - is this to be at the expense of Killin's Ambulance Centre? Not wishing to scare monger, but, if Killin's Ambulance is discontinued, people **will** die whilst waiting for an ambulance.



Radio 5 Comes To Lix Toll

On Friday 30th June Jim Cushley of Lix Toll Garage and John MacPherson representing Killin Community Council were interviewed live on Radio 5 about the cost of petrol in our rural environment.

Petrol prices in Scottish rural areas are some of the highest in the world. With garages closing all around him, Jim

stressed that there was obviously very little profit in selling petrol. John MacPherson stated that everything which comes to Killin has to do so by road - there is no other means of transport. Villagers support the garage and are loyal to it - where would we get petrol or servicing if Lix Toll wasn't there?

As an aside, it is unfortunate that most villagers in this area, can't receive a signal from Radio 5 - but John and Jim had slicked their hair back and looked very smart, especially for the performance!

After the interview, John jokingly said to Jim "I'll be back later for a free service!!!



Green For Go, The New Green Killin Community Bus (see article on p12)





Killin News Across The Globe



Sandy Bickerton ex-pat of Killin, who now lives in Hamilton, Ontario, Canada, had this photo taken whilst on holiday in Washington DC, USA. He was not in jail – the bars are around the grounds to the Whitehouse. And, no, neither Bill or Hilary invited him, or his Killin News, in for tea.



Alan Gillespie from Gourrock, seen here reading the Killin News at a market in Sri Lanka. The photo was taken just before the recent violent outbreak there – was this anything to do with Alan or the Killin News?!



Sheila Allan out for dinner in Melbourne, Australia with Addie McKenzie and his wife Karen. Addie is the son of Lily McKenzie, Stewart Road, Killin. Addie emigrated to Australia in 1978 and is seen here reading the March Issue of the Killin News. Incidentally, Sheila's name really is Sheila – unfortunate name for a woman living in Australia !!



Killin Primary School teacher, Mrs Sheena Chisholm is seen here with the Killin News on her recent holiday in Latvia.



Keep sending us your photos from throughout the world. The only criteria is that you must have a copy of the Killin News in the photo.



Left: Just to emphasise the loneliness and expanse of the West Highland Way – the Killin Walkers (see full article on page 3), are the two groups of tiny dots in the middle of the photo.

Carry On Walking

Alternatively Titled:

Killin's Page 3 Girls!

Sometime last year, over a drink or two no doubt, an idea was discussed, that a group of ladies should walk the West Highland Way, to raise money in memory of Simon Twigg, who died last year from cancer. A team of eight was quickly formed and the organisation began. We organised accommodation and luggage transport and were very fortunate to get B&Bs to house all eight of us for all but one night. Then the training began, but that is another story!

The team consisted of Diana Twigg, Dani Grant, Terry Dodd, Margaret Campbell, Morag McAllister, Kay Riddell, Frances McLaggan and myself. We got a late addition to the team in the form of Dochy MacDonald – Dochy travelled home each day to the comfort of his own bed.

We travelled down to Milngavie on Sunday 14th May via the Community Bus driven by Jimmy Gauld – we're sure that he will never be the same again after the conversations that took place during that journey! We had a few waves from people as we left the village, but most people preferred the comfort of their beds at 7.30 on a Sunday morning. At the official start of the walk we had a photo call, and then all those months of training had to be put to the test.

The weather on the first day was glorious – OK for sitting outside a pub with a cool drink, but not for walking! The rest of the week gave us quite mixed weather, but never sunny enough to get a sun tan – just weather-beaten. Fred MacAulay and Iain Anderson both gave us mentions on Radio Scotland during the week.

During our training we had done some long walks and some tough walks, but

The Walkers, with the ladies from The Clifton Coffee Shop in Tyndrum who generously donated packed lunches



nothing could truly prepare us for getting up day after day and walking however sore the blisters became. I expect that each stage if walked independently would appear to be much easier than we found them walking each day, but that is the true way to do the West Highland Way. We also met some really nice people on the Way, and we found that there was a real sense of camaraderie amongst the walkers.

We definitely thought that the stretch along Loch Lomond from Rowardennan to Inverarnan was more than the 14 miles stated – whoever measured it did not walk it! The dreaded Devil's Staircase was not so bad after all; in fact I personally thought that the climb out of Kinlochleven the next morning was worse. Dochy ran back from Kinlochleven to Kingshouse to where he

had left the car! We were joined on the last day by Mick Grant and Roger Twigg and were met in Fort William by Terry's husband Clive.

Overall we all enjoyed the week, and were amazed to find that we were still all friends at the end. As the weeks have passed since we completed the walk we are gradually realising the full magnitude of what an unlikely bunch of walkers have achieved. We walked the 95 miles in approximately 45 hours (based on the slowest walkers) and have raised in excess of £4,000 (and it's still rising!), which will be divided between MacMillan Cancer Relief and a special fund for the Killin Nursing Association.

If anyone is interested in more details of the walk please check the Killin web site or contact Liz for a printed copy.

Liz Stevens

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Development Plan

All local authorities have to produce a Development Plan for their areas. This comprises the Structure Plan which sets the policy framework for the future development of the area and normally covers a period of ten years. The Local Plan deals with specific site use matters and must conform to the Structure Plan. Decisions on individual planning applications must accord with the whole of the Development Plan unless what are termed as 'material considerations' indicate otherwise. Too few people take the opportunity or time to find out anything about what is being planned for the future. When the time comes it might be too late to do anything about the monstrosity being built beside your house. Find out now what your Council is planning for your area – your views could make a difference.

Highland Dancing

Highland dancers, Siobhan Anderson and Gillian Ross (see photo on back page), have been busy competing in various competitions throughout the country. Both have been doing very well and gathering a fine collection of medals. Recently they competed at Kilmore and Kilbride Highland Games, the first outdoor event for the girls and hopefully they should get a few more throughout the summer. Unfortunately, the Killin Highland Games doesn't have a class for them to compete in, as both are still "beginners". Following on from this they have the 'novice' and then 'intermediate' sections before reaching the 'open'. Siobhan and Gillian have been dancing to entertain guests in the Highland Heritage Hotels and this is proving to be an encouraging experience.

Siobhan has been dancing with Aileen since September 1996 and shows great improvement all the time. She is due to sit her Gold Medal Test shortly, and gained Honours in her previous test which is the highest grade possible.

The classes are now taking a break until 15th August. For further information, please contact Aileen Fisher on 01301 704 283

A Wasted Opportunity.....?

The investment of £130,000 of public money is welcome. It is a part of an imaginative investment programme by the Scottish Executive aimed at improving rural health care. There are concerns about whether this proposed investment in the Killin Nurses Clinic is the most appropriate way to spend £130,000, and whether it will deliver what is intended.

The Health and Social care study conducted in and around Killin identified a variety of needs including education (day and evening classes), IT, health promotion, increased library facility, youth activities including IT, improved out of school care and nursery provision, and leisure facilities.

Various organisations indicated in the study a willingness to bring services to Killin if suitable accommodation was available. The Killin Steering Group was formed to take these ideas forward and is actively campaigning for a new purpose built community resource centre to accommodate and integrate these activities. It was hoped that through joint funding initiatives involving local and central government, social and health services that an imaginative and forward looking development could be created.

The decision by the Scottish Executive to fund the Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust to upgrade and extend the Nurses clinic to the sum of £130,000, may jeopardise the proposed new resource centre. Killin is likely to be left with a very partial solution to a real need. There was very limited or no local, public consultation about the bid. The question arises, "Is the nurses clinic, given its situation and limited access, the most appropriate place to consider for development?"

The press release indicates that the money is for provision of: a small day centre, improved treatment room facilities, chiropody and antenatal

classes and dental check ups. The Day Centre is an identified requirement but given the space at the clinic (even considering an extension), limited access, and lack of suitable parking, is it a viable option? What is meant by improved treatment facilities is not clear. The Health and Social care study indicates that Chiropody services will be required only once a week and that the Aberfeldy Dental practice indicated a willingness to provide 1 or 2 days per week but the range and nature of the services was not defined.

There is no doubt that Killin would benefit from an integrated resource centre which would address many of the needs identified in the Health and Social Care study. It needs suitable premises to accommodate integrated health & social care, and educational provision for the coming years. It needs a community focused resource with community identity and ownership which will reflect and use the wealth of local skill and commitment available (the Killin News and the Killin Web site are testament to the talent and commitment available within the village).

The proposed investment to upgrade the nurses clinic, if allowed to proceed on its own, is an unimaginative, short term and partial solution which fails to address the future needs of the village. If however, the £130,000 can be harnessed and used for the more imaginative and community based solution, then it will be money well spent.

The opportunity to influence the outcome of this project still exists, but it is up to the village to make its opinions known. If you care about the future of Killin and the type and range of services it has to offer, then you **must** get involved and make your views known.

David Blaney

Use the Killin News as a platform for your views. In addition to this paper being distributed world wide, copies are also sent to the Chief Executive of Stirling Council, local MP's, MSP's, and the Councillors' Lounge in Stirling. This issue will be sent to the Scottish Executive and to Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust.

£850,000 New Resource Centre For Callander & £130,000 Extension to Nurses Clinic for Killin

Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust welcomes the news that it has been successful in obtaining funding under the Primary and Community Care Premises Modernisation Programme to improve primary care facilities in Callander and Killin.

The monies will fund a new purpose built Primary and Community Care Resource Centre in Callander which will replace the existing two GP practice medical centres, and nurses clinic and also provide day care and community health services within one premise.

Within the proposed Callander Resource Centre there will also be possibilities for including Ambulance Services, local GP out of hours services and increased outreach and diagnostic services from the secondary care sector. This Centre would also service Tyndrum, Crianlarich, Lochearnhead, Ardeonaig and Killin, the area covered by the Killin Medical Practice.

The Killin project involves the upgrading and extension of the Nurses House/Clinic, to add a small day centre to the building currently used as a nurses base. This will allow the use of the premises for other clinically related uses. The proposed extension will be utilised by the Social Work Department as a day facility for older people. This is in line with the overall plan developed by the community in the Health and Social Care Study for Killin and surrounding areas.

This development would allow improved access to health and social services, and in turn lead to improved delivery and effectiveness of services to the community. Included in the scheme are improvements to the treatment room facilities, the ability to house chiropody services (which are currently provided by the mobile unit) and antenatal classes could also be improved.

In addition, a General Dental Practitioner has indicated willingness to do check ups in the improved facility, a service for which the people of Killin and surrounding area currently have to travel at least 30 miles.

For more information on either of these projects, please contact Ms Katherine Novosel, Press Officer, Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust on 01324 570700



From a purely physical perspective, regardless of parking problems, and wasted money, It seems such a shame to add an extension onto this lovely shaped house, used at present as the Nurses Clinic at Ballechroisk.

Ed - At time of going to press (end June), Stirling Council Planning Department had not had any plans for this extension submitted to them. It is hoped that in the next issue of the Killin News we will be able to publish the outline plans, for public interest.

Killin Resource/ Healthy Living Centre

The 3rd meeting of the Steering Group took place on Tuesday 20th June, and yes, it was more interesting than the England v Portugal game. A lively meeting with heated and interesting debate. Euan Murray, Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust) attended in his role as project manager of the proposed extension to the Nurses' Clinic at Ballechroisk. In addition SC's Rowena Wilson was welcomed. Rowena is responsible for providing elderly day care in our area and is planning to do so in the 'new' Nurses' Clinic. The feeling of the meeting was that there was some regret that the money and related activities were not going to be combined into the broader IT, education, healthy living and leisure resource centre that the community is currently working towards. However it had to be acknowledged that with the money on the table, things could happen pretty quickly at the Clinic, whereas the Steering Group's plans are at an early stage. It was suggested that we take comfort from the fact that the allocation of £130,000 to the Killin area, is at least an acknowledgement of the need for more resources and facilities in this area.

Since the last Killin News, representatives of the Steering Group have met with the McLaren Hall Trustees, the head of Stirling Council's Library Service, the IT and education people of Falkirk College (responsible for The Stirling Centre and Strathyre IT Centre), Clackmannan College (evening and adult education classes, the Killin Library computer), Stirling University and Stirling Council. Some of the latter have worked together on developing computer based Learning Centres already, and there was very good discussion about pooling their experience and resources with the hard work and enthusiasm of the Steering Group.

More research about the community is needed. As a starter, a questionnaire has been put together to gather the views and interests of younger members of our community. Those that attended the third Steering Group meeting were Linda Fitzgerald, Margaret MacIver, Yvonne MacPherson, John MacPherson, Catriona Oldham, Suzanne Player, Theresa Robertson, Elaine Turner, Donald Third and Sue Wyllie. Do ask us about the Group. Additionally, we hope to put copies of the minutes in Killin Library and the Mobile Library.

Sue Wyllie, Community Animator

Killin Community Council

At the Killin Community Council on 13th June 2000, the Chairman welcomed the assembly and introduced Mr Hopper of Stirling Council. Before normal business was considered, he asked Mr Hopper to address the Council regarding waste disposal, which had been raised as a problem with Stirling Council. Mr Hopper explained that Stirling Council had an obligation to provide Killin and district with a Civic Amenity Site, and that they recognised that it was unfair on residents of this area that the nearest Civic Amenity Site was in Callander. He had been asked to organise the provision of an addition facility in Killin and emphasised that community involvement would be essential. A site had already been identified, adjacent to the roads depot, and permission had been sought, and given, for its development as a Site. Despite there being no specific monies budgeted for this project, with a total estimated cost of between £4,000 and £5000, it is anticipated that work will begin by mid July. The area will require to be surfaced with tarmac and fenced. The skip size will be the largest available at 22 cu. yds. Recycling requirements would also be taken into account, as would Green Waste (see article on p.33).

Traffic Beware

Iain Campbell voiced his concern regarding the increasing number of children playing around the Ballechroisk area and asked for some form of traffic slowing. It was agreed that initially the local police should be contacted for assistance.

A reply had been received from Forth Valley Health Board detailing the wide proposals for change to health services within the Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannan areas. It indicated that the consultation period had been extended to

8th September. It was agreed that a meeting should be organised including Strathfillan and Balquhiddar Community Councils in the McLaren Hall in Killin to allow the north east rural area to have their questions answered, and hopefully have their issues resolved.

New Houses For Killin

A letter had been received from Rural Stirling Housing Association which indicated that they were looking for a site in Killin to build 16 houses. They will address the next Community Council meeting.

Sue Wyllie indicated that the Steering Group for the proposed new Killin Resource Centre is progressing. A meeting was organised for 20th June and apart from considering normal and agreed actions points, will also allow the Project Manager for the proposed extension to the Nurses Clinic to explain how the £130,000 recently granted is likely to be spent. The Community Council will actively seek details of the plans for this proposed Nurses Clinic extension, from Stirling Council Planning Department.

Community Animator

Linda FitzGerald proposed that the Community Council should pursue Stirling Council for an increase in hours or at least an assured continuance, of the role of Community Animator. The effect on our community, of this Stirling Council venture since its conception, has been impressive. It was agreed to write a letter to Stirling Council thanking them for providing this excellent facility.

Killin Web Site

John Mallinson commended the Killin Web Site on the quality and content of their site and recommended that Killin Community Council information should be incorporated within this site.

It was agreed that details about the Provost's Civic Awards would be published in the Killin News.

Election of Office Bearers

It was agreed that the current office bearers would retain their positions until the end of the three year tenure in October. At that time new councillors will be elected.

John MacPherson thanked Bill Rew and Fiona Davidson for their substantial contributions as Chairman and Secretary over the bulk of the last three years. He thanks the Council members for their contributions which had facilitated a fair degree of success over the period. It was accepted that the major failure however, was the bottom car park and its potential development by A&B Services. Lessons had been learned from this experience and the Community Council were hopeful that this could lead to an enhanced relationship with Stirling Council.

John MacPherson also thanked the Killin News for its assistance in publicising important issues for the Community Council and for detailing its activities on a regular basis.

Finally, John emphasised the importance of early communication, before meetings, by the public to notify the Council of any complaint or issue, to allow the Community Council time to prepare a response. This would assist them in becoming much more effective in future.

The next meeting of the Killin Community Council will be in the Lesser McLaren Hall on Tuesday 8th August at 7.30 pm

Community Council Elections

The election of members to the Killin Community Council will take place during October/November 2000.

Nomination Packs are available from the Community Resource Centre, Stirling Council, 13, Corn Exchange Road, Stirling FK8 2HX. Anyone who is interested in standing for election and who has not already received a Pack should request one. Candidates must be over 18 and be on the Electoral Register as living within the community council boundary.

To make things happen and have a voice in Killin's future – get involved with your Community Council **NOW**.



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ES 7829 Returns To Killin After 75 Years

Some of you may have noticed this old car parked at Fairview House, Main Street, Killin recently. It is a "Trojan" and belongs to Mr John Amor from Essex. 20th June 2000, was this cars 75th birthday - it was also its owners 75th birthday too! So John decided that the best thing to do with a car on its birthday was to take it back to its origins - believe it or not - KILLIN!

In the mid 1950's, Mike Clark and some friends were touring the Highlands when he spied an old two seater refuelling at the filling station in Killin. After swapping notes with the owner - a septuagenarian dentist, suitably named, Mr Gentle!, they discovered that he had a Trojan at home which they could see if they followed his car, a 1925 Swift. They followed quite rapidly, for the roads of the area at that time, for about 5 or 10 miles, arriving eventually at a point not 200 yards from where they started off! "I've just had the oil changed" said Mr Gentle, "I wanted to mix it in!"



The Trojan was in his garden in a shed (behind where Breadalbane House is now),. It was very complete and original with a bit of rust on the bonnet which was under a mattress, the engine was seized, but otherwise it was apparently sound. Was it for sale? "Come back after tea" said Mr Gentle, so they did and heard over port and fruit cake how he swapped his 1910 Swift for a new one in 1925. Lost from memory is how the Trojan got into Mr Gentle's life, but he had owned it since about 1930. The Swift was his daily transport - perhaps it needed fettling in 1930! Eventually a deal was struck. £15 was the price - this seemed a bit expensive, as the going rate at the time, for a good vintage Austin Seven, was about a tenner, and Morris Eights, the usual transport of the less discerning student, were about £5.

For some reason, the cash couldn't be raised until the next day, so instead they took a tour guided by Mr Gentle through Glen Lyon over a magnificent unsurfaced road. Eventually the banks opened, the cash was handed over and a solid towbar was made by the local blacksmith for £1.

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Incidentally, the haze behind the car isn't a photographic error - it is the exhaust smoke! When I met John at Fairview House with Rick Wells, I wasn't sure who was in better 'nick' - John or the Trojan. ES7829 was in superb condition for its 75 years, as was John. John said that the Trojan had managed the drive from Essex to Killin without a hitch and was looking forward to the long drive back - well speed has never been of the essence where Trojans are concerned, has it?

Ed

Provost's Civic Awards

In December 1997 Stirling Council agreed to introduce annual Civic Awards which would be given in recognition of significant contributions made by citizens or communities to the life of the Council's area, or significant achievement by citizens in the Arts, Sports, Academic and Business fields. The Awards are open to all citizens, communities, voluntary and business organisations within the Council area.

The first Annual Provost Civic Awards were awarded to a wide cross section of the community in October 1998 at a special ceremony in Stirling Castle. The Award is recognised as an important statement of the Council's commitment to the promotion of civic pride and the distinctive identity of the Stirling Council area and its aim to foster closer partnerships between the Council, its communities and its citizens.

Organisations or individuals within the Stirling area are now invited to nominate persons for Stirling Council's Provost's Civic Awards 2000. Awards will be given for activities contributing to the Stirling Council area honour and welfare in the following categories:-

1. **Business – large and small companies**
2. **Art/Culture**
3. **Sports**
4. **Academic**
5. **Community**
6. **Volunteer Sector**
7. **Special Achievements**

Awards will be made to those individuals, either resident within the area of Stirling Council, or businesses etc., operating within it, who have made a substantial contribution in the year from 1st June 1999 to 31st May 2000. Other nominations will be considered exceptionally on their merits.

Further information and Nomination Forms are available from The Provost's Secretary, Democratic Services, Civic Services, Stirling Council, Stirling FK8 2ET Tel: 01786 443380. Nominations to be returned by **Monday 31st July 2000.**



SusTrans New Cycle Path



Enduring moist conditions on mid-summer's day, two groups of intrepid cyclists successfully trail blazed part of the new National Cycle route 7, linking Callander, Killin and Pitlochry. Although the section on the old railway from Kingshouse to Glenoglehead was not yet complete, this one-off effort played a crucial part in a nation-wide event. In Callander, Stirling Council and Provost Brooks hosted one of 70 receptions on the 'Longest Ride', as cyclists and walkers throughout the UK covered over 5,000 miles of the current National Cycle Route Network (NCN).



Some of the hardy cyclists who completed the Cyclethon. Much welcomed, Soup and Sandwiches, were provided at the end of the route, courtesy of Stirling Council in the Lesser McLaren Hall.



Killin's own Trevor Shaw was the first person to cross the newly opened Kendrum Viaduct (near Edinchip).

Route 7 makes use of disused railways, forest roads and public backroads. Key local benefits obviously include a safe alternative to the A84, A85 and A827, especially Glenogle. With continuous, signed links to Inverness, Perth, Stirling and Loch Lomond there is now increasing scope for diverse cycle tourism in the area, with circular route options along the quieter public lochside and glen roads. A possible link through to the trains at Crianlarich, the West Highland Way and the west coast would be a major bonus.

Current construction of some missing links is proceeding apace. Between Kingshouse and Killin, the mixed weather has made working with the ex-railway

sand/clay fairly tricky. Whilst the contractors can accommodate some passage, depending on their operations, for legal and practical considerations and Health & Safety, we ask that people refrain from using the route until it is formally checked and opened at the end of July or beginning of August

If you would like more information on the routes, please contact Stirling Council or SusTrans on Tel. 0131 623 7600 or visit our web site at www.sustrans.org.uk.

Jack Hunt



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The Killin News

Adult Learning Group Award

Stirling Council paid tribute to the outstanding work carried out by local people involved in Adult Learning, at a recent award ceremony.

Vice Chair of Community and Economic Development Committee, John Paterson who presented more than 60 award winners from across the district with their certificates at the Municipal Buildings said, "I am delighted to thank and acknowledge everyone involved in adult learning for their hard work, commitment and achievements."

There were three award categories for individuals and groups, which were:

- Volunteer adult literacy tutors
- Individuals for their contributions to adult learning in their communities
- Groups who contribute to adult learning

Some of the groups to be honoured were ACE Management Committee, Mercat Cross Credit Union, Plean Age Concern Group and the **Killin News** community newspaper.

Pauline Roberts of Stirling Council's Community Resource Centre who put the Killin News forward for the award, wrote of the Killin News that:

"From taking on the challenge of starting up a small community newspaper, a small group of local residents have progressed over the years to producing the Killin News, a 32 page community newspaper with full colour sections and much local involvement.

From its early beginnings they have not only learnt about the organisation of their group and funding, but taken on the technical side of the newspaper. The amount of progress over the years has been enormous.

The Killin News has not only enhanced the community with its coverage of local issues and information on events and clubs, but they have as a group learnt a huge variety of tasks, passed on their skills to each other and produced an on-going project which allows individuals to take part in its writing, photography and committee work. I believe this type of work will encourage the literacy skills of the local people and give an avenue into writing, which many people would not have.

The group with its members of varying ages, has also tackled new technology, learning computer skills and now produces the newspaper completely independently using Desk Top Publishing and digital photography. They are now working towards a web page and internet technology"

Ed - Many thanks to Stirling Council for the Certificate in recognition of our work, and to Pauline for her kind words – it would not have been possible without her continued support both in person and at the end of the telephone line! The Certificate is on display in Killin Library.

£500 Grant From Stirling Council

The Killin News is delighted to report that it has received £500 from Stirling Council, Community Grants Scheme. This money has been put towards the 8 pages (4 in full colour) P7 Press which was inserted into the middle of this Issue of Killin News.

The P7 Press, was done entirely by the children of Primary 7 of Killin Primary School, prior to them going on to the McLaren High in Callander after the summer holidays. The children researched and put together their own articles, appointed an Editor, made democratic decisions, took photos using the Killin News digital camera, decided on layout, colour etc and then witnessed it being put on the Killin News computer from their own disk. They then had 'hands on' experience of the state of the art, newspaper industry, standard software, QuarkXpress and courtesy of the Killin Web Site saw some of the finished version on the Internet.

As Editor of the Killin News, I had the pleasure of working closely with the children on this project, and I must admit that I enjoyed every minute. Having absolutely no experience of children, it was a pretty scary prospect to be faced with 16 school children – but I needn't have worried as they are all lovely kids. My thanks are extended to Mrs. Inglis, Head Teacher of Killin Primary School for all her invaluable assistance. Hopefully, the children have now acquired some knowledge of what is involved in putting a newspaper together and an insight into reporting community news.

Primary 7 will also have an outing in the new Killin Community Bus, to Stirling Reprographics, who are the printers of the Killin News. There they will see their newspaper come 'hot off the press'. Thereafter they will assist Allan Walker with the delivery around the village.

Many thanks are extended to Stirling Council for their financial assistance for the 'P7 Press', from the Killin News, Killin Primary School and the P7 Class of 2000.

Linda FitzGerald
Editor, Killin News

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Mervyn's Weather



Recovery from bruised ribs or a bout of flu seems to take much longer than

one would hope. So it is with unpleasant weather conditions which appear to go on and on. Since the first half of May with its idyllic Spring conditions, it has been downhill all the way. Today, 13th June, is blowing a near gale with wicked and frequent showers and we hear of sea fatalities on the west coast, while inland trees are toppled and gardens ravaged.

Often in the Newspapers are valiant attempts by amateur long-range forecasters, many of whom base their convictions on previous years performances. While this approach sometimes does bear fruit, it is a very much hit and miss game. For instance, June 1983 was weatherwise, not unlike the present month – to date – as indeed was June 1947 after the notorious “shinwells winter” both these years then produced glorious conditions from July to September. Conversely, brilliant spells in early June 1950 and 1985 were followed by abysmal late summers. Three of the driest and hottest summers of the second half of the century just past were 1955, 1976 and 1984. In '55 and '84, the signs were already apparent by late May, while the torrid season of summer 1976 was preceded by a wet, cool June. So there would appear to be no hard and fast pattern with very few seasons totally alike and one can only hope that some law maker – NOT MURPHY, SOD or some other tasteless type, will rule that this “bad” spell is followed by something better!

Mervyn K Browne
Ardtnaig

Killin Floral Awards 2000

The Commercial Section covers any fully commercial establishment within the village.

“The best overall floral display in containers fronting an establishment.”

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Tubs - planting as for hanging baskets.

Window Boxes - an overall mass of colour. No limit on plant varieties.

“The Tidiest Garden viewed from the Road” - this will be judged this year on the following criteria: **“Best overall display of colour in summer”** - and it must have a combination of summer bedding plants and other perennials, shrubs, roses etc.

Childrens' Competitions

“The Tallest Sunflower Plant” and **“The Largest Sunflower Flower Head”**.

This year, 26 children have entered the competition, so let's hope for a splendid display of sunflowers around the village.

Short lists are made for each category during June and July, and then handed over to a totally independent judge by the beginning of August. Not even the Committee know the exact date when judging will take place.

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Where Eagles Dare!

A few Glens more or less west of Killin, a golden eagle was born on a mountain ledge last year. This year, a few Glens more or less east of Killin, it died.

The vagueness of location is necessary. A lot of people who know where it was born are eager to know where it died – where it was killed – because they put a great deal of effort into ensuring that the bird flew free in the first place. People get angry and tolerances wear thin, when poisoned bait kills a golden eagle, especially when the estate that laid the bait is known, and when the law is unable to effect a prosecution.

When news of the poisoning first made national headlines, the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds), was quoted as saying it was the fourth known poisoning on the same estate in six years. But, without finding evidence of the bait itself, there can be no prosecution.

There is a particular irony to the death of this eagle. The bird was raised at an eyrie with a troubled history, for it was robbed of its eggs on eight successive springs. Then, largely due to the efforts of Bridget and the late Don MacCaskill of Strathyre, a watch was introduced, given a high profile, and the tide turned for the eagles.

The birds began to breed successfully again, thanks to the co-operation of Forest Enterprise, the Police, the British Army, and more than 100 volunteers who regularly put in 7 or 8 hour shifts through the fickle weather of what passes for spring in our mountains.

By any standards, the eagles have prospered since then on the eyrie. When they leave the eyrie, however, it is not such a satisfactory record. In the past four years, two have died from poisoning, and another has suffered the slow death of starvation, in a crow trap which should have been checked every 24 hours. On every occasion, the landowners and keepers responsible might just as well have taken the egg from the nest and smashed it against the eyrie cliff. The result would have been the same, and they would have been no more and no less guilty.

It is fair to say that many landowners and keepers are as outraged and embarrassed by these killings as the rest of us. But, the Victorian ethos which established the philosophy of death to all hook-beaks is still a legible signature of land management in too much of Highland Scotland.



A young eagle struggles to survive in Perthshire.
Photo courtesy of Jim Crumley from his book "Among Mountains".

A keeper who puts down poisoned bait in golden eagle country, whether he intends to kill foxes or stoats or crows or stick insects, know full well that he is as likely to kill golden eagles, as any of these, and is therefore contemptuous of eagles.

Highland Scotland's population of golden eagles is reasonably healthy, and infinitely better than it was a hundred years ago, but continuity at long-established eyries is crucial to the birds' long-term future. Eagles cannot breed until they are 3 or 4 years old. So, here on our own doorstep, is an eyrie deprived of adding to the stock of young birds for 8 years by egg thieves, and now, deprived for 3 out of the last 4 years by landowning practice which is at best, negligent – at worst, malicious.

It does not take a mathematical genius to calculate the disastrous implications of that kind of breeding record. We have already distorted the balance of nature in Scotland to the extent that we have lost all our large mammal predators. The golden eagle is at the top of the food chain, the supreme symbol of nature in the Highlands. The death of any golden eagle by anything other than natural causes is an event that should shame every Scot.

But, the golden eagle is also one of the reasons why many people come to this part of Scotland, the top of the wish-list of many of our visitors. It would be good to have the reputation for Highland Perthshire, as a place where the golden eagle thrives, but it is clear from recent

events that there are still those in our midst who see things differently.

A much tougher law with much, much tougher penalties is the very least we owe our native golden eagle.

Jim Crumley
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Killin Community Bus

It was in the mid 70's that Brian & Rita Taylor first mooted the idea of a Community Bus. A committee, chaired by James MacNab, set to work and obtained sufficient community donations to enable them to purchase a Ford transit minibus for use by the clubs and societies of the village. Although raising funds for maintenance and replacement was never easy the various committees have somehow managed to keep a bus on the road ever since. After the Ford, other vehicles have included a Vauxhall Midi and an Iveco. However locals may have spotted a brand new green Volkswagon LT46 clearly emblazoned with "Killin Community Bus" around the village. Delivery was taken on 12 June and is a major achievement for the present committee. It has been adapted to accommodate the disabled and can seat 11 passengers plus driver or seats can be removed and up to 4 wheelchairs with 5 passengers and driver can be taken. A lift has been built on to the rear to simplify wheelchair entry and exit.

To obtain this superb community bus, which cost £34,500, required a monumental team effort, and our thanks must go to Jimmy Gauld, Charlie Grant, Julia Lincoln and Jill Higgins. Although they persuaded the Scottish Office to cover most of the cost, much hard work was still required to make up the deficit. They, in turn, wish acknowledge the continued help and advice given by Lindsay Rouse (Stirling Council) and Duncan Hearnsum (Stirling Dial-a-Journey) throughout the exercise.

Now that the village has this facility it is up to us all to help ensure its continued existence, by making full use of the bus. To justify its financial assistance, the Scottish Office will be looking for the bus to cover a minimum of 8,000 km this year and 10,000km next. This compares with the previous bus travelling only 5,000km during the past year. As such anyone who thinks they can make good use of the bus is encouraged to speak to a committee member. Charges for use are 15p per kilometer plus fuel.

Another commitment required by the Scottish Office was an undertaking by the committee to co-operate with the Stirling based charity Dial-a-Journey, who provide transport for the disabled throughout Stirling and Clackmannan. Although it is anticipated that this commitment will be minimal, the bus must be made available, if possible, when called upon.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 24 May, the aforementioned committee members were re-elected and they were joined by Ian Black, Pamela Grant and May Aitken. Sue Wyllie, although not a committee member has offered her services as a helper. Ian was appointed Maintenance Manager and the three ladies were commissioned to promote use of the bus.

BD

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Got Time for a Young Person?

Aberlour Childcare Trust and Stirling Council are developing a Befriending project in Callander and surrounding areas. We would like to hear from you if you can give up six evenings for training and a further twelve evenings to work with a group of young people aged between 11 – 13 over the next year. We will be starting a Volunteer Training Programme in July and will start the project in August. If you would like to make a difference to a young person, then please contact Madge Spencer, Befriending Co-Ordinator, Aberlour Childcare Trust, Unit 2, Lomond Crescent, Stirling. Tel: 01786 461334

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The Lingering Effects of Chernobyl

It's now 14 years since the Chernobyl nuclear disaster, and yet we learn from a recent "Scotsman" article by David Montgomery that scientists may have underestimated the effect it had on those parts of the country which experienced the radioactive cloud. We wrote about this in Killin News Issue No. 2 (June 1991), with a subsequent update some 5 years later by Stewart Christie of Auchlyne. Then Stewart told us of the restriction placed on certain sheep farms – eight in number – but expressed the hope that it wouldn't be long before all were passed as free from restrictions. The latest evidence, however, seems to suggest that restrictions in a small number of cases may have to last for a further 15 years!

Accompanying the article, on a more pleasant note, was a splendid photo of our own Gilbert Christie on his farm along with his sheepdog of course. His farm is now one of the eight in this area and twenty in Scotland affected by the 'fall out'. He remains fairly optimistic that things are improving. If caesium levels are too high – "only about half a dozen lambs a year now", - they are simply kept on the lower ground for an additional week or two. When re-tested, they are invariably below the limit. He also said that there was now little disruption. A payment of £1.30 per head is made by the Rural Affairs Department for each lamb tested.

On a similar note, this time, one of International Aid to the children of the Chernobyl area, a party of 12 boys and 14 girls, from Belarus, will stay with host families in the Perth area for the fourth year running. This well deserved, month long break for the children, is designed to take them away from the contaminated area, to help boost their immune systems, and increase their life span by several years. Strange is it not, to bring them here to Scotland and our contaminated areas?

This article has even another twist to "ram" home (sorry about the pun, I couldn't resist it)! A more light hearted aspect of this story is depicted by our Cartoonist, Allan Chisholm, who has illustrated, not as reported in the last issue of Killin News, the chasing of sheep by uncontrolled dogs – but the terror stricken flight of the dogs from the radio-active sheep!

SA



Astronaut ? Naw Naw, its just Gibby.

Millennium Telephone Directory

**Attention:
Killin, Lochearnhead,
Criarlarich & Tyndrum**

The **Killin News** Telephone Directory, issued in 1998, is inevitably showing its age, and an updated version is planned for early in 2001.

This will broadly follow the present pattern, cover a similar area, and will again also include fax, e-mail and mobile numbers, as well as business advertisements. To respect privacy, entries will **NOT** be included unless we are specifically asked to do so and, as before, forms for this purpose will appear inside future issues of Killin News.

The closing date for entries will be announced later and will also be shown on the forms, so keep your eyes open !

Classic Malts Scottish Reliability Trial - 1300 Miles

On 12th May, Killin was inundated with cars from the past. A total of 118 cars, ranging from those made between 1919 – 1974, drove into the Killin Hotel car park, though fortunately, not all at the same time! I discovered cars from the 50's and 60's that brought a rush of nostalgia for the times when we could still build them. Rolls Royce, Alvis, Bentley, Sunbeam, MG, Triumph TR, Aston Martin, Maserati, Gilbern and more in my line – an ancient Morris 8 Series 1!

The route of this endurance test and rally led past a number of distilleries from Edinburgh to Skye and back by a circular route that passed Killin, Glen Lochay and Glen Lyon.

The cost of entry was £2,350 inclusive of hotels, B&B etc - obviously an event for the 'well heeled'. Amongst the competitors was a sports car made in Vienna by the Denzel Car Company (1949 – 59), built on a Volkswagon chassis – only 500 were made. However, the Killin News had an exclusive interview with Peter Denzel, son of the original manufacturer (not a lot of people knew about the Denzel – so there!). Entries were from all over the world - USA, Argentina, Sweden to name a few, but the bulk of the cars were British.

The following day the MG Club visited the village, and again the sound of throaty exhausts double-declutching, and blue exhaust smoke, enlivened the Main Street.

AW



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Schiehallion

Towards the end of last year, The John Muir Trust purchased a large part of this enchanted mountain, including the summit, path and eastern side (2,270 acres). As one of Scotland's most popular peaks, it receives many visitors, who have left their mark on the path which rises from Braes of Foss to the summit. The sensitive restoration of this path will return this part of Schiehallion, named by the Celts as 'The Fairy Place of the Caledonians', to a more natural state.

It was purchased for the sum of £150,000 with a further £150,000 required for the restoration of the path and for future management. A committee has been formed which is made up of JMT (John Muir Trust) members, staff and Trustees, local residents of the surrounding area and others with an interest in Schiehallion. It sits approximately every three months, to help make decisions on the future of this majestic mountain.

As a committee member, I have decided to complete a sponsored clean up of the railway line, surrounding fields and the area at the head of Loch Tay. The money I collect will be distributed between EAK (Environmental Action Killin) and the Schiehallion Appeal Fund. Anyone wishing to sponsor me should leave their contribution either at the Killin Library or the Kirk Care. I also hope to put on a display for the JMT in the Killin Library during the summer the emphasis of which will be the future management of Schiehallion.

As well as being a beautiful mountain, Schiehallion has a unique place in science. In 1774 Nevil Maskelyne, Astronomer Royal, conducted his famous experiment on the deflection of a pendulum caused by the mass of Schiehallion itself. The experiment required observation stations to be established at various points of equal height around the base of the upper hill. He could then compare the apparent difference in latitude, measured astronomically, with the true difference in latitude. Analysis of these results led to a determination of the mass of Earth, which modern science has confirmed. Maskelyne's findings were developed into the concept of mapping mountains, by means of contour lines. This important development is very relevant to today's hillwalkers.

Margaret Fenna



Schiehallion

Killin & District Agricultural Show

Another superb Show is planned for 19th August 2000. Some of the events planned for the day include:-

Sheep and Cattle Classes

Fancy Dress Parade

Demonstration of Western Riding

Sheep Dog Demonstration with Ducks (now that should be fun!)

Baby Show Open to all babies between 6 – 18 months old (entries on field on the day)

Dog Show – Collies, Gun Dogs & "Heinz" Pets

Highland Dancing

Landrover Pulling

Chain Saw Demonstration

Fly Casting Competition

Kids Quad Bikes

Show of Crafts, Baking Produce and Horticulture in McLaren Hall

Numerous Side Shows

Come along and have a great day out for all the family, and support the Killin & District Agricultural Society.

*Helen Taylor, Secretary
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Strathfillan....



The Killin News stretches out the hand of friendship to Strathfillan (Crianlarich, Tyndrum & surrounding areas). Following a recent meeting in the Crianlarich Village Hall, which proved unsuccessful in re-establishing the Strathfillan "By The Way" community newspaper, the Killin News volunteer Editor has volunteered our volunteers (!) to take on production of this newspaper within the Killin News.

The Killin News has increased its print run from 850 to 1050 copies to enable an extra 200 copies to be delivered FREE by (even more) volunteers throughout the Strathfillan area. Currently 750 copies are delivered, **one copy FREE** to each household in Killin, Ardeonaig, Ardtalnaig, Fearnan, Glen Lochay and Glen Dochart, the surplus being very kindly sold on our behalf for 50p in the various shops and post offices throughout the area. It should be remembered that the Killin News is 'manned' – 'womanned!!' entirely by volunteers.

Each Issue of the Killin News costs in excess of £1,200. This is paid for by our advertisers and from donations, we have no other income. The increase in the number of FREE copies we have to provide for Strathfillan, means that we need more income, not from increased costs, but from advertisers in the Strathfillan area, to cover this extra cost. Your advert is not only delivered Free to every house in your area, it is also displayed, without any additional charge to you, on the internet to a world wide audience at the new Killin Web Site. If you have a business in the Strathfillan area, **we need your advertising and/or donations**. We can do all your artwork, please phone Judy (01567 820 298) with your advert, or contact Linda (01567 820 961).

Also, if you live in the Strathfillan area and would like to participate or be involved in **your** newspaper, please get in touch with Linda. You do not need any expertise, just a willingness and desire to see your newspaper continue. *Ed*

A G M Strathfillan Community Council

John Riley Chaired the AGM of Strathfillan Community Council on 7th June. He made mention that during the past year there have been changes in the membership of Council. The unfortunate death of Wattie Anderson, followed by the retirement, due to ill health and family commitments, of May Clement. Both had given many years of hard work to the Council which is appreciated. Welcomed to the Council were Roy Howard, Mary Anderson and Colin MacLellan. Irene

Graham joined the Council prior to the last AGM and Colin took over as Treasurer. Moira Robertson, Jock Henderson and Derek Wilkie have given sustained effort.

The Community Council had been consulted on the position of the boundaries of the Area Forum but were over-ruled on their proposal. John said that "The Area Forums are a 'top-down' organisation, and although they could yet prove to be useful, I've yet to be convinced."

Stirling Council had been, are still being, lobbied by the Community Council to extend the duties of the Village Officers to include grass cutting, snow clearing etc. Although this is conducive with Stirling Council policy, they have not made any actual progress to date.

As regards to Housing, the Community Council have managed to curtail the autonomy of some of the Stirling Council Officers, who still do not understand the meaning of the words "partnership" and "consultation". The Feasibility Study on the Station Yard, Crianlarich being a prime example of this. There was NO site visit and the public were NOT asked what they wanted for the centre of THEIR village.

The Community Council did not oppose the erection of the mobile phone masts. They did however comment that although the authorities say, "There is no evidence to show that they cause any harm", it would have been more assuring if they had evidence to show that they do NOT cause harm.

There will be a Public Meeting in the summer or autumn to discuss the boundary of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.

Congratulations were extended to all Board Members of the Strathfillan Community Development Trust and Sue Wyllie who received the Provost Award for Community Service last year.

John concluded the meeting by thanking everyone for their efforts during the past year.



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“By The Way”

A Housing Meeting was held in Crianlarich Village Hall on 29th June. John Riley (Chair), and guest speakers were Peter Pearson, Co-ordinator Rural Scotland Housing Association, Ken Hutton, Development Officer, Stirling Council and Andy Woodburn, Development manager of Self Build Scotland.

Ken Hutton gave the background to the Housing Partnership, which has led to several initiatives throughout the Stirling Rural area and includes Ogilvie Construction. Within Strathfillan, there are to be 15 RSHA houses for rent in Tyndrum and 5 self-build, with a proposal for 4 or 6 self-build in Crianlarich. The proposed site at Station Yard (photo below) is currently owned by Russell's of Denny, although Stirling Council are in negotiations with them to buy the land. A feasibility study has been completed, it details drawings for between 6 & 8 self-build houses and car parking for 12 to 15 cars. An alternative plan is for 4 or 6 houses, car parking and a community building. SC will negotiate with East of Scotland water about the sewage moratorium, and with Russell's of Denny about the road having to be made up to an adoptable standard. John Riley asked to have recorded that if Stirling Council were not to buy it, then the Strathfillan Community Development Trust would try to buy it under the Land Reform Law.



Peter Pearson explained that the delay in the start of the Tyndrum project had been caused by un-anticipated problems encountered with obtaining planning permission, and acquisition of the site. The mix of houses has been adjusted following community in-put at the last meeting. Work has started on site, and completion will be in February with landscaping in the spring.



The RSHA were not aware of the 'kick-about' area proposed bedside the play park or the shelterbelt to screen the Invervey Hotel. The hydro cable will be put underground. Ogilvie will also put in drainage for the possible development of the Manse in the future. The Sewage moratorium will not allow any further development within the area until after 2003/4.

Andy Woodburn gave the history of CSBS and detailed their aim to provide advice, support, project management, training, increase employability, and development sustainability to self builders. Stirling is a priority project.

Killin News

The housing section of the meeting concluded, Linda FitzGerald, Editor of the Killin News then gave an enthusiastic presentation about Community Newspapers and offered the assistance of the Killin News volunteers to help get the “By The Way” going again. The Community Council and the Strathfillan Community Development Trust stressed that they needed some platform to communicate with the community. Unfortunately, as there were no volunteers from the floor, the CC and SCDT said they would have to revert to newsflashes, without local interest stories. Linda emphasised the importance of Community Newspapers, and volunteered to take Strathfillan ‘under the Killin News wing’ until the “By The Way” is re-established.

Strathfillan Community Council

A meeting of Strathfillan Community Council took place on 7th June in Crianlarich Village Hall. Apologies were received from Sylvia Jackson MSP, and welcomed were Bill Muir, and the newly elected Councillor Tony Ffinch.

A list of outstanding road related problems within the area was given to

Cllr. Ffinch. Additional road problems, lighting faults, BT faults were discussed. Other matters brought up were:

1. The large signs outside the front windows of the Little Chef in Tyndrum are totally illegal and must be removed. The boards advertising ice cream are not allowed on the pavement.
2. A nursery is to be held in Crianlarich Hall on a temporary basis from August to October.
3. There is a lack of Police Officers in the area and it was agreed to write to Sylvia Jackson MSP and the Scottish Executive Roads Department to inform them of this.

Cllr. Ffinch reported that Environmental Quality takes in Waste and Litter and has

proposed a Litter Plan, which lists the optimum times for clearing litter, removing fly tipping, animal carcasses etc. He also proposed extending opening times at sites to include some evenings.

Topics for discussion at this meeting included: Cemeteries, Millennium Medals, Forestry, Planning Applications, Stirling/Falkirk hospitals, Tourism, Council Housing, Roads, & Safety, Environment and National Park. Also, Strathfillan area hopes to re-establish, on a more regular basis, the “By The Way” newspaper and has accepted the Killin News offer of help and advice.

The next SCC meeting will be August 2nd in Tyndrum Village Hall at 7.30 pm.

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Minister Leaves After 19 Years

Rev. Bill Hogg, Church of Scotland Minister for the Strathfillan area has moved to a new parish in Sanquhar. He has served the communities of Glen Orchy, Innishail and Strathfillan very well for 19 years. His successor will be appointed in due course.

News From The Crannog

April produced another milestone in the relatively short history of the Scottish Crannog Centre at Kenmore. Following three seasons of housing its exhibition material within a couple of nondescript demountable buildings, and having its administrative office in a somewhat similar third, or fourth hand unit, the Trustees were delighted to take delivery of a state of the art visitor centre in the early part of the month. Constructed in timber by the Perthshire based company, Island Leisure, the L-shaped centre houses an exhibition hall, gift shop, offices and ah!, bliss – toilet facilities. The days of staff and visitors alike being seen scurrying hither and thither to find a friendly, or even open local convenience are now over!

Arriving at the latest phase of its development, the Crannog Centre acknowledges the immense help given over the years by a stalwart group of volunteers who continue to give so much of their time and expertise to the ongoing work of the Trust. It would be trite to say that their help is just appreciated. Indeed, it would be quite wrong, since they have really formed the backbone to the success of an organisation such as ours.

Trust projects are entirely dependent financially upon other sources, and for the new visitor centre we are greatly indebted to, amongst others, the Esmee Fairbairn Trust, European II Funding, The Gannochy Trust, Perth and Kinross Council, Perth and Kinross Heritage Trust and Scottish Enterprise, Tayside. Support was also received from the A Proctor Group of Blairgowrie and the Balmoral Group of Aberdeen.

The centre opened in time for Easter and whilst work on exhibition material is ongoing, a number of displays about underwater archaeology are in place. Both the Crannog and visitor centre are open 7 days a week from 10 am until 5.30 pm until the end of October.

Colin Scott

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Police News

During the year to 31st March, reported crimes of dishonesty for the area covered by Callander Local Command Unit (which includes Lochearnhead, Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum) have dropped from 316 to 220 – a drop of 30%. Included within these figures are thefts from houses and motor vehicles. The only increase reported is in the number of pedal cycles being stolen. This has risen from 2 to 8. Cycle theft is a crime of opportunity, and the answer is not to leave your cycle unattended, unless it is secured by a good quality lock.

Reported crime overall has reduced by 25%. This area is subjected to crime from travelling criminals and **YOU** can help us improve our performance by reporting suspicious incidents **when they occur**.

Those who use illegal drugs should note that they have an increased chance of detection. Police performance relating to drug offences involved with the supply and possession of drugs has improved during the year, with 32 cases detected compared with 28 in the previous year. These figures could be improved upon, if the community provided more information, to enable the police to tackle this problem. Any information you have will be treated in complete confidence. Help prevent the problems and loss of life witnessed in our cities, which are brought about by drugs, from happening here.

The number of accidents reduced considerably in the past year from 141 injury road accidents to 93 and no fatalities. (Unfortunately, to date there have been two fatal road accidents).

Watch Your Speed! - local officers do carry out radar checks. A total of 254 motorists were detected for speeding offences last year in our area. Considerable support was provided from the traffic department, especially on trunk roads, trying to educate the motorist and motor cyclists to the dangers of speeding and driving inappropriately for the road conditions.

The officers in the Lochearnhead, Killin and Crianlarich would like to thank the many members of the public in this area, for their support during the past year. With your help, they can further reduce crime figures and improve road safety within our community.

Summer Sports Activities

Every Wednesday for 6 weeks between 11 am – 1 pm, starting on 5th July, there will be sports coaching and activities for children aged 9 – 14 at the club facilities. There will be a small charge of £1 per session per child or £5 for a block of 6 weeks. Please book in advance to Kay Riddell (Killin Library) to avoid disappointment, as there are limited places available.

Please note that these sessions are in addition to activities on offer in previous years e.g. putting competitions etc.

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The Angling



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The competitions have been well supported this year with some newer members participating and being encouraged in the art of fly fishing on the surface of the Loch, and river when fishing from a boat. So far the results are encouraging with some good quality natural brown trout being caught. Angus and Kyle MacLennan were again drawn together in the Pairs Cup, and successfully saw off the strong entry to retain their trophy, with a winning bag of 19 fish for 11 lbs. 14 ozs. Ian Downie won the Peter Ross Cup with 7 trout for 4 lbs. 12 ozs. David McLarty is leading in the heaviest basket, 10 for 6 lbs. 6 ozs. The evening rises are getting more constant with some nice fish coming to dry buzzers or olives. The hill loch is now producing good trout with some of up to 2 lbs. being reported. Lochan Breaclauch and Geadas are still closed to members and visitors.

On the Salmon front, good clean fish have been seen and caught, and indeed three of the members have caught their limit of 6 fish for the season, with some others close behind. The run of grilse was very encouraging for the future of the Dochart Spring Run, these prime specimens were seen quite literally flying up river, and the few caught were in pristine condition. Loch Tay has fished consistently for longer this year, with reports of 3 or 4 fish per week being caught, and some returned, which is good to report.

The Vale of Leven Angling Club had their annual visit on 11th June. The day proved blustery and quite cold at times. However, good trout were seen and a few caught. An enjoyable bar-b-q was had on the island at lunch time, followed by soup and sandwiches when the day was over. A reminder to those going to Lomond in August, and to any of the other outings, to contact Donald McLarty, who is doing a first class job as Competition Secretary, keeping us all in line.

The Freshwater Species Sample is continuing with Dr David Summers, and my thanks to all those enthusiastic members who help set the net and lift it to remove the sample caught. We have had a few laughs and I am sure learned a bit about what there is living in the area of the site, and what is preyed upon. This exercise will be concluded early in August, with the results published early in November.

The TLC (Tay Liaison Committee – not “Tender Loving Care” – although similar!), are continuing to monitor the Tay System, and are carrying out checks on the available fishing and agreements with angling clubs. This will be completed by the end of July, and it is hoped to have a “Guide to Fishing” published by the Autumn.

Shortly there is to be a major clean up of the rubbish left at the road side and on the loch shore. This will get the area looking much tidier, and hopefully in future, people will pay heed to the Country Code, and take their rubbish home with them, and also that any rubbish bags will be lifted more promptly by the Council.

Alex Stewart

John Ogilvie Welder Fabricator

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The Frost Report

Spring into Summer

The spring season of rearing young is well on and ospreys were seen again in the area, and it's nice to know that at least the water is clean enough for the kingfisher in Glen Lochay. I saw two over the river a few weeks ago, so they were probably nesting in the banks. Talking of clean water; there is currently investigation into whether the indigenous wild salmon population, is being harmed by spread of disease caused by the escape of farmed salmon into the wild.

It was definitely not the hot early Summer weather that prompted a group of ten stags to swim the river this week (June 13 - remember the weather?). In fact the river was very high and fast, but the brave boys swam out, and heads held high, it was only a few powerful legstrokes to the bank. Sort of Bambi meets Baywatch! They were obviously practising for the Channel now that there are no quarantine regulations.

When sitting out having our lunch piece at a hill loch a few weeks ago, it was nice to be entertained by a pair of black-throated divers displaying and diving. If

you are ever in such a place in the dead of night, and you hear an unearthly shriek, which makes the hairs on the back of your head stand on end, it is probably this bird calling. But their plumage is magnificent, and not done justice by any bird book.

This is the season for young deer calves to be on the hill, so dog owners be aware of disturbing them please. Another baby animal being disturbed recently was a fox cub, it was being transported by the scruff of the neck, in mum's jaws, during the middle of the day - Mum obviously thought that a change of home was overdue.

The deer groups in this area are currently looking at habitat assessment. This means that advice is given as to the state of health of the land in a certain area, and what can be done to improve its utilisation and care. It all costs a great deal of money, but we are on the brink of the greatest change in our hill environment since the clearances, and land management is of the utmost importance. The land is in crisis, with

the near-collapse of the hill sheep industry.

Because the land, and the rural economy as a whole, being in such an unstable condition, it would appear to be stupid for the government to be bringing forward Mr. Watson's Bill about the care of the countryside. His ideas will just about break an economy already stretched too far. Would it not make sense to use money to enrich the rural economy by public transport subsidy, and local amenities such as post-offices, rather than to provide police and detention facilities for offenders of the proposed new set of laws. At a recent rally in Perth, a sideways look at the proposals highlighted the fact that, foxhunting criminals would need to be pursued on horseback, as motor vehicles would not be able to tackle the terrain. So, all you country-lovers, you can probably trace the progress of the Bill by watching how often the local 'Bobbies' visit the riding stables.

Tim Frost

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Highland Perthshire Herb Group

At the meeting in May, in Ballinluig Hall, Pauline Stout gave a brief history of The Body Shop Direct and it's founder Anita Rodick. Many natural herb and spice ingredients which come from all over the world are used in their ranges of sprays, lotions, creams, etc., and a selection of these were presented and sampled. This was followed by an informative discussion on our herb of the month Aloe Vera which is well known for its healing power. Some of the uses specially mentioned were treatment of burns, including sunburn and after radiation therapy, rejuvenating the skin and helping to reduce wrinkles, and as a flower essence in its homeopathic form.

The new session will start on 27th September which will be our 1st Anniversary Night - venue to be arranged. Membership costs £3 per session and there will be 10 meetings throughout the year.

For more information please contact Patty Hope, The Old Manse, Ardeonaig. Tel: Killin 01567 820 408 or E-Mail to hopefam6@aol.com

TELEPHONE KILLIN 01567 820280

All Change at Killin Medical Practice

Over the past 18 months the pace of change at Killin Medical Practice has barely eased up. Less than a year after Dr Blaney's departure and my own subsequent arrival Dr Turner handed in her resignation for family reasons. The practice has undergone an anxious period, as it is clear from the medical press that recruiting doctors into locations such as ours, is difficult., therefore we are happy to have the services of an experienced GP to take Dr Turner's place.

Dr Ankie de Laat qualified from the State University of Leiden in 1980 and has undergone a wide variety of training positions since, giving her an excellent background for general practice. She underwent her general practitioner training with Dr Sutherland in

Drumadrochit in 1984. Following this she was a single-handed dispensing GP in Strathdon for some years, before family ties returned her temporarily to the Netherlands. She is a keen gardener and has taken on a house in the village to suit.

Negotiations are currently underway to allow Dr Turner to return on a sessional basis, through the "the doctors retainer scheme". This is designed to allow GPs a break from the responsibilities of full-time practice, whilst still maintaining their skills by providing clinical experience.

Nurse Lambert has rapidly developed her role within the practice over the past few months. As well as providing a full range of nursing services, she is also now in a position to start the first of her specialist clinics. Within this she will be able to offer a full half-hour appointment to all patients with known heart disease. It is often difficult for the doctors to devote enough time during a standard consultation to adequately address all the issues which are necessary to ensure that patients with heart disease stay as healthy as possible. We are all delighted that Liz will be able to address this situation and provide another improvement in the services available. If you suffer from

heart disease then at some point over the coming year you will receive an invitation in writing to attend this new clinic.

On a slightly less popular note many of you will already have noticed the increasing prescription charges. These currently stand at £6 per item. You may not be aware however that there has also been a change in regulations and we are now required to see written evidence of exemption from prescription charges prior to releasing any medication.

Due to an ever-increasing pressure of work upon the reception staff it is no longer possible to devote as many hours to opening on Saturday mornings for routine reception duties. It has been the case that the doctors consult between 9 & 11AM on Saturdays, and this will not change. However, the surgery will close shortly after the doctor has finished morning consulting and any calls after this will be put through directly to the on-call Doctor, who will be quite happy to deal with any emergencies which arise over the weekend. Requests for appointments, results etc should be made before 11 AM on Saturdays.

Good health to you all.

Dr Chris Holden

Forth Valley Health Board

Substantial changes to hospital services are being proposed by the Forth Valley Health Board. They will affect both Stirling Royal and Falkirk Infirmarys. The public are being consulted in a full consultation process which will continue until 8th September.

The areas covered by Killin, Strathfillan and Balquhidder Community Councils will have their opportunity to hear directly about these proposed changes and make their view known at a meeting organised for the 16th August in the McLaren Hall.

Make a point of being there. This will be our only chance to influence the Board, face to face.

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SELECT



Make-Over For Village Landmark

A major refurbishment of the four flats within the Morenish Building (opposite John McRae's Butchers) has been sanctioned by the Trustees of the George Hogg's Trust.

Killin has had many benefactors whose common purpose has been to alleviate the lot of people in the district, who, through no fault of their own, have been suffering financial hardship. One such benefactor was George Hogg. An original Trustee, Mr A F Henderson, recorded the following explanatory note about the founder.

"Mr George Hogg was a native of Morenish, by Killin, and spent his early years working locally in Killin District, thereafter going to Ardrossan where he began diving as his life's work.

He was diving at Ardrossan and Peterhead in his early career, and afterwards spent about 14 years diving in Mexico with the firm of Messrs. S Pearson & Son Ltd.

About 1912 he built the property of Morenish Place, Killin, and during the Great War of 1914 - 1918, he had an appointment under the Crown Agents for the Colonies at St. Helena, supervising the construction of a sea-wall and breakwater there. He resided in St. Helena for two years at this work. Later in the war period, he was diving on salvage work for the Admiralty at torpedoed ships in the Irish Channel and off the Kintyre Coast of Scotland.

After the war, Mr Hogg came to reside at his own property of Morenish Place, Killin, where he resided for about 15 years, being in casual employment about Killin, with the Breadalbane Estate and others. During the last two years of his life he was a semi-invalid and unable to work. He died on 15th August 1934 aged 69 years.

Mr Hogg is buried at the Cemetery, by Finlarig, Killin, where a headstone is erected in his memory".

Since Mr Hogg's death in 1934, his Trust has disbursed funds to needy persons in the community, resulting from the surplus income received from rentals from the four flats and the two ground floor shops and interest on a capital sum left by Mr Hogg.

The current Trustees had planned to completely modernise the kitchen and bathrooms within the flats, and to renew all windows and carry out extensive interior and exterior redecoration and rewiring. It had been hoped to have these works completed this summer, however, a major set-back with will necessitate the total renewal of the roof will require the programme to be temporarily halted until further funding can be raised to meet the unexpected outlay on the roof work.

(For historical information I am indebted to Mr Arnold Young, Auchmore)

Colin Scott, Property Convenor

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The opening of the new Killin Web Site was a massive success. Visitors 'logged on' from all over the world during the first few weeks and left messages of congratulations and "Hellos" to their family and friends in Killin.

The 'Chatterbox' was alive and the blethers flowed. They say it is "good to talk", but sometimes it is good to type also! Strange how you will rattle off the keyboard words you might never get round to say.

By the time I have "put to bed" the Killin News, I know it inside out and probably could recite it - but I still felt drawn to read it on the net (I know I am a sad person!).

The photos in the 'Rogue's Gallery' can't fail to bring a smile to your face. Local History, School Dates, Community Calendar, Classified Ads, Scenery and Village Guides, ensure there is something for everyone on the site.

Log on to [Http://www.killin.co.uk](http://www.killin.co.uk) and see for yourself. Killin is now only a click away.

Ed



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Killin News



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.

The deadline for copy and advertising for the next issue of the Killin News is:

28 August 2000

This issue will be distributed towards the end of September.

Production Committee

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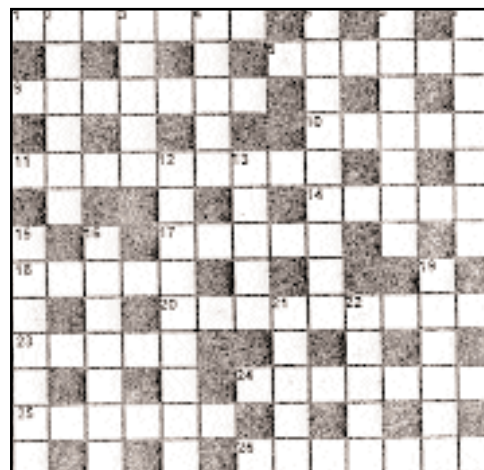
E-Mail: killin.news@virgin.net

Across

1. Disagreement caused by her being followed by rope (7)
8. Point lost from outside a den (6)
9. Totals (7)
10. Province of RSA (5)
13. Kept safely for future use (2,7)
14. A twist in a spiral shell (5)
17. Country for Dresden, Chelsea or Wedgewood? (5)
18. Add one more to the spoilt raid and the two will make on diameter (5)
20. Hang about before mixed drink and you could be found guilty of skulking (9)
23. Old Brand of cigarette could give you the hump (5)
24. Elongated spell in prison (7)
25. Indicate by manoeuvring end toe (6)
26. Enhances (4,3)

Down

2. Exempt from (6)
3. Firm needs cracked nut to help add up (5)
4. Palandromic dynamo (5)
5. Coarse kind of pottery (9)
6. Book produced by one on diet? (7)
12. The action of pendulum using slate coil (9)
13. Sure proof of innocence (5)
15. Not later - before in time (7)



Solution to last crossword

Across: 1. determine 8. amuck 9. tempera 11. clawed 12. address 13. gear 14. RSA 17. tar 18. pals 21. strikes 23. trends 24. abutter 25. apron 26. gold plate

Down: 2. emend 3. expert 4. Isa 5. earlier 6. mud wort 7. skid marks 10. risk 15. appears 16. eluding 19. stab 20. pistol 22. eject 24. awl

Down Continued:

16. Steel or diamond taking a firm stand (7)
19. World concern for children (6)
21. To get a tenth, hit ET with agitation (5)
22. Marsh plants part of clarinet or saxophone(5)

Killin Golf Club

The Club's early season set off with a memorable gold swing when Club Member, Donald MacIver holed in one at the 8th. Whilst this may have cost him dearly at the 19th, he was compensated by winning a prestigious Sunday Post Putter.

On the fundraising front, the Club is greatly indebted to those who organised and helped with two successful projects – the Car Boot Sale which raised over £600, and the Grand Raffle which made a profit of over £1,000.

On Saturday 17th June, the Clubhouse became the venue for the Traditional Music & Song (TMSA) as part of the Killin Music & Dance Festival. Some 80 Association Members attended and from all accounts a truly convivial evening was had. *Colin Scott, Secretary*



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 Floral Association

The hanging baskets are now in place along the Main Street, and we hope they will add some colour to the village. There was a delay in positioning them on the lamp posts, this was due to the very windy, cold, and wet weather, during the first two weeks of June. The new mobile watering unit will be in use this summer and a rota of volunteers has been drawn up. We would welcome more 'watering' volunteers, who would do one week on the rota, and anyone interested should contact Gillean Ford on Killin 820 492.

Plans to extend the scheme are in hand, but a total lack of response from Stirling Council has not helped it to progress. Hopefully, by the autumn, there will be some visible evidence around the village of further planting, and next year there will be even more baskets.

All this takes a great deal of money, well over £400 each year for the hanging baskets alone. The Association is extremely grateful to all those who regularly provide sponsorship, but is always looking for new sponsors, at any time of the year, as this is the only form of funding for the project at the present time.

Glen Dochart Adult Education Group

The group will be holding their AGM on Wednesday 16th August 2000, at 8 pm in the Church Hall.

Proposed motion:-

The intended dissolution
of the group.

If you have any views regarding the group, please come along.

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Too Good To Waste

Following a recent Stirling Council meeting on community composting and the visit of Stirling Council's Waste & Recycling Officer to the Killin Community Council meeting in June, a need for community composting in Killin was established.

Community composting is where members of the village will pool their organic household and garden waste at a designated site to recycle it into quality compost which can then be re-distributed to the community or sold on commercially. This allows the recycling of more diverse organic waste than is possible at home.

Due to a recent European Directive, Stirling Council is obliged to reduce the amount of waste entering our ever-expanding landfill sites. As a result of this, money is available to support community led waste management, particularly composting. Communities must however show the initiative to set up such a scheme first as has happened in Kippen, where a successful community composting site is now up and running. Local support from 'EAK', Killin Primary School and the 'Green Team', together with villagers actually using such a facility would ensure the success of this project in Killin.

The timing for a community composting site could not be better. Stirling Council are currently developing the new skip site beside the Council Yard and have agreed to share the skip enclosure with a composting site. Access would probably have to be during the same hours as access to the skip, and to start with, organic waste for composting would probably be restricted to garden waste brought to the site by villagers. Kitchen waste and collections, based on the success of the project could be developed in the future. The site would require to be worked by village volunteers initially, but Stirling Council have said that limited funding and ongoing site support will be available.

Andrew Warwick

The Results of the Ploughing Match held on 20th May 2000.

1. Conventional - S Christie
2. Conventional - I Noble
3. Conventional - G Christie

Best Looking Ploughman - Finlay MacAskill

1. Reversible - C Methven
2. Reversible - F Wilson
3. Reversible - R Waugh

1. Finished - M Kelly

Overall Champion - Charlie Methven
The Judge was Willie Watson

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Obituary Notice

The ashes of the late Angus and Anne Grossert were interred in Killin Cemetery on June 16th. Angus was the son of the late James & Mary Grossert. James was the Keeper at Boreland Estate for many years.

Can You Help?

I am researching my family history and I am looking for information on McGregors. My great, great grandfather, Grigor McGrigor was a shepherd, born at Auchmore Estate, Killin in 1769 - Grigor had a sister born 1773 - parents are Janet McFarlin and Duncan McGregor.

I visited Killin just over two years ago and everyone was so helpful, but unfortunately, I ran out of time. Any, and all help would be appreciated.

"Cuimhnich air na daoine o'n d' thanig thu"

Remember The Men From Whom You Are Sprung

Many thanks from Ann Stadden, 63 Brick Pond Lane, Woodstock, Ontario, Canada - Tel: 001 519 537 7427 Fax: 001 519 537 7008 or E-Mail to astadden@execulink.com

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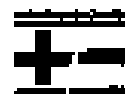
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Diary Dates of Forthcoming Events

July	22	Lochearnhead Highland Games
	23	Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band starting at the Killin Hotel at 2 pm
	23	Boreland Gardens Open in Glen Lochay 2 – 5.30 pm – teas served by Killin Cancer Research Committee
	26	Church Craft Groups Coffee Morning in aid of Church Funds, McLaren Hall 10 am - 12 noon
	29	Highland Queen Dance in the McLaren Hall, Killin.
August	30	& 1st August – Nearly New Sale, McLaren Hall 10 am – 4 pm. The Hall will be open on the preceding Sunday afternoon to receive goods. Income to various local charities.
	2	Killin Highland Games
	2	Marquee Dance in Breadalbane Park
	2 / 3/4 & 5	Arts & Crafts exhibition and sale 10 am – 9 pm (6pm on the 5th)
	5	Killin Golf Club Mens' Open
	6	Killin Gun Club Open 50 Sporting Shoot
	6	Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band starting at the Killin Hotel at 2 pm
	16	Lochearnhead Fete
	18	Marquee Dance and Ceilidh, Breadalbane Park
	19	Killin Agricultural Show
Sept.	27	Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band starting at Killin Hotel at 2 pm
	3	Killin Gun Club Open 50 DTL at 1.30 pm
	13	Killin Golf Club Ladies' Senior Open
	22	Cheese & Wine Evening McLaren Hall 8 – 10 pm
Oct.	6	Killin Heritage Society – A musical presentation by Quern on the life of Robert Service.
	8	Killin Gun Club Shoot at 1 pm
Nov.	5	Killin Gun Club Shoot at 11am

Church Services

Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church - 10 am each Sunday

On the first Sunday of every month there will be a service held in Morenish Chapel.

This summer series will continue until the end of October
and will be taken by different people each month, all are welcome to attend.

Episcopal Church - Please check Church notice board.

Roman Catholic - Services are held in the Episcopal Church Sundays at 2.30 pm

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Scottish Placenames

The answers to the recent local quiz.

- Where the fruit is angry
Applecross
- Hold your trousers with this
Appin
- And baby is fine too
Motherwell
- You need this for a candle
Wick
- All around the Church
Kirkwall
- Spanish alcohol
Elgin
- A rich fruit cake
Dundee
- A sailor's tot
Rhum
- Think something over
Mull
- Your feet would get cold paddling here
Coldstream
- A cheapwind
Pennyghael
- What we all breathe
Ayr
- Lovely with jam and cream
Scone
- Shout
Coll
- Where the beer ran out
Dunbar
- Months of the year
Callander
- You can cross the water here
Ford
- I'm going now
Alloa
- Where to acquire more knowledge
Kenmore
- Murder many
Kilmore

The winner was Ian Ramsey whose sheet was drawn out of a hat which included Mairi Hunter and Duncan Twigg, who all had 17 out of 20. A total of £81 was raised in memory of Simon Twigg, for the MacMillan Cancer Relief Fund and a special fund for the Killin Nurses Association. Thank you for your support.

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Killin International Highland Games

Now a well established annual event, this years Highland Games takes place on Wednesday 2nd August. Chieftain of the Games, Sir Gregor MacGregor of MacGregor, Bart., will lead the parade from the Falls of Dochart to Breadalbane Park setting off at 1pm.

The main attraction will, of course, be the Strongmen and this year the Killin competition has the added importance of being part of the World Grand Prix which kicks off in Callander, then Killin, Paisley and various other venues with the final in Rio de Janeiro in December. This will make for fierce competition with the top stars looking to gain maximum points to earn a place in the final. The strongmen events include McGlashen Stones, Pole Push, Anvil Hold and the Farmers Walk where 20/30 people are pushed as far as possible on a large wheelbarrow. The usual heavy events, 28lb shot putting, caber tossing etc are also included.

Local participation has not been overlooked and a children's Highland Games competition will commence at 11am for kids up to Primary Seven – entry is on the day so come along kids and show what you can do!! In the afternoon adults can join in the fun by showing their prowess at putting the shot and tossing the caber or by taking part in the open hill race. For the anglers among us Peter Anderson the World Flycasting Champion will be demonstrating his skills and there will be competitions in both salmon and trout casting.

No Highland Games would be complete without the sound of the pipes and the Piping Competition commences at 10.30am with designated categories being Pibroch, March, Strathspey & Reel and Jig. In addition pipes and drums led by Vale of Atholl Junior Pipe Band will entertain throughout the afternoon.

The programme includes a Highland Dancing competition where competitors will perform The Highland Fling, Seann Trubbs, Sword Dance and Strathspey & Reel of Tulloch. The scene will be completed by stalls, a Craft Fair, sideshows, bouncy castle, the beer tent and various catering outlets set around the main arena.

To complete the day's festivities a Marquee Dance will commence at 9pm with music provided by the excellent Lochside Ceilidh Band. Tickets are £4 and can be obtained at the door.

Killin Highland Games must have a Queen and a Highland Queen Dance will be held on Saturday 29th July in the McLaren Hall where the Queen and her Assistant will be chosen. So if you are female, aged 18+ and will be available to attend the Games on 2 August come along to the dance. Prizes of £150 for the Queen and £100 for the Runner Up are up for grabs. Gents – sorry you can't enter – but please come along and enjoy the night.

Charlie Grant, Chairman of the Highland Games Committee is retiring after this years' Games, having served for four years. The village is very grateful for all Charlie's hard work over the years.

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LETTERS

Dear Editor

As an animal lover, I was sickened to read of the cruelty inflicted upon Georgie and Alistair MacKenzie's cat. The whole thing nearly brought me to tears. I hope the cruel person who did this wicked act will be found out – if not in this world, then in the next!

Janet Anderson, Cambusurich

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Thank You

The Friends of the Boys Brigade would like to thank everyone who helped with baking and stalls at their Coffee Morning on 13th May.

The sum of £407 was raised.

Jane Brown



The photo shows Chris McLarty and Margaret Fenna who were helpers on the day.

Aileen Smith would like to thank everyone who sent cards and good wishes during her recent stay in hospital.

Isla Campbell, Ledcharrie, Luib would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored her for her jump. She did a 10,000 ft skydive for Marie Curie Cancer Care and managed to raise £413. She said, "I can recommend skydiving to everyone, it's loads of fun!"

Chris and June FitzGerald would like to thank family, friends, Killin Ambulance Crew and staff in Stirling Royal Infirmary for their help, cards and good wishes after his recent accident. Chris is now home again and improving daily.

Janet Anderson, Cambusurich, Killin, would like to thank Donna MacKenzie for making the programme and sponsor sheet for the charity walk which she took part in. Also thanks are extended to Colin Scott and Rosemary Simpson for the lifts at the beginning and end of the day. Janet raised £139.60 for International Animal Welfare. Thanks also to everyone who gave donations and who helped in any way.

Liz Stevens and all the Walkers who participated in the West Highland Way Walk for Charity would like to say a big thank-you to all those who sponsored them, especially as there are so many good causes raising money every day. Thanks to everyone who supported us before, during and after the walk. Special thanks to: Clifton Coffee House, Mary Fraser and Helen MacGregor who provided us with tea and filled rolls at Bridge of Orchy, Killin Community Bus, Jimmy Gauld, Killin Outdoor Centre, Lix Toll, John McRae (Butcher), MacGregor's of Killin, The Killin Hotel and all our friends and families.

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Goldeneye Hazards Loch Tay

The Goldeneye winters on Loch Tay, but by April only a few pairs stay and are potential breeders. The first record of breeding was the sighting of a duck with six young on 23rd May 1995 from the south side of the Loch. Since that time, three boxes were placed, two on the north shore and one on the south, all of which had to be moved as fishermen regarded them as receptacles for trash!

In 1997, one duck used a box and it was not until 1998 that a duck laid four eggs although it only reared two young, due to adverse weather conditions. 1999 was blank, but one box contained down, and this year, on 28th April a box was examined north Loch Tay and it contained eight warm eggs, the duck being on the water. The box was again checked on 1st May, but the eggs were cold, although two ducks and one drake were seen around. By 6th May the box was deserted and the eggs cold. It is assumed that the continued disturbance by sail boats, accompanied by frequent visits from the University of Edinburgh's speed boat caused the desertion of the nest, the duck needs to feed and the presence of so many boats in the vicinity could keep the birds away from the nest. The other box at south Loch Tay has not been used.

Pat Sandeman



John Lynch

Dip.Pod.M

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Children's Walk

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10.30 am - 1.00 pm
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Mountain Flowers

Every Wednesday 5th July - 26th July
10.30 am - 4.30 pm
Adults £10 / Children £5

Life on the Mountain

Every Thursday 20th July - 31st August
10.30 am - 1.00 pm
Adults £5 / Children £2

Illustrated Talks Programme

8.00pm, Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin

'Crepuscular Creatures'

Wednesday 12th July
Life in the twilight zone

'Small is Beautiful'

Wednesday 26th July
Miniature life magnified

'Jacobite Woodlands'

Wednesday 9th August

'Squirrels, Saxifrages & Salices'

Wednesday 23rd August
Saving some of our special species

'Recent Archaeological Fieldwork at Ben Lawers'

Wednesday 6th September
Reading remains from the past

**Tea and Coffee
will be available after the talks**

'Scheme' Reunion

On Saturday, 19th August at 7 pm, the Killin Heritage Society is organising an informal reunion, and dinner in the Killin Hotel, for all those who were involved, in any way, with the construction of the Breadalbane Hydro Scheme in the 1950's.

You are invited to join others, coming from all over the UK, at this informal event. Names should be given to Judy Forster, Tel: Killin (01567) 820 298.

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The 6th Killin Traditional Music & Dance Festival

Once again, the village was treated to a highly entertaining Folk Festival with a wide range of events. Everything from Clog Dancing, Folk Music Concerts, Story Telling, Banjo Workshops to The Boys of the Lough with Aly Bain. Indeed there was more than enough to please everyone and this year the weather was splendid too, so camping in Breadalbane Park was a positive pleasure.

Friday kicked off with a lovely informal Ceilidh held in The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home – outside in the sunshine! Six singers/instrumentalists entertained the Senior Citizens with as good a repertoire of songs as you could find, including a good bit of “joining in”. It was great to see that the weekend Master of Ceremonies, Gibb Todd, was one of the six singers. The carers at the Falls of Dochart also generously treated everyone to tea and cakes – what a wonderful afternoon.

The Friday evening concert started off with new faces “Coinneach”, a four piece band from the Highlands of Scotland, playing Celtic/Rock music which started the weekend with a resounding bang. “Cowboy Celtic” from Canada followed

them (also new faces), and were enjoyed by all. A welcome addition was a Celtic harp. The evening closed with “Russells House” from Edinburgh who provided an excellent mix of jazz, blues and folk.

Saturday morning began a day of blazing sunshine, so campers, and others, could wander about the village and join in a variety of events, such as the TMSA Senior Singing Competition or “Myths, Legends and Song” by David Campbell and Norman Chalmers, a popular story-telling event. Saturday night’s concert started with “Pipedown” who gave a lively start with bag-pipes, whistles and mandolin. They were followed by Donald Black and Malcolm Jones. Donald who was apparently given his first harmonica at the age of 4, gave an unbelievable performance of waltzes, jigs, reels and lullabies on his present harmonicas. The evening was rounded off by the ever entertaining and well known “Whistlebinkies”.

Although both these concerts were of high quality and enjoyable, they were a bit lacking in vocal music. So many memorable Festivals have “raised the McLaren Hall roof” and this was perhaps lacking on these two evenings.

Sunday again opened with sunny weather – no mud in the campsite!! Next stop, McLaren Hall and the Appalachian Clog Dance Workshop (not for me to take part!) to watch the many Killin villagers having a go – and picking up the step rather well. Incidentally, this group called “Kick The Cat” were from Edinburgh, not North America!

During the Sunday afternoon there was a wide choice of events – Harmonica Workshop, Clarsach Workshop (which provided a fairly learned account of the history and development of the Clarsach,

or Scottish Harp), and Banjo Playing, and more. The concert at night started with “Fret Don’t Fret”, a couple of highly accomplished musicians on guitar and fiddle, the latter took fiddle playing into new and amazing territory. This was followed by a good folk rock band “Malinky” – the girl had a strong voice (I’m sure you could hear her at Ben Lawers!), and she was accompanied by three men who played various instruments, including a young man who was brilliant on the penny whistle.

Then, the big one!! The Boys of the Lough with Aly Bain, always popular in Killin. Apart from music, which of course is always fabulous, the interaction and joking within the group makes for a memorable evening. After two and a half hours of music, it took a great band like “The Boys of the Lough” to keep us tapping and clapping – and they did with the brilliant fiddle solos by Aly Bain.

It was in fact a very long concert, 7.30 till about 11.30 PM – maybe too long? Some people were leaving before the end, perhaps out of sheer exhaustion. We stuck with it and enjoyed it all! It was in fact a resounding finish to the Festival.

Congratulations to the organisers and the many helpers who made the Festival possible and so enjoyable. While the numbers attending this year were down on last year, most people seemed to enjoy the weekend. It is hoped that the smaller numbers haven’t made it financially difficult, and more importantly won’t prejudice the planning of the Festival for next year. The Killin Traditional Music and Dance Festival needs a considerable amount of sponsorship and funding, but it is a big and important event for Killin.

SA, FI, JF (reporters)
BD & SA (photography)

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Festival Fotos



Some of Killin's older generation enjoying the music and fun of Festival Weekend.

Could the village children have used these locals enjoying the Festival at the bridge below, as models for their plastercine figures?!



FESTIVAL 2



TMSA Winners



Some local ladies enjoying the Appalacian Clog Dancing





Above: Vicky, and Greg Hunter are delighted to introduce you all to their baby son Sam. The couple are originally from Aberdeen and now live at Dreadnought Place, Killin. Greg is Killin's new Ambulance Technician and Vicky has her hands full looking after young Sam.



Above: Well known, local man, Darren Webster married Susan Guthrie at the Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church on Saturday 6th May 2000. Darren works as a driver for MacGregor, Greengrocers in Killin and Susan is a qualified equestrian instructor. Susan hails from Shandon in Helensburgh and the happy couple have set up home in Killin at Lawers View. The wedding reception was held in the McLaren Hall, a superb 'do' with over 300 guests who attended from all over the country

Right: Married on Saturday 27th May in Killin Parish Church by the Rev. J. Lincoln were Miss Jill Thomas and Lee Douglas. Jill, the only daughter of Alic & Annette Thomas, is originally from Manchester and came to the village 7 years ago. Lee, one of three sons of Bill & Helen Douglas, is another "almost local" moving here in 1988. The reception was held in the McLaren Hall.



Siobhan & Gillian (below)
(See full article on page 4)



Left: Joining in the Celebration of Jill and Lee's wedding are the residents of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

