

Every two months **KILLIN NEWS**

PRICE 50P

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER Issue 60 February 2001

Princess Anne is Shown the Ropes at Ardeonaig

The visit by HRH The Princess Royal to Abernethy Trust, Ardeonaig on Tuesday 16 January 2001 was deemed a delight and a great success by the many guests at the outdoor centre, despite the cold weather.

The Princess was in Ardeonaig to open the high ropes course developed by the Abernethy Trust, to enhance their outdoor adventure programme. It is an exciting and adventurous tool which will be used as part of the personal development, leadership and team-building courses run by the Trust.

Phil Simpson, Centre Director, commented, "This superb facility offers groups of friends, families, business and school groups, an opportunity for a quality shared experience that will bring lasting benefits." Phil said that he was very pleased that The Princess Royal had visited Ardeonaig, and added, "It is recognition of all that we do. The



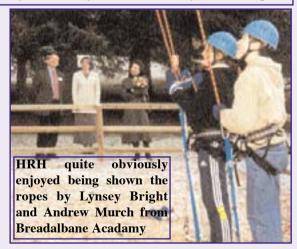
(Above) A very relaxed Princess Royal shared a joke with Rosemary & Phil Simpson

Princess was extremely charming and endeared herself to everyone".

The Abernethy Trust is a Christian charitable trust that operates 5 residential outdoor centres throughout Scotland. The Centre at Ardeonaig opened in 1984 and is popular with business, schools and welcomes groups from all over Scotland.



(Above) Les Berrow, Instructor at the University of Edinburgh's Outdoor Centre at Firbush, and his wife Elaine, were introduced to Princess Anne



Thanks are extended to the ladies of the Killin Cancer Research Committee who did an excellent and professional job of the catering.

Ed - After Princess Anne's visit we heard through the grapevine that she had been particularly fond of the Spinach Roulade made by Ellen Stewart so much so, that the ladies of the Killin Cancer Research Committee have re-named it "Ellen's **Royal Roulade**"!

Opening Of The Salmon Fishing 2001

As for the last nine or ten years, the Kinnell Boat House was the scene of celebrations on 15 January for the opening of the Salmon Fishing. It was bitterly cold with all the trees heavy with frost crystals, and fog hanging over the loch very beautiful, but a day when non-fishers were certainly glad not to be spending the day in an



unheated boat. Duncan MacKinnon's pipes didn't like the weather and allowed him to give only a limited performance.

(Left) This wee chappie, Euan Lang from Auchmore has his bottle (essential for the occasion) tucked under his arm for safety.



Above: The Opening gets underway at Loch Tay Highland Lodges. No fish were caught on the day, but that didn't dampen 'spirits'!

Refreshments were kindly provided as usual by Stefan Schuman, and the sponsor was both welcome and warming - no grousing about that. A notable absentee from the crowd this year was Dugald MacGregor, whom his friends reckoned missed the opening for the first time since he was away on National Service in the 1950's. Dugald was recovering in hospital from surgery and very frustrated at not being allowed home in time. However he was grateful that the hard work and preparation for the opening, usually done by him, was undertaken by Hamish Campbell and Archie Cameron so everything happened as it should.





'On The South Shore Of Loch Tay'



South Loch Tay Side by Killin Perthshire Tel: 01567 820 400 Fax: 01567 820 282 E-Mail: ardeonaighotel@btinternet.com

The Ardeonaig Hotel & Restaurant is situated on the south shore of Loch Tay and has magnificent views across the Loch to the summit of Ben Lawers.

We will be open for lunch from 14 February 12 noon - 2 pm

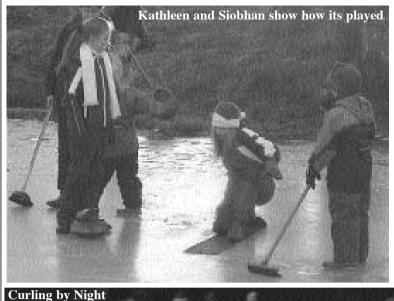
Good wishes are sent to you all for a Happy New Year 2001





Congratulations to local girl, Debbie McAllister, who graduated from Stirling College with an HNC in Child Care and Education in October 2000.

Curling - Without a Kirby In Sight!



As a result of the sub-zero temperatures, the Curling Club were able to curl on the outdoor pond for the first time in four years, and after a week of curling, we wonder how much longer it can last! There has been a lot of fun games, and serious games - not to mention to amount of whisky which has been drunk!

On 17 January, The Breadalbane province were invited to play for the 'Tee', a trophy which is played for annually – outdoors - when conditions allow. This year was the first time it had been played outdoors for 7 years. The Tee originally dates back to 1851, and is awarded to the club with the highest up shots, which in this case was the Glendochart Rink of James Reilly, Stewart Christie, Peter Reilly and George Coyne. James Reilly also won the Baird Cross which is awarded to the Skip with the highest up rink. It was a great night both on and off the pond, with many hip flasks circulated, and finished off with

soup and sandwiches in the 'Club House'.

The scores of the other rinks were:-Glenorchay 7, Kenmore (2) 3, Killin 6, Kenmore (1) 6

The Club hope to curl on the pond as long as the weather and ice will allow. It certainly is a spectacular sight, and if the weather continues, the Club will be off to the Grand Match, which is the largest outdoor curling competition, last played in 1979.

Jane Anderson

An Oncer Noncineties

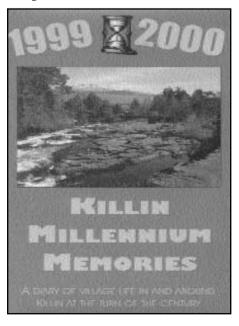
An Oscar Nomination for the Killin Millennium Video Group?

The Killin Millennium Memories video is out on new release and it is excellent. An incredible amount of volunteer work has gone into this venture. A whole year of life in Killin on tapes had to be condensed down into 1 hour 40 minutes. Everyone in the village must have known that the video was being made - Gregor and Iain with their constant companion – the video camera on a tripod – were round every corner all year.



After the pre-launch viewing, Jane Anderson said, "It made me proud to live in Killin. It portrayed the village as the generous and giving community it really is". Willie Stitt added, "First Class job. This amateur group put in a whole year of hard graft, and their efforts are reflected in the professional results of the video".

Congratulations and thanks from the whole village are sent to the group, Iain Campbell, Gregor MacKenzie, Margaret MacIver,



Yvonne MacPherson - and their long suffering families! We would also like to recognise the immense amount of editing work put in by Fran Bowyer, and thanks to Jane Calder who originally came up with the idea and started the 'camera rolling'! The video is on sale now in the Killin Library priced £10.

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Killin Community Council

A meeting was held of the Killin Community Council on 9 January 2001. John MacPherson welcomed everyone, and invited John Riley from Tyndrum, who was representing the Stirling Assembly, to speak about the work of the Assembly. The Stirling Assembly Charter was passed to everyone, and John explained how at the formation of the Assembly, the late Duncan Scott had been Chairman, and he had been the Vice Chairman. The principal is to be a democratic body, and encompass the whole of the Stirling Council area. The Assembly is influential inside and outside of Stirling Council. It is not certain that the Stirling Assembly will still exist after the next election, in 2003.

More refuse bins are needed at the car park and McLaren Hall. This matter will be taken up with Stirling Council by Suzanne Player (Community Animateur).

Letters of thanks were sent to Judge Stroyan for the village Christmas tree, Stitt Bros. for erecting it, and A C Fraser for checking the lights. A donation will go to the Episcopalian Church for electric.

Councillor T Ffinch reported that the service of the postbus and Rural Transport is due for review in March. Councillor Ffinch was made aware of some fare discrepancies on the school bus which he will investigate.

Cycle Way

Letter received from J Towers, Transportation Officer, explaining that the A85 is a trunk road and therefore under the care of the Scottish Executive. J Towers will write once he has heard back from the Scottish Executive.

Ardeonaig, South Loch Tayside Road

J Towers also indicated that funds allocated to develop the cycle route can not be stretched to provide general road improvements, however he will pass a copy letter to H Jamieson, Community Engineer, for his attention. It was also pointed out that some of the passing places signs are missing, and these are now being used as lay byes, which on a single road are not permissible. Councillor Ffinch will investigate this further.

Water Shortage

The Community Council are still waiting for a reply from East of Scotland Water. However, Stirling Council said that East of Scotland Water have advised them, that during the summer time, peak demand sometimes exceeds the available capacity within the system.

Breadalbane Park

J MacPherson stated that Helen Munro was still trying to obtain the legal deeds.



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Video Library

Remember new videos every month 3 Films for 2 nights over the weekend for £5

Fishing Tackle

The 'Angling Corner' is offering a free order service to local residents - if we don't stock what you want, just ask.

01567 820362

A sub-committee of Charlie Grant, J Stewart, M Hunter and John MacPherson will delve into the Park archives to see what they can find. Councillor Ffinch will also take action. If it transpires (once the relevant documentation has been found), that Breadalbane Park does belong to Killin, it would be advisable for a Trust to be set up. It was also stated that the caravan rallies are necessary financially for the upkeep of the park. Suzanne Player will contact Children's Services to overhaul the children's windmill in the park.

Killin Web Site

Suzanne Player reported that funding applications to British Telecom and Stirling Initiative had been applied for by the KWS.

Snow Clearing

Mrs Christie asked if Councillor Ffinch could clarify the position on snow ploughing and gritting. She had been experiencing difficulties in delivering food to the cattle, as the roads had not been cleared. Mrs Noble also said that school cars have experienced difficulties. Councillor Ffinch will investigate.

Hogmanay Fireworks Display at Dochart Bridge

The Millennium Committee concludes in the summer. It was suggested that the Community Council put money towards this display and take over the insurance of the event. As the Community Council does not have the authority to direct funds to such projects, it was agreed that Suzanne Player would enquire about insurance liabilities, and also try to secure funding from the Tourist Board, and other bodies. The Community Council and everyone present would like to see the fireworks continue, and would use their influence to try and obtain funding.

National Park

John MacPherson and Emma Paterson will write a letter from the Killin Community Council concerning the proposed boundaries.

Youth Required

It was decided that it would be desirable if a youth of 16 or over, attending higher education, could be invited to attend Killin Community Council meetings. Council members will put forward names of proposed candidates at next meeting.

Date of next meeting is 13 March 2001 at 7.30 pm. in Killin Primary School

Housing in Strathfillan

Traditional employment in Strathfillan has been sheep farming and the railway. In recent years, this has waned and been overtaken by tourism which has been characteristically seasonal. In the last 15 years, more businesses have opened, and many are staying open during the winter months. The result of this is full time employment and a population rise from 240 to 360 in 10 years, which has created a significant housing need.

Early in 1991, the community carried out a house-to-house survey, in which 75% of replies placed housing as the most urgent requirement. Soon afterwards, the Strathfillan Community Council was born out of the frustration of local Community Councillors, who served on the traditional Killin and Crianlarich Community Council. We adopted a policy of delegating responsibility and authority to individuals and groups, to carry forward projects between meetings, soon precipitating a number of significant developments. These included, the construction of a pedestrian bridge over a river, by Central Regional Council, a £208,000 two village enhancement scheme by Forth Valley Enterprise, and the building of 15 low cost affordable houses by Rural Stirling Housing Assoc., which were allocated to local people despite the 1967 Housing Act.

The drive and success of the new Community Council led to our introduction to the Corrom Trust* in 1995, and the initiation of a regeneration strategy involving a number of partners including Scottish Homes, Rural Stirling Housing Association, Stirling Council and latterly Community Self Build Scotland. In May 1997, the Strathfillan Community Development Trust was formed, a company limited by guarantee of charitable status, wholly owned by members from the community. Under the guidance of CORROM* and STAR*, our grant aid had reached £65,000 by July 2000 for core funding (even employing our own Development Manager), and for our various projects including two community woodlands, a children's play park and the Crianlarich housing project. This latter project involved purchasing five houses from British Rail (which had traditionally sold excess property by public auction), selling on back to it's standing tenant, and renovating the other four using local tradesmen. These houses are now rented to local people by the Trust.

Late in 1998 we became the only named community partner in the Stirling Housing Partnership, which in 1999 was awarded £7 ½ million for housing developments in the Stirling area, including 15 housing association and 5 self build houses in Tyndrum. We have found that our idea of partnership is somewhat different from that of the leading partner - Stirling Housing Department and Stirling Council Planners. We wanted houses in a rural setting, away from the main road and without the urban characteristics of pavements, tarmac roads and streetlights, but regardless of all our protestations, we've been overruled. Also, we had intended to organise our own self build scheme in partnership with Community Self Build Scotland, but this project has been overtaken by the Housing Partnership and we are reduced to keeping a watching brief rather than being an active partner.

frustrations in our aim of providing houses or plots for the better off local people who wish to build or have built their own houses. First and foremost. East of Scotland Water have placed a moratorium on all new buildings until new sewage works are constructed in both Tyndrum and Crianlarich. Tyndrum also requires a supplemented water supply which may have to be pumped from Loch Na Ba or Loch Lyon. Secondly, we need alterations to the Development Plans to extend village envelopes and allow expansion of existing small settlements such as Dalrigh and Kirkton. Lastly, we need to acquire land for our environmental, recreational and housing projects from Forestry Commission and the Scottish Office who are major landowners in the area.

A local entrepreneur has applied for outline planning permission for a major development in Tyndrum, including a Travel Lodge, a gold mine interpretation centre and several retail outlets. We are now waiting to see whether this application is successful, as it has the potential of precipitating investment by East of Scotland Water, and allowing us to embark on a new regeneration strategy to satisfy our existing requirements, and provide the necessary housing and infrastructure to balance this new development.

*Corrom Trust is a team of professional consultants who specialise in regeneration strategies for rural communities. In 1999 Corrom split into two firms, the new one called STAR (Small Town and Rural Development Group).

> John Riley Tyndrum

We are experiencing a number of other

The New Year Dance 2001

Once again this very popular event was a great Traditionally run by the Masonic success. Lodge, it differs from most other dances, in that it is very much a family affair. Children of all ages are allowed to stay up till very late on New Years Night and dance with the adults. It is, too, a very Scottish event with all the Scottish Country Dances, even starting off with a bang with the Dashing White Sergeant! It was good to see tiny toddlers being guided through a Strip The Willow without any damage being done! It is also very different from many of the other dances held in the McLaren Hall, being an "All Ticket Event", and, as it involves children, there is no bar! People just get on with the dancing. It was a great night's entertainment.



What's on Offer at Killin Library L Learning: Computers Skills Word Processing Т Information Services, Internet, E-Mail, Fax and Photocopying B Books: Fiction, Non Fiction, New Books Each Week, Local History Collection R **Reference Material** Encyclopaedias, More Internet Audio and Δ Large Print Books R Recreation Facilities: Videos for Hire £1 - £2 Children's Videos £1 - 1 week, CD's 60p - 3 weeks Young People - Reading and Project Materials Look out for special offers on videos and CD's throughout the year Current Offers - Hire 3 videos for the price of 2 Hire 1 CD and get one hire free **Opening Hours**: 10 - 1 & 2 - 5 Monday 10 - 1 & 3 - 7 Tuesday Wednesday 2 - 5 Closed Thursday Friday 10 - 1 & 3 - 7 Tel: 01567 820 571 E-Mail: killinlibrary@stirling.gov.uk The new Killin Millennium Memories Video On Sale Here at £10



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Stirling Council Safer Routes To School

Moves to cut child road casualties in Stirling areas are underway as Stirling Council prepares plans to spend £86,000 on safer routes to schools.

The money, in the form of extra borrowing consent, has been allocated by the Scottish Executive who want local councils to cut road accidents involving children by 50% over the next 10 years.

Stirling Council plan to follow extensive consultation with parents, schools and pupils. Half the money will be spent on improving existing routes for cyclists and pedestrians. Designs are being worked up next year and a consultation will be drawn up.

Schemes being looked at include a traffic island on the A9 outside Bannockburn High School, a pedestrial-cycle path to Wallace High School, a footway scheme at Trossachs Primary School and traffic calming at Lochernhead. Design details on some of these projects still have to be finalised.

All primary schools will be offered cycle stands and proficiency training. Stirling Council will pay 95% of the costs and details will be issued to all primary schools, school boards and parent teacher associations.

Ed – Perhaps some of this money could be used to supply the much requested, school crossing warden, for Killin Primary School.

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There is still time.....

..... for your personal or business entry or advertisement.

The closing date for entries has been extended, to allow for the holiday period. Publication date of the Directory is now planned for April 2001

Along with this issue of Killin News, we enclose a provisional list of entries received so far. If you wish to be added to this list, or if you have any last-minute changes, please contact Ian Lithgow (Killin 820440), or leave written details at the Post Office.

Millennium Babes

Three Millennium Year babies, all born to local girls, enjoying their first New Year in Killin.



From left to right they are: Adam Lynch, born 6 November 2000 to Catriona Inglis, Cara Honeyman born 30 August 2000 to Shona Hunter, Matthew McLean born 26 October 2000 to Catriona Chisholm.



Killin Self-Catering Voted the Best

White House, in Killin, owned by Mrs. Dani Grant has been voted by American guests as one of the two best places to stay in the British Isles. Mrs. Grant has let her self-catering for the past six years through an American company specialising in UK and New Zealand properties. The Home at First Achievements Award 2000 was won by Stronvaar Farm Flat, Balguhidder, with White House, Killin, in second place. Guests staying in the properties complete a questionnaire and the properties are then awarded points out of ten. Stronvaar received 9.75 and White House 9.67.

Rob Roy Homes

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Strathfillan - "By The Way"



Before the Community Council Meeting started Suzanne Player, Community Animateur, chaired the Inauguration of the Community Councillors - Mary

Anderson, Jock Henderson, Moira Robertson, Roy Howard, John Riley, Derek Wilkie, Colin MacLellan and Irene Graham. The following were elected as Office Bearers: Chairman - John Riley, Vice Chairman - Jock Henderson, Secretary - Moira Robertson, Treasurer -Mary Anderson.

John Riley, Acting Chairman of the Stirling Assembly, then spoke about the Assembly, how it was formed, its role and its future.

Suzanne Player asked if the Strathfillan Community Newspaper, the 'By the Way' could be restarted. Jackie MacLennan is interested as a reporter, but not as editor. We would like to stay as part of the Killin News at present. Volunteers deliver one copy of the Killin News to every household in Strathfillan. Extra copies can be purchased for 50p from the village shops.

Councillor Tony Ffinch, accompanied by Andy Aitken of Grounds Maintenance, Stirling Council, had toured the villages to see the work required, on the list previously given to him. Most items came under the remit of another department. Councillor Ffinch will hold his future surgeries 3/4 hour before the Strathfillan Community Council meeting.

John Riley wrote a letter to Keith Yates, Chief Executive, Stirling Council concerning Community Empowerment, and the lack of it when dealing with the Housing or Planning departments. We have earned the right as 'empowerment trailblazers' to be included in discussions. The Strathfillan Community Development Trust would like to meet with the Community Council, to discuss means of consulting the community on the new regeneration strategy.

We were in receipt of a letter from Stirling Voluntary Association, on the subject of poverty and social exclusion in rural Scotland. A Scottish Executive working group has been set up to improve understanding of rural social exclusion, and to recommend ways of promoting social inclusion in rural areas. They would like to hear from any groups or organisations that have been involved in this area of work. Communities Against Poverty (CAP), is an active network of over 300 individuals and groups across Scotland, independent of any political party, who believe that poverty is unacceptable and unnecessary. Poverty destroys health and life chances, denies basic rights, and if people join together they will have a stronger voice.

The houses for Tyndrum Self-Build have occupancy restrictions, with the restriction passing to future buyers forever. The Strathfillan Community Development Trust is in consultation to try to change this.

Speeding

Cars are speeding through Crianlarich. Could the fact that a police Landrover is no longer parked in the village be a contributing factor? We need a police presence, and speed cameras. It was agreed to write to Inspector Rose.

Jock Henderson went round Crianlarich with a representative from Balfour Beatty, and Derek Wilkie went round Tyndrum. The snagging work cannot be followed up until a year after the contract finished, and financial restraints hold up the other jobs required.



There was a discussion about the Village Officers' duties, and a proposal to see if they can be extended to include road gutter clearing, strimming verges etc., as laid down in Stirling Council policy, but not yet implemented. It was agreed to write to Stirling Council.

Sewage

The sewage tank by Crianlarich Village Hall was full, but mainly with water. The East of Scotland Water engineer sent to inspect it by SEPA said that work needed to be done to prevent this happening. The overflow runs under the village hall and is causing a smell. It was agreed to write a letter to SEPA with copies to Environmental Health and Councillor Ffinch.

Resignation

A letter of resignation was received from Colin MacLellan, who will be leaving the area in the near future. John Riley thanked him for being an able Treasurer. We are sorry to lose our youngest member, but wish him well in his new job.

> Moira Robertson Strathfillan Correspondent for Killin News



John Player Building, Stirling FK7 7RP Tel: 01786 463416 Fax 01786 479511 E-mail: step@stirling-enterprise.co.uk www.stirling-enterprise.co.uk

Silver Anniversary Killin to Callander Post Bus

Twenty-five years of service to the community was marked on 24 November 2000, when the Killin to Callander postbus celebrated its silver anniversary.



Ian McGregor, who marked the occasion by presenting a plaque, to the current driver Gregor Macaulay, was the first postbus driver on the route. He drove the postbus for 21 years until his retirement in 1996. Ian said, "I was really surprised to hear that the postbus was celebrating 25 years service. It was a big surprise when Royal Mail phoned to ask me to come along to mark the occasion.

Mr Alex Gibb, Royal Mail's General Manager for Scotland, said, "Post buses provide a real lifeline for many rural areas, and cover three million miles around Scotland".



At the hand over of the original post bus, 25 years ago are, from left to right: The late Sergeant Harry Lawrie (who tragically died when the helicopter crashed near Crianlarich), the late John Forster (Postmaster), Jimmy Ormiston, Ian McGregor and assorted personel from Post Office Head Quarters.

The postbus leaves Killin Post Office at 1105 and arrives in Callander at 1158. The return trip departs Callander at 1257 and arrives in Killin at 1358, Monday to Friday.



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<u>Variorum</u>

Killin Heritage Society

The Society has offered talks on a wide variety of subjects this winter and will end its winter syllabus on Friday, 2nd March, with "Winter Sports in Victorian Scotland". John Burnett, who is the Curator of Scottish Ethnology for the National Museums of Scotland, will give an illustrated talk on this subject.

On Yer Bike!

Local mountain bike enthusiasts Jonny Cumming, Allan Brodie, and William Fraser, along with 6 other cycle friends, raised the magnificent sum of £947.30 for the Marie Curie Cancer Care, by cycling from Glasgow to Stirling on the old Caledonian Canal. They would like to extend thanks to all who sponsored them to participate in the sponsored cycle on 30 July 2000.

Business Forum

The Royal Bank of Scotland will be holding another Killin Business Forum on 29 March 2001 (provisional date). The venue is still to be decided. Watch out for confirmation dates or phone Gordon Mason, Business Adviser in Stirling on 01786 445757.

Help Give Davy a Bare Summit!

Local chap, David Fettes is looking for sponsorship to have his lovely long locks cut off to raise funds for the Killin Mountain Rescue Team. Sponsorship forms are available in the local shops. The event will take place on 23 February 2001 at the Killin Mountain Rescue Team Annual Dance in the Killin Hotel.

Point to Remember

Although the Killin & District Sports and Leisure Club is not manned through the winter, the astro turf is available. The pavilion is also available for hire for meeting and other groups. Please pre-book through Kay Riddell on 01567 820 291

Killin Floral Awards 2001

The Killin Floral Awards are open competitions and cover all properties within the village boundaries. Trophies will be awarded this year for the following categories.

Commercial

The Best Overall Floral Frontage Display

Domestic

(There are five trophies to be awarded)

Hanging Baskets - containing at least 3 varieties of flowering or foliage plants

Tubs - planting as for hanging baskets

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

Best Overall Display in Containers - new for 2000

"The Best Garden Viewed from the Road" - will be judged this year on: All year round planting with a display of summer bedding - must be

a combination of summer bedding plants and other perennials, shrubs, roses etc.

Childrens' Competitions

The Tallest Sunflower Plant The Largest Sunflower Flower Head

The committee will supply the plants for the children to grow on. Children wishing to enter the competition should give their names to Kay, in the Library, by 31 March.

Village Floral Displays

Hanging baskets will once again be in position along the Main Street. It is hoped that all those businesses and individuals who have sponsored these so generously in the past will continue to do so and be happy to extend that sponsorship. Sponsorship is the Floral Association's only form of income and it hopes to increase the numbers of sponsors this year by welcoming new businesses and individuals to its current list of supporters.

2001 will see the number of hanging baskets increased from 34 to 48. This will ensure that all the metal lamp posts, from the Dochart Bridge to the Bowling Green, will have baskets. The Association is continuing its efforts to gain permission for the installation of some permanent planters at various points around the village.

The mobile watering unit was a tremendous success last year and made the watering of the baskets so much easier. Many of you will have seen members of the 'watering rota' as they carried out their task. The committee is keen to recruit additional helpers who would be willing to join the rota for one week between mid June and mid September. If you would be willing to help with the watering, or in any other way (planting baskets, growing on plants etc.), please contact either Gillean Ford (820492) or Marion McRae (820719). We are looking for only a few hours of your time.

GF



Community Resource Centre

The project continues to move forward in a positive way. The KLS Steering Group has met with McLaren Hall Trustees and Management Committee, who have agreed that the feasibility study being undertaken should look at the possibility of the Resource Centre being linked with the Hall.

A meeting of the main service providers who expressed an interest in the project, namely: Stirling Learning Centre, Stirling Council Library Service, Stirling Council Sports & Leisure, together with representatives from KLS and the McLaren Hall, met at the end of November with architects to discuss the sort of space required and to look at the possibilities for using the Hall.

Julie and Gordon McEachern of McEachern MacDuff Architects in Stirling, are very experienced in working with similar projects in rural villages. We hope to have sight of their first drawings, illustrating several different options, in January.

These preliminary drawings are, therefore, the next important step for the project. This will give everyone something to look at and begin to envisage what this Resource Centre might be. It will also be the discussion point for a meeting of all interested parties to comment and help develop the Resource Centre.

If anyone would like any further information please do not hesitate to contact either myself, or any of the KLS Steering Group, as listed in the last edition of the Killin News.

> Suzanne Player Community Animateur Tel: 820154



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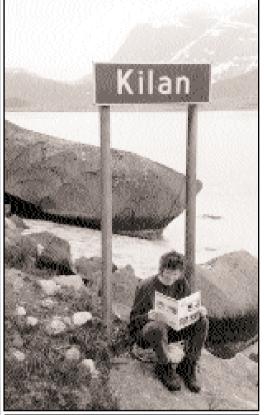
Stephen Pritchard 01567 820836

FREE BROCHURE AND QUOTES



Killin News Across The Globe





Could this be the Killin of the far north? Juliet Lane, (above) from Shrewsbury, settles down to read the Killin News at Kilan, near Flakstad, in the Lofoten Islands. Kilan is situated several degrees north of the Arctic Circle!

(Right) Barry Richardson and friend were attending the Olympic Games in Australia in 2000. Barry, who lives in Australia, is the nephew of Bill Stitt. Quite a head of hair you have there Barry - must be the sunshine!!



G'Day from Danny Shearer above. Danny, who lives in Tawonga, Victoria in Australia, was photographed reading the Killin News whilst 'working'(!) at Cairns in far north Queensland, Australia. Danny is stationed there for 10 weeks at a time, to do live electrical work - he cuts the jungle away from the electric poles. Imagine, reading the Killin News with your back to that view - the mountains, not the ladies! Danny, an avid reader of the Killin News, receives his copy from his sister Ella who lives in Lyon Road, Killin.





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Millennium Video

The Millennium Memories Video is now on sale in the Killin Library at £10. Until the middle of December we thought it would be ready for Christmas, but yet again, the gremlins struck the editing computer, and to our intense disappointment, a Christmas Launch was just not possible. At that stage Fran, our editor, despaired of ever being free of the project, but she was not to be beaten, even though the computer had to be returned to London for the **third** time. Inverness College very kindly allowed her the use of one of their machines during the college break and she managed to complete the project.

Maybe the gremlins that have bothered us are the same ones that dogged the Dome, the swinging bridge, the London Eye and other millennium projects both national and local last year. Perhaps they felt that we should be marking the real millennium and will look more favourably on projects maturing this year. So, maybe we should say that we were aiming for 2001 all along!!

MM

School Concert

A full house and a full stage! All the pupils of Killin Primary School, from the smallest to the biggest, gave us a concert to be remembered. The musical was called "New Millennium Heroes" and was written and arranged by Sheila Wilson.

All the children sang their hearts out, and what amazed this writer was the huge number of songs they sang. They had been learning the words and music for weeks – I bet there wasn't much school work done! It was clearly a musical that they had all very much taken to. It had good tunes which proved not too difficult to learn. They gave it their best and the large audience enjoyed a great nights' musical entertainment.

The whole thing was produced by Head Teacher, Mrs Maureen Inglis, and her staff, who would also like to extend thanks to members of the Killin Drama Club.



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Children In Need

(Above) Mr Weir before the chop! (Below) 'Who luvs ya baby?!

As his contribution to the Children in Need Appeal, Killin Primary Schoolteacher Mr Weir, agreed to have his head shaved if the children



could raise in excess of £750 from sponsors. By the Friday morning it became obvious that this total had been well exceeded, and Mr Weir resigned himself to "losing the heid" - or at least the hairy part of it. All the children were joined in the gym by a number of parents and friends to witness the event. The 71 children were obviously enthralled by the idea and worked very hard to raise the magnificent sum of £1,150. BD



dip.aromJTEC dip.mass.JTEC dip.arom.SSHM. REIKI 2

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- 12. 7 Day Westport, Ireland

4 Day Isle of Arran



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16 – 21 April

20 – 22 April

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 - 18 28 July
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 - 28 July 3 August
 - 7 8 August
 - 7 17 August
 - 18 25 August
 - 22 August 1 September
 - 31 August 2 September
 - 3 15 September
- 29. 4 Day Harrogate Flower Show 13 – 16 September
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- 4 Day London 38.
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- 16 22 September
- 20 25 September
- 28 September 2 October
- 29 September
- 6 12 October
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- 20 26 October
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The Frost Report

For those who are interested, here's some more information on the heather beetle. This is the little "fellow" responsible for acres of heather turning brown, brittle and useless all over the country. We are now in the midst of the worst infestation for at least 20 years – possibly even 50 years!

Each female lays about 700 eggs in sphagnum (that's the bright, long moss which tells you not to tread here or you'll be up to your knees in bog) or similar soggy areas. Cold, dry springs provide less suitable areas for laying, and successful hatching of larvae. The mild, wet springs we have experienced of late, favour the habitat the female heather beetles need to lay and hatch maximum offspring. We cannot change the climate - but can anything be done to help? Draining boggy areas is not a practical option. Much wildlife depends upon these areas - other insects, the birds who eat them, such as woodcock and waders. Nor is it an option to increase burning as this would also kill the young, healthy shoots which are vital if the heather moor is to survive an attack. We can help 'preserve' these shoots by reducing sheep and deer grazing. As I wrote in an earlier article, deer numbers are being reduced, and we all know about the demise of sheep farming so there may be some hope.

The heather beetle really is a worrying pest. When walking through an infected area, they swarm out like fine dust and appear to cling to clothing. One wonders if the beetle can be transported to new areas like this? The main salvation for the heather is the natural predator of the beetle - a parasitic wasp which lays its eggs inside the beetle

larvae. In just the same way as a periodic plague of voles brings about an increase in the short-eared owl population, so the vast numbers of heather beetle should lead to an increase in wasp. If the weather is in our favour – a bit more frost on the hills - it may help it to win.

Tim Frost

John Lynch

Dip.Pod.M

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To the Dog who Poos in Hillmount Driveway

Thank you for your calling card left so neatly at my gate. It really was a lovely thought to leave it where, I'd come home late, and push the buggy through it straight. Now it's on my kitchen floor and through the house there's even more.

As I have a baby child who's crawling now and likes the floor, I would prefer you not to poo right in the gateway to our door. But use the verge or fields or moor to do the things that dogs must do, and don't use this driveway as your loo!

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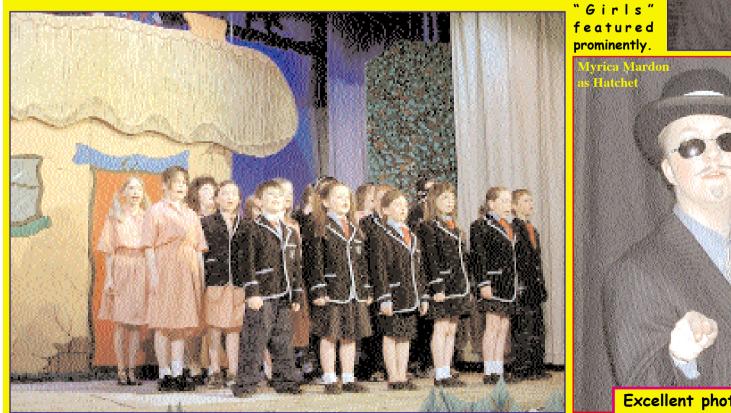
Killin

It's That Time Again -(Oh no its not - Oh Yes it is!)

Despite a first night where the c heating oil ran out, all three nights warm reception.

The Show was a feast of colour, talent, and special effects. Α rocket to the stars and skillful use of lighting had the audience clapping and cheering. Amongst the stalwarts, Tam Bolton (and none more stalwart than he!) was a splendid Mother The Mardon Goose.





rama Club

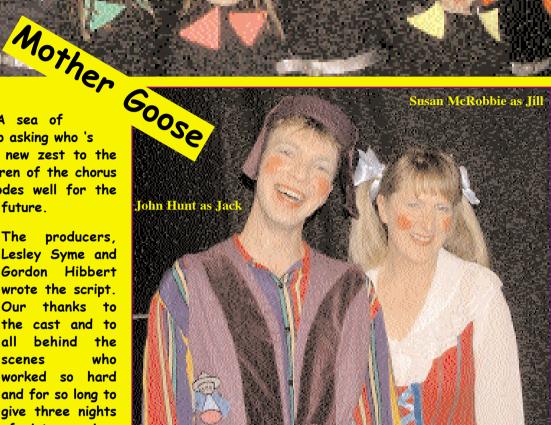
A sea of new faces (I had to keep asking who 's he? who's she?) bought new zest to the performance. The children of the chorus al were grand and this bodes well for the ۵



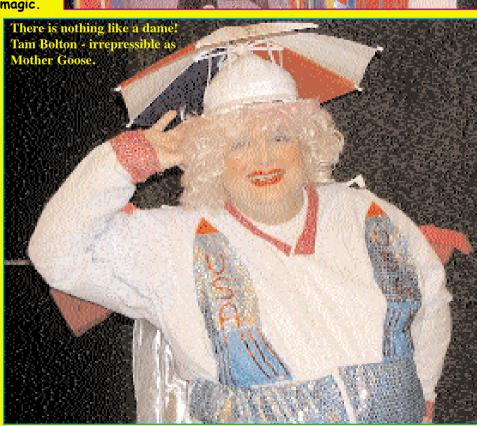
future.

AW

The producers, Lesley Syme and Gordon Hibbert wrote the script. Our thanks to the cast and to behind the all who scenes worked so hard and for so long to give three nights of winter magic.







Killin Conservation Area

Since January of last year, extensions were made by Stirling Council to the boundaries of the Killin Conservation Area. A map is available in Killin Library which indicates the area affected, and you should remember that if you live within this boundary you are committed to abide by the rules. A leaflet outlining the rules is also available from the library, it covers such incidentals as, you need permission to fell trees in your own garden etc. Make sure you are aware of the rules, as to disregard them may result in heavy penalties.

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Safari Supper

Once again your Millennium Committee decided to host a safari supper for the enjoyment of the village. The 'Girls' set to work and organised the biggest bash to date. Along with eleven brave people who were willing to host, at their own expense, they sold 66 tickets to people from all over the district. Some 'foreigners' from the West were even persuaded to come along and join in the fun.

The 'taxi', driven by our own Danny De Vito, (Brian Hibbert), set off to collect the first of many, who had succumbed to the ticket sellers. Many others were on foot, as the movement of people began. First the starters, along with copious amounts of alcohol, in many forms, and then quickly off to the main course. Part of the fun was not knowing until the last moment where to go next. The main course finished, the task was to get to your sweet with as little swaying as possible. Some seemed to find this more difficult than others, but all arrived safely and in good spirits at their designated 'home'.

For all of us who were hosts, the most difficult part of the evening was moving on guests, on time, who were enjoying good crack in fine company. It was a truly social evening, with old friends meeting new ones in a strange house.

The last port of call was the Killin Hotel, where Alan and Fiona Garnier kindly agreed to provide coffee, free of charge, in the Tartan Room. The raffle over, and the Millennium Diary dates finished, it was time to depart in the wee sma' hours. Everyone enjoyed a truly superb evening. Young and old, friends and strangers - everyone mixed, in the true spirit of Killin.

Another safari evening will be held on 24 March 2001, to mark the winding up of all projects commemorating the Millennium. Details will be announced at a later date.

Colin J McRae, Chairman

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Skip to the Skip

Good news at last concerning the siting of a rubbish skip in Killin. The new skip will be open for use in Station Yard every Saturday from 7 am until 3 pm. Even more good news is that our Village Officer, Jake, will get extra hours of work to supervise it. But remember, Killin wants to retain this service, so <u>no</u> <u>car batteries, no commercial waste</u>. If you see any unauthorised use of the skip, please report it to the local Police or a Killin Community Councillor.

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Killin Mountain Rescue Team

Over the last year to December 2000, the Killin Mountain Rescue Team were called out to 25 incidents, which totalled some 750 man hours in the area. These comprised 10 incidents of people lost or overdue, 11 involving serious injuries (fortunately none resulting in fatalities), and 4 fatal incidents, 2 of which were the result of illness. Over Christmas and New Year alone,

the team was called out 3 times to Croich Ardrain, Ben Lui area, and to assist Lomond Mountain Rescue Team in the Ben Lomond foothill and forestry area.

There has been a lot of talk recently about the use of mobile phones in the mountain arena. In our opinion, mobile phones certainly assist the mountain rescue teams, in so far as they can be called out earlier in the day, and therefore reach the casualties and in many cases complete the recovery before darkness descends. However, people should not become complacent. Mobile phones do **not** work everywhere on the mountains. It is essential that the basics of map and compass work is learned. Also, in winter, a sound knowledge of winter skills, and how to use ice axe and crampons is also of utmost importance.

William Stitt Team Leader

Welcome to Killin Dr Ankie de Laat

Do you remember a song that Frank Ifield used to sing, many moons ago, about a mouse who lived in a windmill in old Amsterdam? It conjured up pictures of busy little creatures scurrying around, carrying out all their various tasks with great enthusiasm and fun, dressed in traditional Dutch clothing. These days, whenever I am in the doctors' surgery in Killin that song springs to mind as Dr. de Laat dashes about the place, with seemingly endless energy (well, on the surface anyway!) and a cheery smile. The brightly coloured jackets and sweaters replace the aprons and clogs of the song, and the "little bit" of Holland that came to reside in Killin last August has brightened up many a dreaded visit to the doctor. Her sense of humour and fun, combined with a sensitive and thorough approach, make forgiveness for the length of time spent in the waiting room a little easier!

Dr. de Laat was born in Amsterdam, a discreet number of years ago, and spent the early part of her life both there and in The Hague. She studied medicine at Leiden University, in the Netherlands, and did her practical training in hospitals in both Leiden and The Hague. After graduation she worked as a registrar in the Netherlands until 1984. As there was a waiting list for GP training in Holland, she chose to come to Scotland and did that part of her training in Drumnadrochit. Having holidayed in Scotland in the 1970's she had already come to know and like the country and the people. On

Good Samaritans

When I lay there torn and tossed That was where our paths were crossed You picked me up when life turned dark Tended me with your kind spark You had a gentle way with me As if you wanted me to see That life would never be so rough And luck should never be so tough I'm happy, fit and well again Because you stopped and saw me then I know there will be no more strife And hope we shall be friends for life.

> Norma A MacArthur from "The Poetry Address Book"

completion of her training at Drumnadrochit she took up a post as a single-handed GP in Strathdon, remaining there until 1992. Dr. de Laat then returned to Holland and worked as a single-handed GP in the south-east of the country until returning to Scotland in August, 2000.

Dr de Laat's love of the mountains and the Scottish countryside attracted her to the post in Killin, especially as walking is one of her main interests. She also particularly enjoys gardening, reading, sewing and drawing. A busy lady! **GF**

Killin Initiative Annual General Meeting

The Killin Initiative AGM was poorly attended by members of the public, particularly those representing businesses in the village, who clearly benefit from the influx of tourists attending both the Folk Festival and Highland games. Alex Stewart, Chairman reported that 2000 had been a difficult year and overall the 2000 programme showed a financial deficit. Unless adequate sponsorship can be attracted for 2001, there is a question mark over whether either event will take place this year or in the future. Four members of the committee resigned at, or before, the AGM, Charlie Grant - Vice Chairman, David Fettes - Treasurer, Andy Aitken and Douglas McRobbie, and as far as we are aware vacancies still exist for Vice Chairman and Treasurer. We believe that the majority of residents in and around Killin enjoy the Folk Festival and Highland Games, and that most businesses benefit from the increased numbers visiting the village. It is hoped that the Killin Initiative will be able to attract sufficient sponsorship and support to allow the events to continue.

AI

Killin Carpet Bowling Club

The Annual Open Pairs Competition was held on 2 December in the McLaren Hall. There was a very good attendance, amounting to some 32 pairs. This time, for a change, the Killin and district bowlers played rather well. The winners were D Livingstone and J Ogilvie (Killin), runners-up were J Taylor and D MacKenzie (Ardeonaig). The winner of the Consolation Singles was C McLarty (Killin). A thoroughly enjoyable and successful competition.

The Carpet Bowlers, in a fund raising effort held two events. The first was a Fireside Quiz on a botanical note, organised by Jean Williamson, which raised £200. The winner was a Mrs McDonald from Inverness-shire. Secondly, a Soup and Sandwich Lunch in the McLaren Hall, courtesy of Charlie Grant and helpers, raised £150. Thanks to all for their support. SA & AW



Dear Editor

Donation £3000

We are in receipt of the above donation given by the local people of the Village in memory of Simon Twigg. Please can you extend our sincere thanks to everyone who has given so generously, and the tremendous support given to Simon's family at this sad time, this kindness and support is greatly appreciated.

As requested by Simon's parents, the above donation will be used to help improve the quality of life for cancer patients and their families locally, and will be credited to our Edinburgh Appeal to help fund:

- Social Worker Palliative Care Team at the Western General
- Genetic Associate at the Western General

Macmillan Cancer Relief helps patients and their families from the point of diagnosis, through treatment and rehabilitation by offering a wide variety of cancer care services aimed at improving the quality of life for all concerned.

Thank you once again for your much valued support.

Yours sincerely

Bob Fowler Edinburgh Fundraising Manager

McLaren Hall Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held in the Lesser Hall on 7 November, with an attendance of around 20 to 30 persons. The following is a condensation of the reports presented at the Meeting.

Usage

The Year 2000 proved relatively quiet, although the Hall was used for around 60% of available time. The 'usual' groups continued to use the Hall, which also featured strongly in many village events including the School Millennium concert, Folk Festival and the Highland Games (when the dancers were rained off Breadalbane Park).

Finances

These remained fairly good and costs,

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Supplier of **Carpets & Vinyls** despite continuous increases, were met. For now, user charges for 2001 will remain at the present level, with strict monitoring of expenditure, especially on cleaning, oil rates and water rates. Depending on utility costs, increases later in the year may yet have to be considered.

Maintenance

The major event was the delivery of the new chairs, which proved very popular. In addition, exterior painting was completed, floors were resurfaced and, courtesy of the SWRI, the kitchen now has new cookers, new crockery and a new hot water boiler.

Future plans

The Five Year Plan is on hold, pending discussions with the KLS Steering Group and Hall Trustees, while other meetings will take advice on development possibilities and funding sources.

Committee

Committee The existing was congratulated on its efforts. On the unanimous recommendation of the meeting, all members agreed to continue in office for the coming year.



friend and I were

walking the West Highland Way, we had the pleasure of meeting "the girls" from Killin on their Charity Walk. We admired their courage. sense of humour and spirit – to walk 95 miles and raise the incredible sum of £6,600 for charity is a great achievement.

Diana Twigg kindly sent me copies of the Killin News, and I would like to congratulate you and your Editorial Team on its quality of production and content, and also the Web Site Manager for the informative site. The residents of Killin are lucky to live in such a thriving community – a real example to those of us south of the border in "suburbia"!!

> Ted W-Peacock Farnham, Surrey

The New Killin **Community Council**

The Inaugaral Meeting of Killin Community Council took place on 11 December in the McLaren Hall, chaired by Suzanne Player on behalf of Stirling Council. The meeting was attended by the 12 nominees who will hold office for the next 3 years with Councillor Tony Ffinch in attendance.

There was some lively and entertaining discussion around the Election of Office Bearers but all nominations were unanimous and the new Community Council is made up as follows:

John MacPherson - Chair, Pat Christie - Vice Chair, Fiona Kennedy - Joint Secretary, Mairi Hunter - Joint Secretary, Bill Douglas - Treasurer, Charlie Grant Planning -Correspondent, Emma Paterson -Planning Correspondent, John Stewart - Parks Convener, Dougie Livingstone, Alda Noble, Kay Riddell & Kenny Taylor.

Best wishes and good luck to the new Community Council who will be working on behalf of our community over the next three years.



ervyn's Weather

As the year 2000 AD gradually slides away

with a 4 inch covering of snow, it is interesting to look back to the same period 1995/96. in when the meteorological run up to Christmas and New Year week was almost identical to that of 2000. For some days prior to Christmas, an easterly wind brought heavily overcast and lowering skies with mist and, persistent at times, heavy rainfall. Then, as in this year, an area of high pressure over Scandanavia, an offshoot of the "Siberian High" - an established feature - dominated the scene and allowed an incursion of very cold Arctic air to spread over the UK. Temperatures in 1996 were for a short period very low, with night minima as low as minus 12C to minus 18C, or near zero Fahrenheit. This year while readings were not so low, some places in Western Scotland and Ulster recorded figures comparable to those of 1995. As in 1995, the cold snap was short lived.

The area covered by "Killin News" had varied snow cover during the above period, as the weaker front which produced the initial snowfall of 24 December, did not penetrate much east of Killin, the area with snow cover began at Killin - Glenogle -Lochearnhead and westward to Tyndrum and beyond. The Isle of Mull had its heaviest snowfall for many years. In



contrast, west of Loch Tayside had but a slight dusting and looking north east to Atholl forest, the situation was similar, although the Cairngorm plateau was in contrast very white. Nearer to home, the highest ground over 2,700 feet did have cover, but only moderate.

It remains to be seen whether the remaining two months of winter 2001 will revert to the rain showers and galeridden conditions of recent years. Or will it perchance produce a "traditional" winter consisting of spells of milder "Atlantic" type, alternating with colder snowy periods lasting a week or ten days - time will tell!

Anyone out of doors and away from street lights on Boxing night, may have noticed the brilliance of the stars, and in particular the three brightest planets, Jupiter, Saturn and Venus. This was one of the very few occasions during the past year that the skies were entirely clear of cloud, and the result was a night sky of almost tropical brilliance.

> Mervyn Browne Ardtalnaig



Burnside, Aberfeldy PH I 5 2AU

Fingal Stone Project

In a previous Killin News, there was a historical introduction to the current project. Although activity by the working group may not be obvious, some progress has been made.

Discussions are taking place to create a small trust, which would be responsible for the Fingal site. Although Judge Stroyan is donating the site for a nominal sum, legal fees are involved, and at the moment, the working group has no funds. Look out for the various fund raising ventures during 2001. Finalising the purchase is a priority.

The site is of interest from two perspectives. Firstly, it will be developed as a natural wetland site and secondly, as a site of historical interest. Organisations such as Scottish Natural Heritage and the Scottish Tourist Board are already interested.

We have had meetings with representatives from Stirling Council, who have suggested that a public path would be funded by the housing developers to lead from the proposed new houses, along the edge of the Fingal site to Breadalbane Park. This would not be linked into the road past the Killin Library. The site will be fenced, but access to the hill run will not be affected.

Information about Fingal and the local flora will be set out on boards. Donations and help with fund raising will be welcomed. The working group is desperately seeking new ideas!

AW

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Whist Drive

A well attended Whist Drive was held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on 11 November in aid of the Scottish War Blinded. There were ten tables and the prize winners were as follows:

Ladies

Fiona Inglis 2. Mairi MacColl
Nessie McIntosh

Consolation Prize - Hope MacDonald

Gents

1. Bill Stitt 2. Colin Woods 3. George McIntosh.

Consolation Prize - Ian McGregor

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Killin SWRI

The November meeting held in the Lesser McLaren Hall, was opened by the President, Mrs K Winton who welcomed members and introduced Mrs Anette Brown and her daughter Linda Anderson who gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on felt making, spinning and weaving. The ladies were thanked by Mrs J Higgins.

After tea, Mrs Winton informed the meeting that the Coffee Morning/Flu Clinic on 18 October, raised £287.83 for the Macmillan Nurses, and she thanked everyone who had helped to make it such a success.

Competitions

Toffee Apple: 1. Mrs B MacGregor 2. Mrs K Winton **Knitted Garment**: 1. Mrs B MacGregor 2. Mrs L Bergin 3. Mrs B Gordon

Mrs K Winton also welcomed old and new members, as well as visitors from Ardeonaig, Fearnan and Kenmore, to our December meeting which was held in the Lesser McLaren Hall. Mr Andrew Scott from Comrie was introduced, and he gave a mouth watering cookery demonstration, after which we were invited to sample the smoked trout pate, breast of pheasant and warm chocolate tart - bang went the diets! Mrs B Gordon proposed the vote of thanks.

Competitions

Christmas Cocktail: 1. Mrs E Stewart 2. Mrs K Reid 3. Mrs B MacGregor Gift Wrapped Box: 1. Mrs M Aitken 2. Mrs L Bergin 3. Mrs B Beatie

The President also welcomed members to the 77th birthday party of Killin SWRI in Killin Hotel on Thursday 4th January 2001. An excellent dinner was served and enjoyed by one and all.

Competitions

Head-dress: 1. Mrs E Stewart 2. Mrs K Winton 3. Mrs A Shuttleworth **Limerick**: 1. Mrs M Hunter 2. Mrs F Inglis 3. Mrs S Chisholm

Ardeonaig & District WRI

On 8th November, Dr E Turner gave us a very interesting talk about the proposed new Killin Resource Centre.

Competitions

Old Fashioned Remedy: 1. R Cameron 2. J Anderson 3. A Armstrong Lemon Curd: 1. M Taylor 2. A Armstrong 3. J Scott

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also

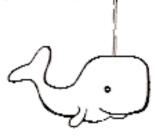
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Phone / Fax Clive Aitchison on Ballinluig (01796) 482 495 0780 1509 650

Whale Rescue

One Thursday night, I had the rare opportunity to assist in the resuce of a female Minki whale, four metres long, which was stranded up river on Skye.

After a three hour drive, I donned my wet suit at 2 am and lowered myself into the freezing cold water. The whale was supported on an inflated pontoon, and my first job was to keep her muscles moving to stop her suffering from massive cramps due to her immobility. I did this by massaging her body – her skin was like rubber mixed with plastic - I couldn't believe I was actually touching a whale! I had to rub really hard to get into her muscles, the surface



layer of dead skin came off, but there are many layers of it, and I knew I was not harming her in any way. We slowly poured water over her back, and I stroked the grooves under her chin which seemed to calm her down. Her little eyes were rolling about to see what was going on – it was an emotional experience.

We worked in shifts all through the night in a force 7 gale, and although tiredness and exhaustion set in, determination to save this enormous, helpless creature, boosted our adrenaline, and strength came from within to enable us to carry on.

We lifted the inflatable pontoon by crane, and placed it on a lilo on another boat. This had never been done successfully before. It had been tried in New Zealand, but unfortunately on that occasion, they ruptured the whales' stomach and it died an hour later. Everyone was nervous. Our first lift failed, but the second was successful. Everyone cheered. We headed off in various boats out to sea where we slowly lowered the whale. Two helpers jumped overboard, undid the pontoon, then held tightly onto the side. At first there was silence. Where had she gone? It looked like she just sank down to the bottom of the sea. All of a sudden, on the other side of the boat her whole face poked out of the water. We were all totally elated - I was racked with emotion - I had participated in my first whale rescue!

Laura Bates, Creagan Cottage



National Waste Strategy Scotland Public Consultation

Waste Management in Scotland is facing a period of radical change. Driven by European legislation and public expectation, as well as pressing environmental problems. We must find ways of reducing our dependence on landfill and moving towards more sustainable methods of managing waste. We must seek to reduce the growth in waste, hazardous contents, and to find solutions that won't compromise future sustainable development.

To tackle these issues the Forth Valley Area Waste Group has been formed. The area waste group is a partnership of the 3 local Councils (Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannan), SEPA and Scottish Enterprise Forth Valley to plan the future waste management needs of the Forth Valley area. The group is one of 11 waste strategy areas in Scotland and forms a key part of the National Waste Strategy, charged with proposing long term effective solutions. The first part of this process is the production of the Waste Issues Paper, which provides an introduction to the key issues and the work of the group today. The intention is to stimulate genuine debate and discussion amongst all stakeholders.

The Waste Issues Paper is available for view on the web sites of both Stirling Council and SEPA and can also be viewed at any public library. A presentation on the Waste Issues Paper will be taking place at the next Area Forum in your area - Lochearnhead Village Hall, 7.30pm - 9.30pm Wednesday 7 March 2001

The consultation period for this document expires on 31 March 2001 and all comments and suggestions are welcomed.

Please direct all comments via Dave Gorman, the Forth Valley Area Waste Strategy Co-ordinator, SEPA, Erskine Court, Castle Business Park, Stirling, FK9 4TX, Telephone: 01786 461407, Fax: 01786 461425, e-mail: dave.gorman@sepa.org.uk

FREE PHONE 0800 232323 for your free copy of the Waste Issues Paper.

Obituaries

Margaret Steele (nee MacPhail), age 54 years passed away on 8 October 2000 in Oban.



Margaret, my sister, attended Killin School and McLaren High School in the 1950's. She played hockey for the school, was a member of the Killin Badminton Club, played tennis and also shared a trophy with Mary Sandeman for Gaelic Verse at the Mod.

While still living in Killin, Margaret worked for McEwans, Mr G Wilson, Falls of Dochart Hotel and the Killin Hotel. She was accepted to Jordan Hill for teaching, but her heart took her to Oban, 35 years ago, to work in hotels, hairdressing, the Oban Times office, the Co-op Offices and the Bank of Scotland.

In 1968 Margaret married Ian (Steele) and had two daughters, Morven and Morag, and a son, Alan. In April 1984 her daughter Morven, aged 11, quietly fell asleep and two and a half weeks later her husband Ian, aged 38 years, lost his brave fight against cancer.

It is very difficult to understand why some people get all the hardship that life can throw at them and Margaret was certainly one of those people. However, she pulled through the tragedies in her life with such courage and bravery that she made us all feel very humble.

Margaret went on to raise her two children, working day and night, and spending every spare minute raising money for charity. Latterly she worked in the Co-op Superstore in Oban where in August 1999 an opportunity arose for volunteers to climb Mount Sinai to raise money for Children 1st (guess whose hand went up first). As you can see from the photo taken in November 1999, she made it to the top. The total raised for charity was in excess of £130,000. Sadly, two months later, Margaret was diagnosed with cancer.

What she suffered she told but few, She did not deserve what she went through, Tired and weary she made no fuss, but tried so hard to stay with us.

Margaret's funeral service was kindly conducted by Father Michael McDonald in St Columbia's Cathedral, Oban. Our hearts were lightened a little by the number of people in the church whose lives were all touched by Margaret in one way or another. Margaret will be very sadly missed by all her family and friends. The courage and bravery that Margaret showed in her life has left a lasting impression on all of us.

Peggy, Donald, Morag, Neil, Gregor, Euan, Morag, Nigel, Alan & Diane wish to thank family, friends and neighbours in Killin and Oban for their kind expressions of sympathy. We are sure that the generous donations collected in the Cathedral of £832 (and still rising) will be put to good use by the Macmillan Nurses in the Oban area.

Morag MacKenzie



Falls of Dochart, Killin, Perthshire Tel: Killin (01567) 820 270

Quality en suite rooms

Sunday Lunches in our MacNab Restaurant

Egon Ronay recommended bar food



Ann Murray, Community Nurse, Midwife, and wife of Davie Murray, died on 1 November aged 58, in Strathcarron Hospice, after a long and difficult illness, which she endured with great fortitude.

Ann was born in Coalburn, trained in general nursing at Law Hospital, and in midwifery at Bellshill & William Smellie. In 1975 Ann and Davie moved to the Police House in Crianlarich, where she was very supportive of Davie in his post as Police Constable, and devoted her energies to this, and the upbringing of their two daughters, Laura and Pauline, who are both a great credit to them. In 1984 Davie and Ann moved to Strathvre, and after a spell at Stirling Maternity Unit, she secured a post in Doune. In 1986 she took over as Community Nurse/Midwife for Strathyre, Balquhidder and Lochearnhead and worked closely with, and relieved for, the Killin Nurses. During this period, she trained for the Diploma in Community Nursing, and continued in post until retirement for health reasons in 1997.

Ann was a delight to work with, she had a good rapport with her colleagues and shared many experiences with them – some rather unusual. Ann was held in high regard by all whose lives she touched. Sadly, she was denied the pleasures of a well-earned retirement, and the loss to her family and friends is incalculable.

Audrey D Weaver



Heart of Scotland Herb Society

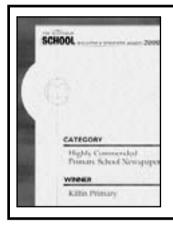
Since our last article in the Killin News we have had two well attended meetings which were interesting, informative and enjoyable. In November, winter remedies were discussed by our local medical herbalist Jacqui Hazzard. Advice on how to keep well and warm, both internally and externally during the winter months, was well received. Internally these included eating seasonally, and taking in the key nutrients necessary to build resistance and boost our immune system. The preparation and use of infusions and tinctures to warm and ease a sore throat, cut through catarrh or ease or relieve blocked



sinuses was covered in detail. Externally, baths using ingredients such as rosemary and ginger as circulatory boosters, followed by natural fibre wraps to keep the cold at bay. These low cost measures can be a first line of action to help us keep well and minimise the winter miseries and perhaps prevent the need to visit the doctor during this busy time of year!

In December, we used herbs and herbaceous materials to illustrate different ways of decorating the house for the upcoming Christmas festival. Both natural and artificial materials were used to make these wallhangs, table adornments, wreaths and other items, to brighten up our homes with a special herbal flair. This was rounded off with festive food and wassail, to celebrate the holiday and introduce our new name "Heart of Scotland Herb Society", which coincides with our affiliation to the national organisation which has its headquarters in London.

Our next two meetings encompass two other varied subjects: "Aromatherapy" by Elizabeth Jenkins was in January, and "Cooking with Herbs" by Keiran Grant of Farleyer House Hotel will be on 21 February. These are both good indoor activities for the winter months. For more information please contact Patty Hope at 01567 820408 or Cath McGregor at 01887 830805.



The Scotsman School Magazine & Newspaper Awards 2000

Congratulations to Killin Primary School who won "Highly Commended" in the above awards, in the Primary School Magazine category, for the P7 Press. This is an excellent achievement for their first publication, especially when you consider they were up against schools competing from all over Scotland. Congratulations to the P7 Class of 2000, who are now all in their first year at McLaren High School in Callander.





Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club and Killin Keepfitters Awards

The CWS launched a Community Dividend Scheme in 1998, alongside their Dividend Card, as a method of generating cash for community groups. Twice a year, at Dividend pay out time, supporters of the scheme donate the 'odd pence' from their pay-out to the Community Dividend fund.

Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club receiving their award of £250, and the Killin Keepfitters receiving their award of £200.

The Killin Keepfitters are also pleased to say that we have been given a 'SportScotland' grant under the 'Lottery Awards For All' programme. Part of this award will be used to purchase equipment, and



part to pay for training of a local person to instruct at the keepfit classes. Anyone interested in training should ring Suzanne Player on 820154. The course consists of either 7 weekends over 3 months, or supported study partly at home, or an intense course of 12 to 14 days - and the grant money has to be spent this year.

In 2001 the Killin Keepfitters plan to continue the Tuesday evening and Thursday morning aerobics classes in the McLaren Hall, and the Yoga classes on Wednesday evenings in the Killin Primary School. As always, anyone is welcome - if people don't come we can't run the classes. In response to an interest in a monthly breakdancing class, we are investigating starting one.

MM

The Killin News, (we are sure on behalf of the whole village), would like to thank the Council Snow Ploughs and Gritters. They kept our main roads clear and safe, throughout this snowy winter, at all times of the day and night. Great job guys.

Editor



McLaren Community Leisure Centre

Open 9.00am until 9.00pm seven days a week (See special opening times advertised in the centre)

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Pool, Health Suite, Sunbeds, Bubble Bath, Squash Courts, Sports Hall, Fitness Suite, Climbing Wall, Indoor Bowls Hall, Meeting Room and Cafe.

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Refreshments are available from the Cafe.

For further information please contact reception on tel: (01877) 330000 or fax: (01877) 331004

Highland Dancing

We have once again had a successful term of Highland Dancing, with 14 pupils doing very well in their medal tests. The examiner was Linda Napier from Arbroath, and the tests were in Crianlarich Village Hall. I think we should give a special mention to Lucie Ronald and Becky Holliday, who both joined us after the summer break and went on to pass their respective grades. New additions in December include Lynsey Armstrong and Thomas Lamb. Before Christmas, we invited parents and friends to come along and see the pupils give a short dancing display, which was followed by the presentation of awards by Mary Anderson.

Introductory One: Lucie Ronald – Commended, Emma Christie – Highly Commended

Introductory Two: Karra Gill & Camilla Tigwell – Pass Plus, Catriona McLennan – Commended

Introductory Three: Seona Christie – Pass Plus, Becky Holliday & Jessica Wilkie – Commended

Bronze: Louise Storrar – Commended Silver: Kirsty Somerville & Rachel Lincoln – Commended, Gillian Ross – Highly Commended

Gold: Gillian Ross–Highly Commended, Siobhan Anderson – Honours

Gold Bar One: Lyndsey Marno – Commended

Bronze Sailors Hornpipe: Gillian Ross & Siobhan Anderson – Highly Commended

Aileen Fisher

Killin Web Site Poll

Question: Should Killin be part of the proposed Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park? Yes = 69.6% (55 Votes) No = 16.4% (13 Votes) Unsure = 13.9% (11 Votes)

Gregor MacKenzie

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Jock Stewart Retires After 25 Years

A presentation was held on 14 December in the Church Hall, to mark the retiral of John Stewart from the Ambulance Service, after years 25 service. John MacPherson welcomed friends and colleagues to the gathering. Dr Mairi MacColl, who presented John with a cheque said, "As a thank you from the people of Killin and district - not because of the job - but because of the way in which it was done - with compassion".



On 17 February 1975, Billy Hunter and John set up Killin's first full time ambulance service, based in MacGregor's garage. During the ensuing 25 years he saw many changes. "The job has become much more technical" he said. John leaves the service with confidence and in the secure knowledge, that the station has been left in good hands, "A great bunch of colleagues" he said.



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> Cried CC Cuen Sutherland 01567 820357

Suie Lodge Hotel

Peter & Betty Shoulders John & Vicky Hunter

Would like to introduce ourselves as the new owners of the Suie Lodge

As in the past, the Hotel welcomes groups wishing to hold meeting etc.

Our bar service is available for outside functions

The bar will re-open on Friday 23 February when we look forward to welcoming you

Tel: 01567 820 417 Fax: 01567 820 040 E-Mail: suielodgehotel@barclays.net



On 8 October 2000, 18 guns turned out to the shoot. The results were:-25 Down The Line Class (A): 1. E McAllister - 75, 2. Equal, G Coyne & R M Cairns - 69 Class (B): 1. J Morris - 69 Class (C): 1. Calum Frost - 68 Sporting Class (A): 1. G Coyne - 63, 2. Equal, E McAllister, G Ross & R M Cairns -60 Class (B): 1. J Ward – 63. 2. J Morris - 54 Class (C): 1. Calum Frost - 48, 2. T Frost - 39 Double Rise Trophy: 1. E McAllister -48, 2. R Cairns – 44, 3. G Coyne & H Campbell - 42 High Gun – E McAllister – 135 Veterans Trophy - R M Cairns Shoot held on Sunday 5 November was attended by 24 guns on a dry, but cool day. 25 Down The Line Class (A): 1. E McAllister - 69, 2. D Robertson - 69, 3. G Ross - 69 Class (B): 1. J Morris - 62, 2. R Mills - 55 Class (C): 1. K Haimes - 55, 2. T Frost - 45 Sporting Class (A): 1. Equal, G Coyne & J Sinclair - 63, 3. E McAllister - 60 Class (B): 1. S Christie – 57, J McKay - 42 Class (C): 1. K Haimes - 42, Calum Frost - 39

High Gun & Suie Cup: E McAllister – 129

End of Season Trophy Winners Classification Winners Down The Line

Class (A): E McAllister – 289 Class (B): J Morris – 265

Class (C): K Haimes - 181

Sporting

Class (A): E McAllister – 261 Class (B): S Christie – 240 Class (C): K Haimes – 173

Aggregate for Year

1. G D Coyne - 530 2. H Campbell – 514

Curry Rose Bowl: G D Coyne – 277

Many thanks to all Committee and Members for their help and support on shoot days. Also to all our sponsors for the year. *G D Coyne (Secreary)* Thank You

The Killin News would like to sincerely apologise to the Macaulay family for the typing error in the last Killin News. The correct 'thank you' letter is written below in full.

I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to all friends and neighbours, who visited my brother Hamish MacGregor while he was at home in Lochearnhead at the start of his illness, and when he was admitted into the Stirling Royal Infirmary. He was later transferred to Ward 1 at Bannockburn where he was very well cared for by the staff until his death on 17 October 2000.

I would also like to thank all the nurses from Killin and also the Comrie doctors for their attendance. I would especially like to thank Social Worker Janice Aitken and the Home Helps Eileen and Karen, whose help and kindness we could not have managed without. Eileen was also a great friend to Hamish and he so looked forward to her arrival every day and we appreciate all she did for him whilst he was at home.

The Macaulay Family

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Hogmanay Fireworks

Despite the weather proving difficult, the 'Team' alias Richard Shand of Tayvision, Duncan Anderson, Brian Hibbert and Duncan Somerville, were able to present a terrific display to all the village revellers. For this I thank them publicly. It takes a great deal of time and effort to organise such events, and to those involved in the preparation of the site, especially John Sinclair and William Stitt, we thank them. For all others, who, after all is said and done, gave up their 'Bells' to help, I personally thank you. For the members of the Millennium Committee who were involved, on their behalf, I thank you all for your support

Many people turned out to support the efforts of the organisers of this event. It was indeed a great relief to see so many coming up the Main Street on such a night. Although the gritter passed through the middle of the event, the enthusiasm of the crowd remained and the sum of £370 was raised to assist with the funding.

The organisers would like to make this an annual event, but before reaching a decision we ask for your opinion. Please communicate with us so no time is wasted on a future celebration. Sincere thanks to all involved.

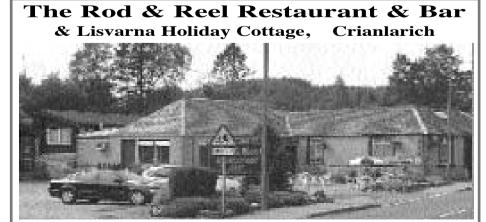
Colin J McRae, Chairman

Safari Supper

On behalf of the Millennium Committee, I sincerely thank all hosts, participants and helpers for making the evening such a success.

The 'Girls' who organised this event, must be singled out for their outstanding work in bringing this together. Elizabeth Woods, Jane Anders, Elaine Turner and Marion McRae – I thank you all.

Colin J McRae, Chairman



Tel & Fax: 01838 300 271 E-Mail: bill.paulin@virgin.net

To all my friends and neighbours in Killin.

As you may know, I have had to move closer to my family due to my illness. My seven years in Killin have given me a wonderful opportunity to walk and explore the beautiful countryside, as well as to meet so many fascinating people.

I am so grateful for all the loving care and concern I have experienced in Killin, especially from the Medical Centre staff, the 'cheeky chappie' (George Sword), the Killin Heritage Society, and my special neighbours around Fingal Road.

I send you all my best wishes.

Margaret Hargreave

I would like to thank my many friends who visited me and sent cards or flowers, during my stay in hospital. Thanks to doctors and nurses at Stirling Royal Infirmary and at Killin Medical Centre, for their wonderful care and attention. Thanks also to the Rev. John Lincoln for his frequent comforting visits, and gifts. Your kindness is very much appreciated.

> Mary C McKinnon Dunvegan, Killin

Can I voice a big vote of thanks from myself, and several of the residents of the Falls of Dochart, for the wonderful pre-Christmas celebrations the children of the Killin Primary School and the Sunday School put on for us all – especially the small Primary 1 & 2 children. Many thanks to the staff of the school and the comfort of a lovely Christmas McLaren Hall, which has never looked better. Thank you all.

Jean Henderson

I would like to thank all those who contributed to my retiral fund. Some new gardening tools and plants are my top priority.

John Stewart Dreadnought Place, Killin

We would like to thank all our customers for their support over the past seven and a half years. We would also like to take this opportunity to wish our successors, Jackie and Harry every success.

> Dick & Mary Lewis Old Mill Restaurant, by Killin

Solution to the Christmas Prize Crossword

Across: 1. cavaliers 9. dilate 10. attended 11. tingle 12. artist 14. omen 15. chess 16. nestle 18. present 21. prevent 24. endure 26. peach 30. echo 31. sheila 32. Dundee 33. realised 34. uneven 35. institute Down: 2. afters 3. acetic 4. indite 5. red nose 6. divine 7. large toe 8. tenements 11. tenor 13. shoe 17 splendour 19. endanger 20 neice 22. etch 23. sporran 26. reeded 27. aslant 28 heriot 29 albeit

Across

- 1. US arboreal president (4)
- 3. It holds back the waves (5,5)
- 10. It operates without human assistance (9)
- 11. Not raised toppled over (5)
- 12. Circumference measure (5)
- 13. Spotty or streaked (8)
- 15. Rename oriental litter (7)
- 17. Rear or educate to run true (7)
- 19. Italian scene unhappily tempts (7)
- 21. Could be taxed or even cut off (7)
- 22. Wife of a lesser peer (8)
- 24. Four in backward umpire can produce paper money (6)
- 27 Being in total I've collected (5)
- 28. Increasing in sound volume (9)
- 29. Put a quiet circle round a happening to stop it from happening (10)
- 30. Lacking effervescence (4)

Down

- 1. A turbulent gathering of animals? (4,6)
- 2. Greek woodland god (5)
- 4. Rodent can be liable for tax (7)
- 5. A lot for sale here (7)
- 6. Injure (5)
- 7. One doesn't have to savour young flowers to develop these (5,4)
- 8. Ceremonial form seen in merit even (4)
- 9. Strongly stressed (8)
- 14. A beginner --- or the result of a painful corn (10)
- 16. Diet treat confused by a believer in the mystic value of the number 4 (9)
- 18. Stone dial for experienced climers (4,4)
- 20. A gem stone enhancement process (4--3)
- 21. Sculptor ---- well known for his bronze heads (7)
- 23. Bovine kind of daisy? (2--3)
- 25. Man -- made material (5)
- 26. At right angles to the weft (4)

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:

Friday, 2 March 2001

This will be distributed early in April.

Production Committee

Editor Linda FitzGerald

Assistant Editor Fiona Inglis

Treasurer Margaret MacIver

Secretary & Advertising Co-ordinator Judy Forster

Distribution Manager Allan Walker

Production Team Sinclair Aitken, Ian Lithgow, Bill Douglas, Angus Inglis, Gillean Ford & Kay Riddell

Postal Address: Kilchurn, Killin Telephone: 01567 820 298 Fax: 01567 820 043 E-Mail: killin.news@virgin.net

Crossword by Scorpio

We apologise for the accidental omission of the clue for 11 down in the Christmas Crossword. Fortunately it was easy to fill in since only one letter was needed (the only possible one!) to make the word "tenor".

The winners of the Prize Crossword were Mrs Anne Stewart and Mrs Anne Smellie, who each received £25 from the Killin News. Congratulations to you both.

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How Some Locals Brought in the New Year 2001

Hogmanay Fireworks

No-one can say that Killin didn't mark the opening of the 21st century well. The firework displays at the Dochart Bridge at the beginning of the years 2000 and 2001 were both memorable village events. Again this year the Millennium Commitee and Tayvision put on a sparkling show starting bang on (sorry) midnight and watched by an even larger crowd than last year. Once again there was frost and this time falling snow added to the sparkle as the many colours burst in multitudes of patterns over the falls, lighting up the snow-covered rocks and reflecting in the water. There were oohs! and aahs! of admiration - and a lot of wet faces as people looked upwards from under hats and umbrellas. A piper was heard and the sounds of "Happy New Years" and the odd dram or two were exchanged. You could say a cracking good time was had by all. *MM*

Happy New Year, Happy New Year, Happy New Year, Happy New Year

Having ventured up Sron a Clachain for New Year 2000, and witnessed the spectacular views of Killin and celebrations, we decided to do the same again for 2001.

At 10.30 pm, kitted out in the appropriate mountain gear, plus the 'essentials for the bells', we trouped down to the cars. What a shock it was to find that the road was no longer showing any signs of blackness. Un-deterred, we dug the cars out and piled in, but we soon realised that we were going nowhere. The blizzard was intense and so was our disappointment

We decided that, since we were so organised, and still had a substantial amount of time 'till midnight, we would climb the hill behind our house instead. We trudged with our torches, negotiating our way through the deepest snow - the tallest amongst us sinking up to thigh level! Visibility was down to about 2 meters, and the wind and snow lashed over the hills. Flashes appeared through the blizzard, and we could only guess that the fireworks were lovely. Some were celebrating early. When we reached the top, we began digging two enormous snow holes, to protect us during the 'cooling down' wait. With only a few minutes remaining until midnight, we huddled into the snow holes and settled down with the radio and glasses of champagne, to watch the Killin display. It was a hit and miss affair of peering through the blizzard, and waiting for a break in the clouds, to catch a glimpse of firework green or pink.

As the Bells chimed, and Auld Lang Syne was sung across the country, we toasted all in the company, and the people of Killin, as fireworks boomed around us from Glen Lochay, Lawers, and all the individual abodes down Loch Tay. Fifteen minutes into the New Year, and we began a hasty retreat back down the mountain on the sledges. We descended slopes we would never have attempted in daylight, or without the influence of the champagne! Home again, we felt such a glow of happiness, and a rich tiredness that comes with such spirited companionship, laughter, and the feeling that comes of a New Year. *Julia, David Blaney, Family & Friends*

Happy New Year, Happy New Year, Happy New Year, Happy New Year

Crianlarich

New Year was very quiet in Crianlarich this year and not many people were out first footing. For me it all started at the Rod and Reel where a few locals entertained us with some songs and a few tunes. This soon developed into a choir with nearly everyone in the pub singing along. Just before midnight, I left the pub to bring the New Year in at my friends' house with her family. Just after the bells we could hear fireworks, and so we ventured outside to watch the fireworks that Ellen Gemmell and her family were setting off, there were also fireworks going off from the direction of the Hotel. We didn't hang around for too long and disappeared back to the Pub to continue singing with the other locals and hostelers.

The pub closed at 1am, and it became very quiet. Nine of us left the pub together, formed a Conga chain, and danced down the Main Street and into the Graham household - the 'welding' of our chain left a lot to be desired as only five of us arrived there! We all ventured into various other households throughout the evening, upholding the spirit of New Year. *Theresa Robertson*

Ardeonaig

Our first New Year in Ardeonaig was spent entertaining, and worrying about the weather. In sharp anticipation, the children prayed for snow, and the rest of us tempered this with wishes for a "white" New Year, but only just enough snow to be picturesque. We could not have been more delighted with what turned out to be the perfect " snow scene". New Years' Eve was greeted with white mountains, fields of glistening snow, and a beautifully shimmering Loch Tay. The evening went extremely well with over 40 guests mellow with Champagne and excellent food. The piper was a dream (thanks to Wendy Walker from Aberfeldy), and the snow came gently once again at midnight, to provide a perfect backdrop for a spectacular fireworks display. Nobody went to his or her bed before 3am!

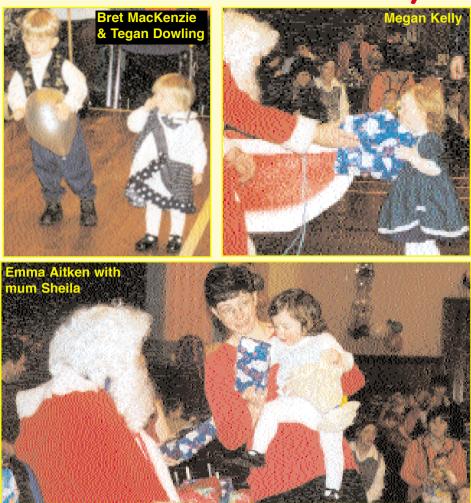
We had lots of expectations and ideals about our first New Year in Scotland, and thanks to this beautiful place and warm people, they have all been realised. *Mandy Exley Ardeonaig Hotel & Restaurant*

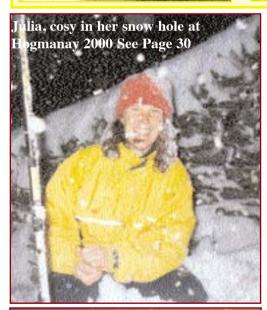
Happy New Year, Happy New Year

When we arrived in Killin shortly before midnight, we were greeted with a picture postcard view! The Main Street was a blizzard of snow, tinted by the sodium glow of the street lights - I felt as if I was watching this wintry scene - not actually being part of it! Loads of folk were heading towards the bridge to watch the fireworks and to see the New Year in. Snow lying on the rocks beside the Dochart - I have never seen Killin like this (but being an Aussie now living in Aberdeen doesn't help either!). It was still snowing, but the cheery faces and happy greetings from locals and visitors really set the scene. We stood partaking of champagne (chilled perfectly by the snow), whilst thoroughly enjoying the fireworks. "Watch it, watch it, KaaABooOOOOMMMM!" as the fireworks went heaven-wards. "Voopvoop-voop Kaaboooom" as the sky came alive with all the colours of the rainbow! "Happy New Year!" Fantastic! Next was the first footing and the drams that awaited us. What a way to start the Real Millennium! Sherri Donaldson

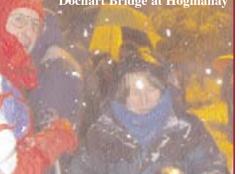
Mothers & Toddlers Christmas Party







Donald & Margaret MacIver Dochart Bridge at Hogmanay

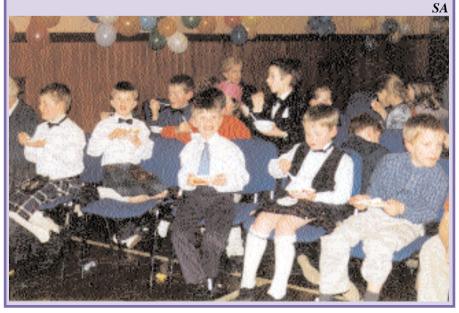


Killin Primary School Christmas Party

This party is provided for the school children, every year by members of the WRI. The McLaren Hall is beautifully decorated and has a very tall Christmas tree.

The childrens' time is spent to begin with, playing various party games, and they are then entertained to a Panto by the WRI members, greatly helped by some of the parents. This year the Panto was "The Yellow Brick Road".

The big moment is, of course, the arrival of Santa, ringing his bell, and pulling his heavily laden sledge full of presents for everyone.



Tyndrum Firefighters Win Award

Tyndrum volunteer firefighters are the best in central Scotland – and they have the trophies to prove it.

The team of five, entered the Central Scotland Fire Brigade Extrication Challenge at Maddeston headquarters on 19 November. They competed against five other teams - a full-time team from Bo'ness, three retained crews from Callander, Balfron and Larbert, and another volunteer team from Crianlarich.

In addition to winning the trophy, the station also received the cup and shield, and Allan Brodie also won a cup for the Best Officer in Command on the day. Tyndrum will now go forward to represent Central Scotland Fire Brigade at the next round in Plymouth in August 2001. If they triumph at the national contest there, they will then take part in the World Championship to be held in New Zealand in 2002.

The Team are:- Allan Brodie, who runs the family business of Brodies' Grocers in Tyndrum; James MacLennan, Maintenance Manager at the Green Welly Stop; Iain Wilkie, one of the owners of the Green Welly Stop; Colin MacLellan, Manager of the Green Welly Stop; and Jane Lamb, Supervisor at the Invervey Hotel.

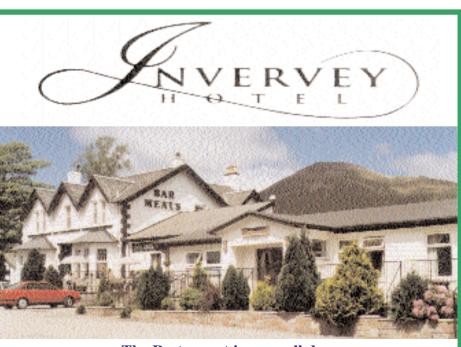
Tyndrum Volunteer Firefighters:- from back left are:-James MacLennan, Allan Brodie (Leading Firefighter), Colin MacLellan, and front, Jane Lamb and Iain Wilkie. Good Luck to you all at Plymouth.

The Tyndrum Fire Brigade Extrication Team are actively looking for sponsors from the local community to aid their challenge in Portsmouth 2001.





Braving the snow, the wedding took place at Killin Registry Office on 30 December 2000 of Yvonne Gillies and Jamie Gall. The reception afterwards was held in the Killin Hotel. *Photo courtesy of Gregor MacKenzie*



The Restaurant is open all day & offers freshly prepared Scottish fayre and home baking. Large, cosy Lounge Bar and Games Room with pool table & dart board

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