



Every two months

PRICE 50P

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 63 July 2001



Bunty MacGregor M.B.E

Since settling in Killin over 40 years ago, Bunty MacGregor has been involved in so many organisations that most people have lost count! WRI, Cancer Campaign, Nursing Association, Church of Scotland....the list is endless. Any fund raising effort can be sure of her support, and her ability to organise such events must have resulted in very large sums of money being donated to 'good causes' over the years.

All this has been done despite living a busy life, first helping her late husband in the garage business, bringing up two daughters, and now babysitting for her grandchildren and helping her sister and brother-in-law. Somehow she always made time for all the other requests from deserving causes.

Such people are the lifeblood of a small community, and her many friends are delighted that her efforts have been recognised by the award of the M.B.E. Congratulations Bunty!

Dr Mairi MacColl

Bunty hopes to receive her award from the Queen at Buckingham Palace later in the year – we look forward to having a photo of that occasion to show you all.

Prince Charles Visits The Crannog

Thursday 5 July heralded a private visit to the Kenmore Crannog by HRH The Prince of Wales. Prince Charles has for many years been very interested in underwater and marine archaeology, and played a major part in enabling the recovery of Henry VIII's famous fighting ship, the Mary Rose, in 1982.

The Prince was escorted around the Crannog, by Barrie Andrian and her husband Dr Nick Dixon. He saw much of the exhibition material, which has resulted from many years of research on crannogs throughout Scotland by the Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology. He met a number of Crannog supporters and was introduced to several 'hands on' ancient technologies by Alan Torrance

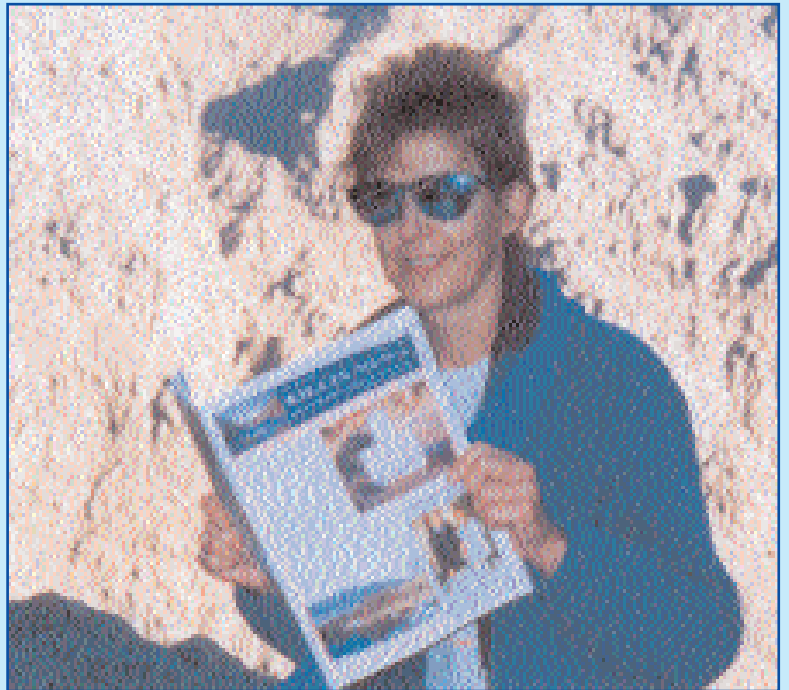




Killin News Across The Globe



(Above) David Osler with his Mum Ena, in her garden at Narellen near Sydney, during Davie and Sheena's recent Australian trip. They are holding a Killin Website print off of the Killin News as Ena likes to get the news electronically (more reliable than her son). Ena left Killin in 1967 to live in Australia.



(Above) Ann Bishop returned from a memorable fundraising trip to the summit of Mount Toubkal (4,167 metres) in Morocco, North Africa. Ann, a paediatric nurse, joined a team of 42 intrepid explorers in a 3 day trek to Morocco's tallest mountain, in the High Atlas Range.

Ann said, "My family and friends gave me tremendous support and sponsored me every metre to raise £1,800 for CLIC (Cancer & Leukaemia in Children). I would like to thank my family and friends in Killin & District for all their help and support, which I appreciated so much".

The Killin News are delighted to report on Ann's achievement, and are amazed she managed to carry a Killin News with her.



(Above) Donald and Margaret Watt taken in April this year during Davie & Sheena's stay in Narellen, Australia. Donald and Margaret left Killin about 1970 and asked that we pass on their kind regards to their relatives and friends in Killin. Donald has not enjoyed the best of health lately but looks the picture of health in this photo (after a few!!).

(Right) Davie, Sheena, Tommy and Lynn Bickerton at Tommy's house near Adelaide, South Australia, with the mandatory Killin News. Tommy and Lynn left Killin 30 years ago when Tommy had hair. We had a great time with all the ex pats and to a person they all said how much they looked forward to and enjoyed the Killin News. They all thought it gave them a definite link with home.

The birdhouses were manufactured in Killin by a well-known manufacturer of some repute, given to Davie with instructions for building in foreign climes. We had a lot of fun (and drams) during construction (some gardens in Australia are beginning to look like so many in Killin). The Australian Customs Officers' face was a picture when he saw these birdhouses - the strange things Scots travel with!



Community Resource Centre

Do you recognise this place? This is what the McLaren Hall could look like if the plans for the new Community Resource Centre for Killin, Lochearnhead and Strathfillan go ahead.



The drive for the new Resource Centre is now entering a new phase. The present KLS Resource Centre Steering Group will amend its constitution to include members of the McLaren Hall Trust & Management Committee, the Library and Sports Development sections of Stirling Council, together with Stirling College, to push ahead in partnership. There will be local publicity for the plans and groups now using or likely to use the building will again be contacted for their views so that every effort is made to accommodate everyone's needs.

This is very much a community-led project and the comments of community members on the plans will be welcomed. Please look out for the displays at forthcoming public events and pass any comments or ideas on to any of the following: Suzanne Player 01672 820154, Colin Roxburgh 01764 670499, Irene Graham 01838 400362 or to the Killin News at Dalerb, Killin FK21 8SH or E-Mail killin.news@virgin.net.

Your views count and your help will be needed to make the new centre happen.

MM

Killin Initiative

For the seventh time, the Folk Festival filled the village with visitors. It was particularly pleasing this year to see the return of other festival organisers and visiting folk clubs, a sure sign that Killin's Festival is recognised in the folk world as one to be at. Success is measured in various guises, as is failure, so depending on your point of view you can judge for yourselves on how the committee has done. I would encourage more people to take an active role in preparing and running the event, and see just what goes into arranging one of Scotland's Premier Village Festivals.

It should be remembered that the aims of the event are two fold. One, to bring visitors to Killin, and in so doing keep the village to the fore front as a place to enjoy a break. And, two, is the preservation and promotion of traditional and contemporary folk music. Bringing the two together creates the festival. Add the various side events to give an insight to the educational and cultural aspect of our traditions, arrange a few fun sessions, and the weekend is complete.

The weekend was not without problems, most of which were solved, but it is impossible to organise an event of this size and not expect some difficulties. Thanks are due to local sponsors for assisting to cover the substantial cost of the festival, and the committee is grateful for the response from village businesses. Thanks also to all the volunteers who helped in many ways over the weekend, and special thank you is due to Lesley Syme for steering the committee successfully through the planning stage to the final concert. Lesley works very hard, as do the other members of the committee, to ensure everything is in place for the weekend. It is not an easy task bringing all the various parts together but Lesley manages to keep smiling through it all.

I have no doubt there will be various opinions to be expressed at the after festival meeting, but please remember the committee are all volunteers and give generously of their time and effort to making the festival happen.

Alex Stewart Chairman



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Killin Community Council

A meeting of the Killin Community Council was held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on Tuesday 10 July.

Two representatives from East of Scotland Water, Sandy Halliday and Marcia Cheyne, attended to explain the situation concerning the substantial investment in a new water supply for Ardeonaig. New EU rules about removal of colour and cryptosporidium, which will come into effect in 2003, mean the new supply for Ardeonaig will be different to that installed for Killin. The nanofiltration membrane plant will be similar to that in Crianlarich.

Planning permissions have been obtained and work should start in August 2001 and be completed by January 2003. During the construction, there will be a slight, but not significant, increase in the volume of traffic using the Ardeonaig road. Works include a new access road to the site, new building, new reservoir and a new intake. ESW assures residents that there will be NO disruption to supplies during construction.

As regards to Killin water, an interesting point was raised by Mhari Riddell a resident of Monemore. If one of her neighbours is running a hose or a bath, the water pressure in her house drops so much that she has almost no water. Mhari often has to fill her washing machine by hand through the soap

dispenser! This is disgraceful, especially when you consider the massive investment only a few years ago in the Killin plant. Mhairi has reported this to East of Scotland Water in the past with no action having been taken.

Planning Applications

Mick Stewart from Stirling Council's Planning Department also attended the meeting and advised of a few minor changes to the structure plan boundaries for Killin. He also explained that rules regarding planning applications for Ardeonaig will be relaxed to allow the outlying areas which are not part of the village to grow into communities.

An application has been lodged to build an extension onto the Nurses Clinic at Ballechroisk to provide a day care centre for the elderly. Concerns were raised about parking, road accesses and difficulties reversing the Community Bus into the centre, which is opposite the junction of Ballechroisk and Lyon Road. It was also pointed out that Stirling Council own only half of the road at Ballechroisk Terrace at the Nurses Clinic, the rest is privately owned. Plans will be available to view at the Library.

Concerns were voiced about children cycling the wrong way in Lyon Road. An accident occurred recently when a child cycled out of the one way road onto the Main Street and was hit by a car. A

suggestion was also made that this road should be changed to be for 'access to the houses only', as it was dangerous to turn into from Main Street, and out of at Ballechroisk.

Stirling Council have given assurances that the winter maintenance of Killin roads will be no less than in past years.

Trustees of the McLaren Hall and the Killin, Lochearnhead, Strathfillan Resource Centre Steering Group are currently in discussion to form a joint working group to further this proposed project.

Grants are available from the EU for community projects. Killin Community Council will form a group to make application for grant money for Killin. John Mallinson suggested that Killin is lagging behind other communities in applying for this funding. John MacPherson assured that "Killin would now get its skates on!"

Stirling Council have agreed to uplift rubbish bags from the side of the road on the South Loch Tay road. This should help to ease the litter situation on the shores of Loch Tay.

Killin Ambulance Depot is to be re-evaluated in September. Pat Christie brought to everyone's attention that Killin had been deprived of its ambulance recently when it was called out to Loch Tummell.

A letter of condolence from the Community Council, on behalf of Killin, will be sent to Dr Sylvia Jackson MSP following the sad death of her husband.

Complaints were received about difficulties encountered at the new Killin skip as there is a puddle resembling Loch Tay in front of it.

It was suggested that a barrier between the Primary School and the Main Street should be applied for to make sure the children cannot run out into the traffic, following an incident recently when a child ran into the path of an oncoming lorry – fortunately without catastrophic consequences.

Ardeonaig complained about lack of cutting verges and grass in the cemetery, also about the situation of having no telephones for a period of 3 weeks. The Community Council will write to BT.

The next meeting will be on 11 September at 7.30 in the Primary School.



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National Park

At the Community Council Meeting (Page 4) major discussions took place concerning the National Park.

After, in excess of a year, of Consultation Meetings with Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH), the decision to exclude Killin from the new National Park, and include Crianlarich and Tyndrum, was made by Ministers of the Scottish Executive, following advice from SNH. The SNH Consultation meetings were supposed to take the feelings of the community into account – in the case of Killin – our feelings were run roughshod over when you consider that at a public meeting in Killin, the village overwhelmingly voted to be **within** the Park boundary.

The three criteria Killin should meet for inclusion in the Park were:-

1. The area had to have outstanding national importance in items of natural and cultural heritage.
2. Had to have a distinctive character.
3. Had to meet the special needs of the Park as regards what Killin could bring to the Park, and what the Park would miss out on if Killin was excluded.

As regards **criteria 1**: We have the most photographed Falls in Scotland, we are surrounded by stunning mountains – Ben Lawers, The Tarmachan Ridge, Ben More, Stobinion. Glen Dochart and Glen Ogle are some of the most spectacular in Scotland. We have the National Cycle path running down to the village and out to Ardeonaig. We also have a 4 star visitor attraction at the Breadalbane Folklore Centre, right at the Falls.

Criteria 2: We are one of the most generous and friendly villages in Scotland. We received commendations in 5 categories at the Calor Gas Community of the Year 18 months ago – more than any other community in Scotland received.

Criteria 3: There is a strong bond between the communities of Killin, Lochearnhead and Strathfillan – to include Lochearnhead and Strathfillan, and not Killin, splits the community. Killin would make an excellent gateway to the Park from the northeast, especially when you consider that the main gateway from the northeast within the proposed boundary is a point on the main A85 road midway between Crianlarich and Lix Toll.

Brian Luti - Chairman of the McLaren High School Board, Pamela Abraham - Strathard Community Council, David

Shearer -Chairman of Callander Community Council, and Mike Luti - Callander Community Council and Councillor Tony Ffinch, all attended the meeting to lend their support to the case of Killin being included within the new National Park.

Brian Luti said, "Killin would make a superb gateway into the national park with it famous Falls of Dochart making a strong statement about the quality and type of scenery in the Park. Killin has a strong cultural bond with the rest of the National Park Area, through the important common link of the McLaren High School. Over 100 pupils travel south to the school from Tyndrum, Crianlarich and Killin. Also the McLaren Leisure Centre draws heavily from Killin which again fosters cultural bonds within the area." Brian went on to say that if Crianlarich and Tyndrum were included within the Park due to the view and type of terrain looking east – then the same applies to Killin looking west – it is the same view! Brian added that, " Killin being included would benefit the Park by giving it a superb Eastern Gateway"

It was encouraging and heart warming to have such support from our neighbours in the Trossachs who will be lobbying Rhona Branklin at the Scottish Executive

to have Killin included within the Park. John MacPherson and Emma Paterson will **ONCE AGAIN** submit an appeal on behalf of Killin Community Council, to the Scottish Executive, to make a case for being included within the Park. People are being urged and encouraged to write/phone or E-Mail, Alan Marshall, The Scottish Executive, National Parks Team, Countryside and Natural Heritage Unit, 1-J South, Victoria Quay, EDINBURGH. EH6 6QQ, E-Mail: or telephone 0131 244 4440. Alternatively write to the Minister, Rhona Branklin at the Scottish Executive. Latest date for objections/comments is 21 September.

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Calling All Preschool Children Aged 21 Months – 5 Years For Jumpin Beans Fun

Jumpin Beans is run by the Stirling Council Sports Development Team, with the support of Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers. The classes are run at the Lesser McLaren Hall from September to December and from April to June. On a Wednesday morning from 10 AM to 10.30 AM there is a class for the 21 months to three years age group (parent or carer to accompany) and for the three years to five years group a class from 10.45 AM to 11.30 AM. There is a charge for these classes to cover the cost of the insurance, equipment, coaches and hire of the hall.

We have three trained coaches, all local girls, Lorraine Prichard, Sammy Hibbert, and Angela Strong. The aims of the classes are to provide pre-school gymnastic sessions with the emphasis on fun. Games are played, songs are sung and the range of soft equipment available is excellent.

We have managed to secure a grant of £500 to spend on equipment. All the children who have attended so far have enjoyed the sessions whilst their co-ordination and physical agility is improved. It is vital that we can keep these classes going locally and we are looking for more children to join us from Killin, Lochearnhead and Strathfillan. If your child will be attending nursery on Wednesday morning, Helen Weir has been very supportive of the classes and allows the children to attend. Please speak to Helen to arrange. Application forms are available from Sports Development or Killin Library. Contact: - 01567 820120 for more details.

Judith Holden

The Tote Needs You!

What is the Tote?

The tote is a weekly Sunday draw run by Killin Sports & Leisure Club. For a £1 stake you choose 5 numbers between 1 and 40. If 2 of your numbers are drawn you receive a share of the weekly prize money, but if 4 of your numbers are drawn in the jackpot draw you will receive a share of the jackpot prize. The more tickets we sell means bigger prizes.

Why have it?

The Sports and Leisure Club rely on the tote to pay the rent on the Sports Pavilion to Stirling Council, and also any bills we receive.

Where can I buy a ticket?

Tickets can be bought at the Craigard Hotel and at News First.

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Sports Pavilion Coffee Morning

The coffee morning was a great success with over £600 raised for the Pavilion, including £160 from Colin Higgins for all the wonderful plants he has been selling. There was a good turnout of people at the Church hall during the morning and thanks are due to all who supported us.

Many thanks also to all those who worked so hard to make this such a success. Kay had spent a great deal of time lately organising everything and spent the morning delivering



coffee and pancakes to the local shops whilst Bunty, Beryl, Margaret, Liz, Gill, Colin, Mhari, Daniel and Siobhan held the fort at the hall. In addition, the wonderful home baking for sale and for eating was provided by an army of home bakers, some of whom had also been working at the Cheese & Wine the previous night, so were up baking into the early hours of Saturday morning.

For those who had bought raffle tickets in the hope of winning the ever expanding box of groceries which had been sitting in the library over the previous weeks, it was won by Karen Lafferty and Hazel Wyllie won the jar of sweets which apparently contained 144 sweets.

A special thank you to Colin Higgins for providing yet more plants for sale and donating such a large amount from the plant sale he and Gill held at the Cedars a couple of weeks ago. These funds will be a great help to the running of the Sports Club this year.

*Suzanne Player
Acting Secretary*

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Killin News Special 10th Birthday Edition

The Killin News is this year celebrating its 10th Birthday. By way of a commemoration, we will be producing a special 10th Birthday edition of the paper, and we invite **YOU** to participate in this.

If you have an article; photograph (either old or new); historical Killin news; fond memory of Killin; an anecdote; poem; cartoon; joke; or anything you think others might enjoy or find interesting, please send it in. Absolutely anything goes - this is **YOUR** paper - please get involved.

This publication will not contain any advertising, and will be paid for entirely from Killin News funds. Contributions are invited from **EVERYONE**, groups or individuals, regardless of age - and don't be put off if your spelling or grammar are not up to scratch - ours isn't either - but the computer will sort all that.

Send your literary contribution, or photo, clearly marked "**10th Birthday Edition**" to Linda at Killin News, Dalerb, Craignavie Road, Killin FK21 8SH, or pass it on through any Killin News Committee member. All photos will be returned.

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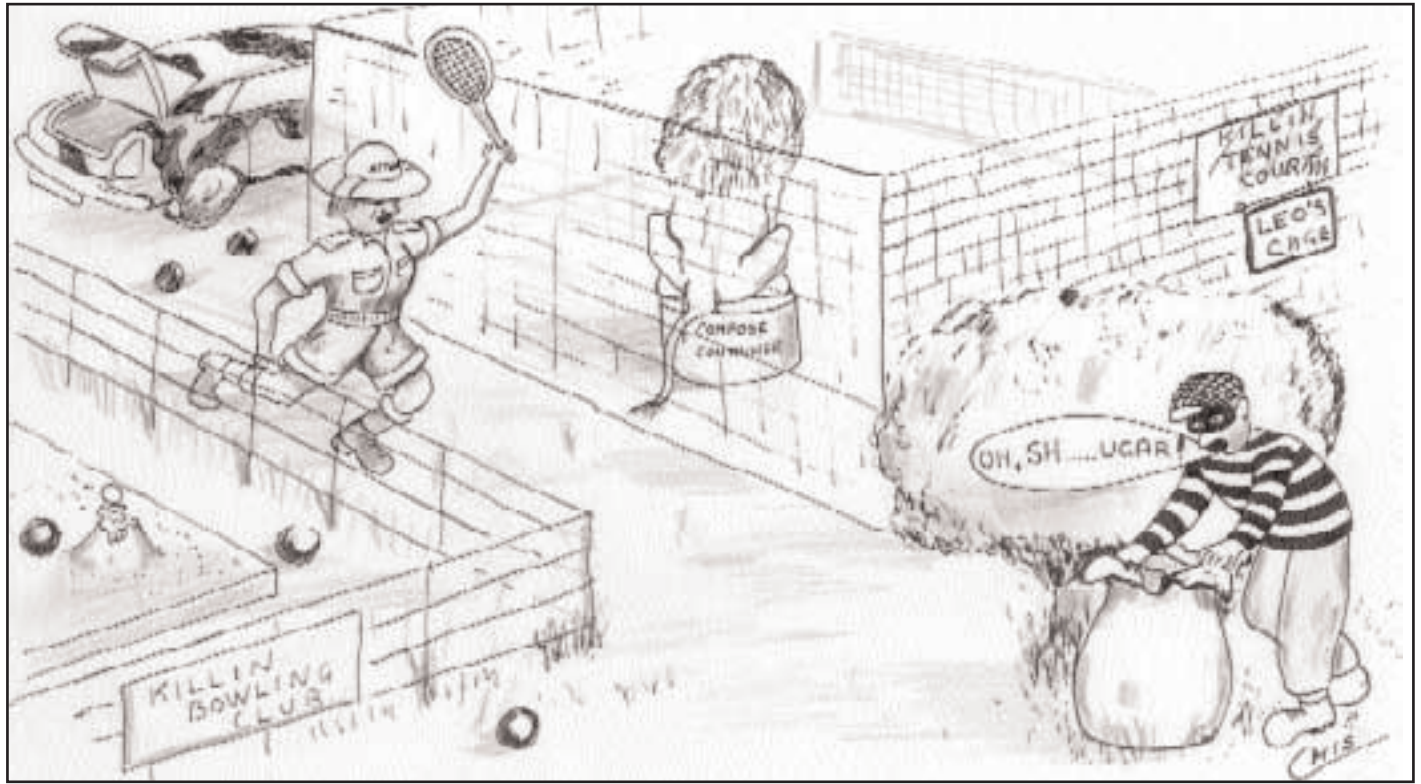
Let Stinking Bags Lie -on

We reported in the last issue of Killin News, about Kay from the Library, and her escapade with the lion dung from the Safari Park which was to be used on the bowling green. At the time, we hadn't realised, but there was more to the story.

Apparently, someone tried to steal it! Can you believe it? Who on Earth would want to steal a bag of lion dung? We can only surmise that they saw the bag lying outside the pavilion (well, having stunk out her car, she wasn't being allowed to stink out the pavilion also), and thought there might be something of value in it. Un-surprisingly, they only took it a few yards when the stench must have hit them and they discarded it – a botched 'job' you could say!

Killin News Cartoonist, Allan Chisholm captured the moment below.

Ed



Rob Roy Homes

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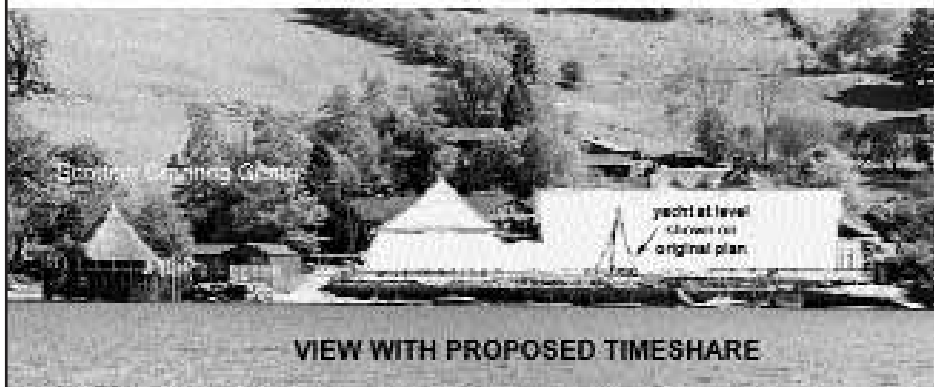
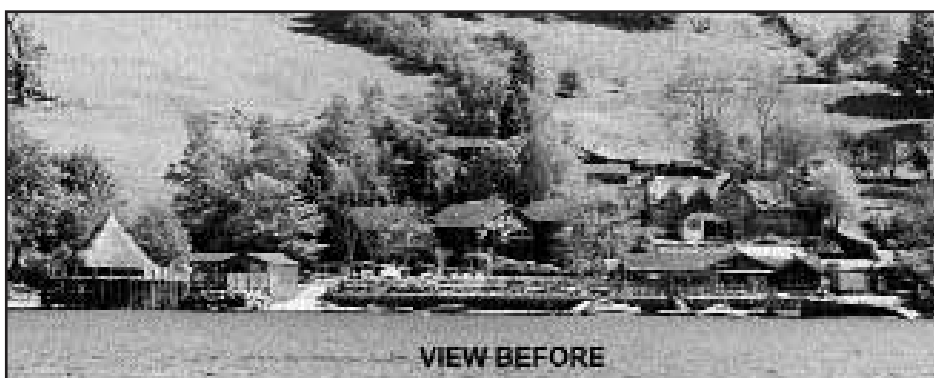
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News from the Crannog

We continue to be delighted at the ever increasing attendance figures, even though this has necessitated recruiting additional staff to cope with numbers. Great to be in the position of generating employment, but this obviously has an adverse knock on effect on our cash flow account!

Sadly, there is some bad news. I and my fellow Trustees, are aghast at a proposal presently being considered by Perth & Kinross Planning Authority. Paradise Leisure, the new owners of the Croft-na-Caber Hotel and Water Sports Centre, have submitted proposals which include the complete redevelopment of the waterfront adjoining the Crannog Centre. These proposals are to replace the existing low level restaurant building with a very much larger complex. This would incorporate an additional ten timeshare units and a restaurant. The latter building, would tower above our visitor centre and obliterate any view of the loch from the centre. In our opinion this would destroy the historical ambience which we have striven over recent years to achieve. The photo below shows the impact such a development would have at Kenmore.



Our fears were raised even further at a recent meeting when the Perth & Kinross Planning Director allegedly was in favour of the proposals. Perhaps he should recap and see that previous attempts to develop this particular area were refused when it was decided, quite rightly, that the specific area was already overdeveloped.

Many of our sponsors and "friends of the Crannog" have already expressed their concern about this proposed development. Since the Crannog Centre represents the whole of the Loch Tay area, may I suggest that readers in and around Killin should write to the Planning Department, Perth & Kinross District Council to protest.

Information on forthcoming Crannog events may be had by calling 01887 830583.

Colin Scott

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Dochy MacDonald and Liz Stevens Take on 70 Wild Miles

I don't know about 70 wild miles – but the 10 I did were certainly wild!

On the Saturday morning of Folk Festival weekend we set off early and arrived at the White Corries Ski Centre for the start of the 70 Wild Miles at just after 7am. The weather was dry and with a slight tail wind for the cyclists who set off at 7.30 am and made their way along the 47 miles to Taynuilt pier. Rosie (Dochy's wife) and I, slowly made our way along the route and stopped in many lay-bys to check on Dochy's progress. Just over 2 hours later, Dochy joined us in Taynuilt.



Dochy



Liz

Once all the cyclists had arrived at their destination the organisers then made sure it was safe enough to do the next 10 miles up Loch Etive in canoes. It was touch and go for a while, but they agreed that it was "safe" for the stage to go ahead. With a force 4 wind coming straight at us we were certainly glad that the Oban lifeboat and 13 rescue boats were on hand! It must have been a wonderful sight seeing 90 plus canoeists paddling furiously against the wind and waves. The only thing you could do was concentrate on paddling and staying in the boat! All we could do was to keep our heads down and paddle, the wind was against us all the way, and the waves were breaking over our bows. Eventually, we made it to the head of Loch Etive, without capsizing – a few close calls though! We were grateful for the help to get out of the loch by the many assistants on hand. It did seem really strange to be able to move my legs again, after being stuck in one position for so long, and my shoulders did not know how to move out of the paddling position!

My first priority was to change into some warm dry clothes then to get some refreshment – water that is! I just don't know how Dochy managed to summon up the energy to do the final part of his triathlon - the thirteen mile run back to the White Corries. The route was on the single-track road, with the added hassle of vans, and trailers full of canoes whizzing passed. I took the easy route back in one of the many minibuses. Rosie and I loaded the canoes onto my car, and then waited for Dochy's return. A very tiring but enjoyable day, and I certainly take my hat off to all those competitors who did all three stages.

The results were:

Dochy came 24 out of 64 in the solo entries with an overall time of 6 hours 31 minutes and 5 seconds (cycle: 2:08:00, Canoe 2:22:20, Run 2:0045).

Liz's team came 13 out of 28 teams with an overall time of 6 hours 36 minutes (Cycle 2:01:30, Canoe 2:50:35, Run 1:43:55) with Alistair Borthwick from Edinburgh and Jim Stevenson from Coulter doing the cycle and run sections.

Liz Stevens

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Major Sporting Award For Killin Teenager

Congratulations to 15 year old, Gillian Smith of Ballechroisk Terrace, Killin. Gillian has just won the Girls Individual Sports Championship trophy at McLaren High School. Quite an achievement, but when you consider that this is the FOURTH year running, that Gillian has won this award, it is highly commendable. Over the years, the trophy must have become part of the furniture in the Smith house.





Strathfillan - "By The Way"

The AGM of Strathfillan Community Council was held prior to the normal meeting, on 6 June. The election of Office Bearers took place and the results are Chair; Jock Henderson, Vice-Chair; Derek Wilkie, Treasurer; Mary Anderson, Secretary; Moira Robertson

We received a donation of £500 from Glasgow Telephones & Civil Service Angling Association and Crianlarich Angling Association to be used to benefit the local community. It was agreed to donate £100 to the Killin News and £100 to Strathfillan Lunch Club and to retain £300 to use at a later date.

It was suggested that flowers be planted near the notice board in Crianlarich. There is already a seat in place and this would beautify the area. It was agreed to write for a Community Grant to put tubs there, and Jimmy Allardice volunteered to maintain them.

It appears that some of the headstones in Kirkton cemetery do not correspond with the graves. Jim McBriar was contacted and asked for a copy of the graves. Jock Henderson was informed that we could not have one, but it is believed that Andy Anderson, Funeral Director has one. A visit is to be arranged so the cemetery can be sorted out.

Lawrence Hopkins, Chair Strathyre CC, phoned to ask us to support a petition for improvement of the road from Callander to Tyndrum. Glen Ogle has no barriers, but steep drops. There have been a few fatalities. Perhaps they could ask the supermarkets Safeway and Co-op to help because they have both been involved in accidents on this road. We agreed to phone with support, and ask for some petition forms.

Mick Stewart, SC Planning Department, suggested that we phone the day before our meetings to ask them to update any planning applications that are outstanding or those we are concerned about. Dorothy Irvine is the Officer for this area.

Jock Henderson and Irene Graham have attended some of the CC Planning Seminar Programme in Rob Roy Visitor Centre, Callander.

There are changes to the bus service from 28 May. New council subsidised taxi service to link Balquidder, Lochearnhead and Strathyre. Rural Rider bus service is withdrawn. In Strathfillan and Killin the timetable is simplified. There are additional early morning journeys on non-school days to and from Callander, also more straight through journeys to Stirling on non-school days. Some Postbus times will change to accommodate connections with Citylink services.

Jock Henderson attended an East of Scotland Water meeting in Stirling. Crianlarich sewage is at capacity, and is indicated in current capital programme for 2003, but there is no assurance it will proceed then. Tyndrum water is also indicated for 2003, with no assurance of proceeding then. Their customer service is very good. There were indications of raw sewage in the burn beside Crianlarich village hall and they were out to check straight away. They were due out on Monday 4 June with a camera, but did not appear.

We sent a letter to Chief Constable Cameron, raising our concern that there does not appear to be any police available in the area after 5pm. Sgt. McKenzie phoned requesting details, and incidents at Portnellan and Beinn Glas was mentioned. A letter from CC Cameron, said police were available at both incidents.

Moira Robertson met Arthur Nicholls at CC Conference and discussed our request for street signs in both villages. Stuart Inglis came out and we discussed all the streets that are not named. He later phoned and said that Strathmore Tce. and Station Road could be done, because they were Stirling Council's responsibility and adopted. All trunk roads were the responsibility of Bear Scotland, and unadopted roads were the owner's responsibility.

We contacted Bernie Reid, Area Manager, for English, Welsh and Scottish railway about the rubbish in the Crianlarich yard and they have their own contractors, who generally clear the bark, when necessary. He would ask them to clear the rubbish.

Moira Robertson
Strathfillan Correspondent

Strathfillan Community Development Trust



At the time of writing, we are anticipating the return of completed questionnaires from each household in Crianlarich and Tyndrum, as part of our community consultation process to set the work programme of the Trust in the next few years. The views and ideas from the questionnaires will be summarised and displayed to the community at our Open Day on Saturday 23 June. Many thanks to all those who took an interest, gave their views, ideas and time. We paid four local people to help us with this, employing them for the month of June as Community Agents (funded through the 'Community Fund', which is the new name for the National Lottery Charities Board). They helped to deliver and collect the questionnaires, and with the Open Day. Sincere thanks to Helen Eyre, Jock Henderson, Diane Mailer, and Sheona MacLennan, for their very welcome energy and enthusiasm.

The Trust's work is built on the broad back of volunteers. However, we also feel that it is important to recognise the value of peoples' skills and time, offering specific paid jobs, especially when the time scale and requirements of the work are rigorous. In this vein, we welcome Ian McPherson who has just started in the post of 'Fence Checker' in Tyndrum Community Woodland. This post is funded for two years through the Millennium Forest for Scotland, and involves a half day each month walking around the perimeter deer fence checking for 'bird strike', for damage and doing general environmental monitoring.

At the last Board meeting, Derek Wilkie, the new Chairman, paid tribute to the invaluable inspiration and hard work of John Riley. John has resigned from the Trust's Board due to pressures on his time elsewhere. All acknowledged that the SCDT would not have existed, nor grown without John's leadership. Trust Office telephone number is (01838) 400 545

The Frost Report

Frosty Water

Tawny, was an owl, who got himself imprisoned in a tree in Glen Lochay. Lucky for him, a couple of keen-eyed boys from Tullich spotted him, and that is how his rescue began. After the alarm was raised we went up to the river just past the Coilaig where the river forms pools below a steep rock face. Tawny was tangled in a length of discarded fishing line, which had wound round one of his wings, and then round parts of the tree branch. We got an extendible pruning saw, and my eldest son, Falcon, who is a reasonable swimmer, managed to wade over a shallow part of the river to the cliff. To get close enough to the tree, to cut off both owl and attached branch, meant wading up to chest height - this was on 6 April, so the water was a tad chilly!

But the branch was cut, and Tawny fell into the water and floated down a short way, before scrambling ashore on a rocky ledge. Falcon was thrown a line to tie onto himself before he swam to retrieve Tawny. After applause from the boys watching, the fishing line was carefully cut from the wing, which did not appear to be broken. After a few days, and rabbit dinners at owl B&B, Tawny was set free in the same location from which he was rescued. Falcon recovered quickly from his icy dip, and said that the worst part was being called Rolf Harris for a few days after his animal rescue.

Hopefully, Tawny and his friends are enjoying the peace of their woods. Talking about peace - there are several reports from national organisations claiming that the limits put on hill 'traffic' during the foot and mouth restrictions has made a significant improvement in the plant, bird, and other animal life in our wild places. So much so that they are considering doing something of the same again in the early breeding and growing season. Doubtless this will infuriate the tourist industry but surely the long term good of our wild heritage would be to their advantage. In part answer to the tourist comments in the last issue, the first and very prompt notices were prepared, and distributed, by The Loch Lomond and Trossachs Interim committee. Some of the first areas of land restricted were the ones owned by national organisations such as the National Trust for Scotland, Scottish Natural Heritage and the Royal Society for Protection of Birds.

The anger of many people about restrictions, only proves that many rely for their livelihood upon the land, and usual goodwill of access of the owners of this land - from the person who walks their dog, to the one who runs outdoor activities in the countryside.

Another article which may benefit from a sidelight is the one regarding snares. Only free-run snares are legal and set snares must be visited at least once in every 24 hrs. How often did you last check your mouse trap or poison bait?

Remember the smallest Frost who was deer watching in an earlier issue? He was lucky enough and observant enough to notice a vole running across the Glen Lochay road. When we looked closer she had a baby in her mouth, and was obviously in the process of moving house. We are pleased to report that her mission was safely accomplished, and all are presumably living happily in their new home.

Tim Frost
Gamekeeper, Glen Lochay

Killin Hotel

and Riverview Bistro

Gains Three Star Award

The Killin Hotel has gained a 3 star award from the "Taste of Scotland" establishment for its combination of good food and good service. This is the first time that a hotel in Killin has gained approval.

The Taste of Scotland guide aims to be the authority on the best places to eat and stay in Scotland. The criteria for acceptance is by incognito inspections, conducted by industry experts, the award is a recognition of the hotels imaginative use of fresh local produce and commitment to a high standard of food presentation and flavour.

The award also recognises a high standard of welcome, hospitality, ambience, cleanliness and service. The refurbishment programme has been very welcome.

Much credit goes to all the staff at Killin Hotel and especially to Eddie Mcinally and Joe Daly who head up the Kitchen Brigade.

The hotel continues to provide good fresh Scottish produce at the right price. The guide is an international publication and used by many as the definitive guide to good eating.

The specials menu changes daily to allow for seasonal availability, especially fish dishes such as fresh langoustines, oysters, mussels, red mullet and sea bass as well as local salmon and trout dishes. Alan Garnier would like to take this opportunity to offer my thanks to all of our regular customers.

Congratulations Killin Hotel!

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Glen Dochart Adult Education Group

Ten interested local people met together in May to discuss what adult learning opportunities it would be good to see in this area - the result was 5 pages of ideas. Proof that there is definitely still a role for the Glen Dochart Adult Education Group as a forum for local people to express ideas and ways of implementing them.

Some of these ideas will form part of the programme of classes put on by Clackmannan College and Stirling Council Community Support. The plan is to have something on offer in Strathfillan, Killin and Lochearnhead, but the venue for each course may depend on where the greatest demand is, or where a tutor is prepared to travel to.

The draft programme at the moment is:

- Intermediate Computer Course for the Slightly Less Terrified - Killin and Crianlarich in September, Lochearnhead in January
- Computing for the Terrified - Killin in January
- Art - with Rachel Hunter - Killin in September & January
- Upholstery (dependent on finding tutor - possibly Lochearnhead)
- Gaelic (dependent on tutor but hoping

for Killin September & January)

- Spanish or Italian (dependent on finding tutor - possibly Balquhider)
- Aerobics (once local people are qualified we hope to offer this in Tyndrum)
- Dog Training (dependent on finding tutor - possibly Lochearnhead)

This programme is a draft and may alter after results of surveys being carried out in the Lochearnhead and Strathfillan area are known. *These courses will be advertised on posters so please look out for them.*

In addition to the 8 - 10 week courses, the Group had many ideas for shorter courses or one off events. These will be dependent on both finding people to run them and finding enough people who want to participate.

- 2 - 3 week internet course in Killin
- Learning to Touch Type in a group setting
- Cake Decoration/Cookery displays
- Arts/Crafts/Sewing
- Willow weaving/Basket weaving
- Dance Day - to allow people to try a variety of styles eg ballroom, salsa etc
- Traditional Music eg., introduction to fiddle and clasach.

Other suggestions included Hillwalking and Gardening, which we felt might be more appropriately developed as clubs. Anyone out there interested in helping with this? The next informal discussion will take place in August. Everyone is welcome to come along, so please let Suzanne know if you are interested or look out for posters advertising the next gathering.

If you would like to find out more, please call Suzanne Player, Community Animator on 01567 820154.

ERIC McALLISTER CARPET FITTER

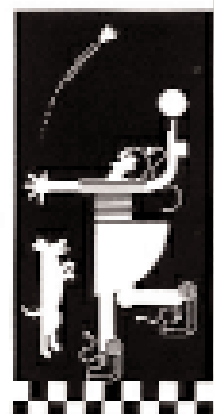
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Balquhiddar Summer Music

This concert series was started in 1986 to promote the enjoyment of classical music in rural communities and to provide a platform for young musicians starting out in their professional careers.

The concerts are organised in association with the charity "The Friends of Balquhiddar Church" and are performed in the beautiful and historic church, the burial place of Scotland's famous outlaw, Rob Roy.

July 22 – Anne Lorne Gillies

Accompanied on the clarsach by Rhona MacKay, Anne Lorne Gillies, a well known singer, will present a varied programme of songs.

July 29 – The Telemann Ensemble

A firm favourite with Balquhiddar audiences, this ensemble features harpsichord, trumpet and strings, playing from their wide repertoire which includes works by Telemann, Handel, Bach and Vivaldi.

August 5 – Athenaeum Brass

This lively brass ensemble also returns by popular request to present a programme from their extensive repertoire which covers music by Handel, Prokofiev, Shostakovich, Horowitz and Gershwin.

August 12 – Vassily Savenko

Balquhiddar Summer Music welcomes Vassily Savenko, bass baritone, straight from his success at the Wigmore Hall, to close this year's summer concert series.

All concerts are on a Sunday and start at 7 pm and finish at 9 pm

Admission at the door £6 / Concessions £5 / Children under 15 are half price.

On Sunday August 19, Balquhiddar Church invites you to end the Summer Music Series with "Songs of Praise" led by a choir from Lenzie, Kirkintilloch and Glasgow.

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Eh Jimmy - S'pose You Think You're a Good Driver?!

Royal Mail's Postbus driver Jim Aitkinson of Tyndrum, couldn't believe his luck when he was asked by BBC1's 'So You Think You're a Good Driver', to take part in a winter skills driving challenge in Finland in January of this year.

Intrepid Jim, who drives the Crianlarich Postbus through wet, wind and snow, has been driving for Royal Mail for 16 years, and had only stepped outside Scotland once, before braving sub-zero temperatures in Finland – and being filmed in the act!

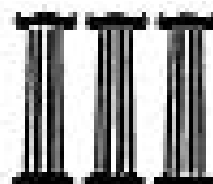


(L-R) Jim Aitkinson
and Glen Solaranta

Jim was put through his paces on a week-long intensive course run by the Finnish Traffic Police in Pieksamaki in Finland. Joining Finnish police cadets, some of whom are based within miles of the Arctic circle, on the ice-bound race track – Jimmy learned how to manoeuvre in reduced visibility and skid-pan conditions.

And the verdict from Kim's instructor for the week, Glenn Solaranta, Sergeant for the National Finish Traffic Police was, "Jim did very well, especially considering how much more severe the conditions are here in Finland."

Well done Jimmy – driving between Tyndrum and Killin must seem like a dawdle by comparison.



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Team 13

Following on from the success of the P7 Press last year, this year's Primary 7 class at Killin have named their newspaper "Team 13" - because there are 13 pupils going on to the McLaren High School in Callander after the summer holidays.

This project is sponsored by the Killin News, and it is hoped to secure some grant assistance from Stirling Council. The newspaper, which the children will deliver through your door during the holidays, is a great 'eye opener' to the interests the young of today.



From L-R: Rachel, Alistair, Jason, Alexander, Lisa, Alisder, Colin, Iain, Stuart G, Stuart L, Kathleen and Siobhan

The photo (above) shows how much fun the children had in making their own newspaper. Their articles and photos were transformed into newspaper format before their eyes.

An outing is arranged in the Community bus to Stirling, where they will see their paper come hot off the press.

It has been a pleasure to work with these children, and their teacher/headmistress Mrs Inglis.

Who knows, perhaps these will be the journalists of the future.



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Strathfillan Lunch Club

(Photo Right) After the successful and enjoyable meal in March, we are starting our monthly lunch in Crianlarich Hall again on Friday 5 October. Date for your diary **now**. All newcomers are welcome.

This coming year's activities are guaranteed due to a very welcome grant from Stirling Council's 'Community Grant Scheme'. We are grateful to Stirling Council assistance in helping us to provide this service for older members of our community, as it means that they need only be charged for the food. Thanks also to Suzanne Player for her help.

During the summer we will have had our outing to the Botanical Gardens in Glasgow, followed by High Tea at Harry Ramsdens. Plans for the winter months include a Christmas outing, and a Burns Lunch in January. More information from Linda Champion (01838) 300235, Moira Robertson 300296 Sue Wyllie 820714.

First Paramedic in Killin

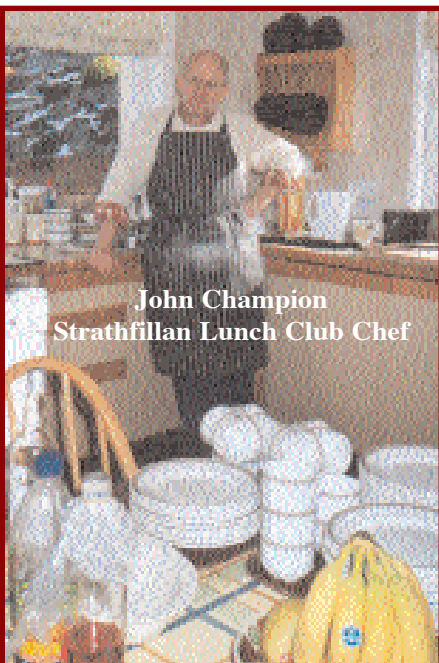
Marina Hilditch has just completed the first Paramedic course available in the Killin area.



A Paramedic is an ambulance technician who has gone on to acquire further skills which cover a wider knowledge of drugs, and life support systems. Marina, a former children's nurse, lives with her husband David at Pink Cottage in Main Street, Killin.

Michael McLaren hopes to start the course in August and we look forward to other members of the Killin Ambulance team being offered the opportunity.

We are fortunate to have the Killin Ambulance Station and its dedicated crew. They provide a valuable service throughout our area. AW



John Champion
Strathfillan Lunch Club Chef

The 8th Killin International Highland Games 1 August 2001

Whilst the traditional Games events involving Highland Dancing and Piping Competitions will continue to attract a high quality of entries, on the games field there will be some subtle changes. The World Strongmen will be joined by some of Scotland's games heavy weights, to compete in the traditional events like tossing the caber, throwing the hammer, and putting the shot. Jaier (right), the Brazilian South American Champion, joins the games circuit, complete with interpreter and accompanying TV crew.



In addition, the new Channel Five 'Glamazons' will compete in trials of strength. These international strength athletes, pit their skills against their male counterparts. This combination of strength and glamour brings a fresh look at womens' place in what was previously a male dominated field. These girls could easily grace the catwalks of leading fashion houses. So with a bit of luck Killin's Games may be on TV!



Brigadier Sir Gregor MacGregor of MacGregor Bart will again be our Games Chieftain, and accompanied by Lady MacGregor, will lead the parade from the Falls of Dochart, at 1.30 pm, to Breadalbane Park. The Highland Queen and her Attendant, chosen at the Ceilidh Dance on the 27 July, will carry out duties during the day. Along with our fun fair, stalls, and the marquee bar, the components are there for a much needed financially successful Games. Good support from the village is essential, so put both the Ceilidh Dance and the Games Day in your diaries.

John Mallinson, Chairman



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Clan Gregor

Sunday 2 September 10.30 am

The Clan Gregor Roadshow! Come and see what it is all about. Meet in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel, Killin.

Sunday 2 September at 2.40 pm

Meet in the grounds of the former Manse for Clan Gregor Parade to Balquhider Church lead by the Clan Gregor Society Pipe Band. Followed by the Annual Memorial Service in Balquhider Church, and Commemoration beside Rob Roy's Grave. Afternoon Tea and home-baking will be served by the ladies of the local WRI in the Balquhider Village Hall at 4.15 pm - £2.50.

Friends and visitors are invited to attend any of the events above. A warm welcome awaits.

Was it the bank-raid major?

Man Leaps Out Of Window To Escape Police

A man, believed to be the "Monocled Major", leader of the gang responsible for the £40,000 Glasgow bank raid last month, was in police hands at the weekend – but he made a dramatic escape by jumping from a second-floor window of an hotel.

He was being questioned by the police at Killin Hotel, Perthshire, on Friday night when he said, "I'll be back in a minute". He went to his bedroom at the back of the hotel and jumped out of the window while police guarded the front entrance. The man got away in a car which he stole from outside the village dance hall. The car was found abandoned at Lochearnhead, eight miles away.

Search of Hotels Ordered

It is believed that he continued his escape in another car stolen from Lochearnhead.

Police have taken possession of the Rover car in which the man arrived at Killin in the middle of last week. Police throughout Scotland were alerted to look out for the man after his escape and a search of boarding-houses and hotels was ordered. All cars in Killin area were being checked by police at the week-end.

Spent Lavishly In Village

The man arrived at Killin with another man and was given the only vacant room in the village's only hotel. The second man went off to an hotel at another village. A villager said yesterday that the man thought to be the "Major", spent very lavishly during the few days he was in the village.

Three of Glasgow's top C.I.D. men – Det.-Supt. Robert Colquhoun, Chief Det.-Insp. James McAulay and Chief Det.-Insp. Robert Kerr – went to Killin at the weekend. A Perthshire police spokesman said, "No statement is being given at present as investigations are continuing. It was very hard lines – we very nearly got him."

We are sure you must all be thinking, "Why didn't I hear about that sooner?". Well the reason you didn't, is because this happened in 1955! A clipping from the Daily Mail of 22 August 1955 was sent to Killin News by JC Macnab of Macnab in Leuchars. He had been sorting out old papers belonging to his Great Uncle, the late AC Macnab of Macnab, who was a inveterate collector of newspaper cuttings, and thought our readers would find it interesting.

Incidentally, on the reverse of the cutting was an advert for Jenners in Edinburgh which says, "Go gay about your spring cleaning. A coolie smock in glazed cotton ... 32/6 (32 shillings and 6 old pennies – approximately £1.62 if memory serves me correctly), plus postage and packing 1/3d (one and thrupence).



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Summer football league - Adult teams can register for the summer league which will be played on the outside pitches.

For more details or information on any of these activities please contact reception on: **01877 330000**

Children's Summer Sports Camp

During school Summer holidays. £75 per week or £18 per day.

Second and subsequent children from the same family are half price.

Osteopath

Morag Frazer will be starting as an osteopath on Thursday 23 May (afternoons). Phone for an appointment.

Saturday 26 May saw Killin play host to a deluge of Belgian tour operators, journalists, holiday company owners and travel agents. In an attempt to attract the Belgian market, Brigitte Defoort, International Marketing Manager for the Scottish Tourist Board, organised a last minute trip to Scotland.

C-N-DO Activity Holidays based in Stirling, planned their first night's stay in Killin. They were dropped off at the top of Glen Ogle and walked down the new cycle track. Fortunately the sun shone, enhancing the already wonderful scenery. They stopped for a photo shoot at the Falls of Dochart – and a few pints! Paddy, from the Breadalbane Folklore Centre, ensured they had a special late pass to view the Centre, before they made their way to the various establishments where they were staying. Finding 18 single rooms in Killin on a bank holiday week-end was no easy task!

They all gathered at the Killin Hotel for dinner, where I had been invited to represent Killin and District Tourist Association to promote Killin as a holiday destination. They all agreed that the scenery was spectacular, and what an excellent wealth of activities and wildlife we could offer – but their main questions were beyond my realms of expertise - what could I do about the price of fuel, or the strength of the £.....??

Dani Grant



Mervyn's Weather

With almost one month of summer 2001 past it is interesting to recall what has transpired weatherwise so far this year.

Until the end of February, winter was still in full charge and this year showed a definite return to the type of season in vogue until the late 80's with a mix of milder, wet and windy spells interspersed with sunny periods. Indeed, while the moderately heavy snowfall of early February mostly disappeared fairly quickly, drifts persisted for many weeks and above 1,000 feet were still in evidence in mid April.

The spring period, March, April, May, was from the hill shepherd's standpoint, as nearly ideal as possible. Apart from a few days in mid April of bitter and penetrating N.E. wind, all of the lambing period gave little about which to complain and there are many reports of prolific and trouble-free lambing. Sadly it has to be seen what will become of the end product due to the Foot and Mouth outbreak. May also produced some glorious sunny spells and, overall, perhaps an example of what we imagine a textbook spring should be. With the blossom on the trees and shrubs, as well as wild flowers, it was quite idyllic.

June, however, has slipped down this scale somewhat. Although there have been some warm, sunny days, much of the month, though dry, was plagued with persistent cold winds. Silage aftermalt has been "sweet" to green up and further growth of grass has been checked. It is strange that in January or February a temperature of 50F (10C) felt quite "tropical", while the same reading in June makes one shiver! However, as these notes are being written (27th June) over the past 24 hours there has been a fall of 15mm of rain, the most since 8th February, and accompanied by spells of thunder and lightning. Being a "sunspot year" the likelihood of Aurora Borealis – Northern Lights, and incidence of thunder is expected to increase. Northern Lights did occur in early spring, while it remains to be seen whether we get more thunder. The old saying that before the 21st June (the summer Solstice) one prays for rain and after that you don't need to, seems to bear out.

Mervyn K Browne, Ardtalnaig



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Fassifern Wall

This famous, even notorious wall hits the news once again – hopefully for the last time. YES – it has been repaired, in fact, virtually renewed. I refer of course to the wall behind the tenement block known as Fassifern, opposite the Police Station and bordering Breadalbane Park.

It has for the past 10 – 15 years been a matter of argument, explanation and report at Killin Community Council meetings, and in the Killin News. Part of the wall had crumbled, and the various owners of the property, could never all agree – so nothing was done, except to have it raised and minuted at numerous Community Council Meetings.

Now, at last, agreement has been reached, with the help of Stirling Council who contributed toward to the cost, the owners, and a donation from the Co-Op.

Killin Tiddlers & Toddlers

Sponsored Toddle & Teddy Bears Picnic

On a glorious sunny day in May, Killin Tiddlers & Toddlers had a very successful sponsored Toddle. It started from the Church Hall, Ballechroisk, followed by a lap of Breadalbane Park and finished with a Teddy Bears Picnic in the Playpark.



It was a lovely day out for all concerned and raised the funds by an incredible £250.

Many thanks to everyone who participated, and to those who sponsored Killin's Babes on their exhausting day out.

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Policeman's Party

A presentation to mark Constable Ian Ramsey's retirement was held in Crianlarich village hall on 1 June 2001. Over a hundred people came to wish him well.

Jock Henderson, Chairman of Strathfillan Community Council, introduced the proceedings. Alec Buchan gave an amusing summary of his career and time in Strathfillan. Ian Armstrong presented a quaich, followed by Nicole Robertson-Baird and Scott Atkinson with a cheque for £1400. Shannon Fraser gave Ian's wife Irene, a bouquet of flowers. The Green Welly Stop donated sandwiches and several local people made cakes, including a large, special one bearing the police coat of arms, made by June Palmer. Some great entertainment came next and was provided by Donald MacLean as Master of Ceremonies, with some hilarious stories, Alistair MacDonald on the accordion, Tom Gibbon (Locheearnhead policeman), his son, and Paul Elson who together played folk music. Siobhan Anderson, Lindsay Marno and Gillian Ross performed Highland dancing and Nicole Robertson-Baird ballet. A very enjoyable night was had by all.

Ian Ramsey hopes to stay in the area, so hopefully it was not goodbye.

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Provost's Civic Awards

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

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

Organisations or individuals within the Stirling area are now invited to nominate persons for Stirling Council's Provost's Civic Awards 2001. Awards will be given for activities contributing to the area's honour and welfare in the following categories:- Business, Art/Culture, Sports, Academic, Community, Volunteer Sector, Special Achievements, European Relations

Nomination forms are available from the Provost's Secretary, Democratic Services, Civic Services, Stirling Council, Old Viewforth, Stirling. FK8 2ET (Telephone 01786 443380). Forms should be returned no later than Tuesday 31 July 2001.

Highland Dancing

Recently at dancing we have been doing choreography. This is usually done to Celtic music in Highland Dancing. It's been really fun working in groups and making up our own dances. We have also been doing two new dances. They are called the "Barracks Johnnie" and the "Sailors Hornpipe". These are quite difficult but we're getting the hang of them.

At a competition in Grandtully in March, Siobhan won the overall trophy for the second section in dancing competitions (called Novice). Gillian was at a competition in Pitlochry in May, and she did very well in the Beginners section. We have one new member of the group called Suzanne.

Aileen, who has just had a baby called Alexander, teaches us. When she was pregnant, she took time off from teaching dancing, but came back after the baby had arrived.

We now have a holiday over the summer, but are looking forward to starting again in the autumn.

Kirsty Somerville

Killin Primary School 1963 Intake

The photo below was received from Yvonne Ross (nee Campbell formerly of Lix Toll). Yvonne couldn't remember all the names, but those she did are listed below. If anyone can fill in the blanks, write to Killin News.



Front Row (L-R boys on floor):- Brian Hall (?), Donald McLarty, Unknown, Unknown.
Second Row (L-R girls on bench):- Elizabeth Sinclair, Rhona McGregor, Mairi Martin, Sheila Blyth, Unknown, Eunice McLeod, Unknown, Carol Gray.
Third Row (L-R standing):- Jean Kennedy, John Hunter, James Dawson, Douglas Willison, Unknown, Yvonne Campbell.
Back Row (L-R standing):- Alan Chapman (?), Steven Hall, Charlie Grant, teach – Miss Campbell, Norman McPherson (?), Bobby Gray, Stewart Christie (Auchlyne).



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Forthcoming Events

July

- 22 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band. 2 pm from Killin Hotel.
- 25 Church Craft Group Coffee Morning. 10 am McLaren Hall
- 27 Killin Highland Queen Dance
- 30 One Day Nearly New Sale. 10 am McLaren Hall

August

- 1 Killin Highland Games
- 4 Killin Golf Club – Men's Open
- 5 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band. 2 pm from Killin Hotel
- 12 Lochearnhead Fete
Killin Gun Club. 50 Bird Open Sporting 1.30 pm
- 18 Killin Agricultural Show Marquee Dance
- 26 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band. 2 pm from Killin Hotel

September

- 8 Killin Cancer Research Jazz Evening and Fork Supper
in McLaren Hall.
- 9 Killin Gun Club. Club Shoot 1 pm
- 19 Killin Golf Club. Senior Ladies Open

October

- 7 Killin Gun Club. Club Shoot 1 pm

November

- 4 Killin Gun Club. Club Shoot 11 am

Church Services

Killin Parish Church – 10 am every Sunday

Episcopal Church - check notice board for details

Roman Catholic Services – held in the Episcopal Church every Sunday at 2.20 pm

For further details on any of the above, or of additional events not notified above,
please check the local notice boards, or ask at the Breadalbane Folklore and Tourist
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Killin Golf Club

Competition Results
Senior Men's Open
May 9th 2001

Best Net score: D.Cuckow (Brair Beth)

Best Scratch Score: G.Smith (Killin)

Age Group Handicap winners

Age 55 – 59

1. Crossland (Dunblane), 2. C.Whaley (Bridge of Allan), 3. Laverly (Helensburgh)

Age 60 – 64

1. D.Cuckow (Blair Beth), 2. A.Hill (Taynuilt), 3. M.Pugh (St. Fillans)

Age 65 and over

1. J.M.Gibb (Glasgow), 2. K.Hay (Killin), 3. J.MacCallum (Killin)

Killin Members Only

Lix Toll Trophy (H'cap 1 - 14): G.Smith

MacTaggart Trophy (H'cap 15-28): K.Hay

Nearest Pin: H'cap 1 – 14: B.Crighton (St. Fillans). H'cap 15-28: J.Ferguson (Killin)

Magic 2's: P.McAllister, W.T.Small, R.Dyson, D.Cuckow

Mixed Open – May 26th 2001

Scratch: 1. P.Lambie/C. Lambie 74, 2. R.Lambie/G.Lambie 77, 3. A.Smith/G.Smith 78
Handicap: 1. Liz Stevens/JW Guild 63, 2. K.Liney/L. Liney 64 (BIH), 3. S.Chisholm/D Nicholson 64

Nearest Pin - A.Smith / G.Smith

Longest Drive - Helen Dalgleish John Wilkie

Magic 2's: Wilson/Carruthers, A.Smith/G Smith, SChisholm/D Nicholson, P. Lambie/C Lambie.

Ladies Open 2 June 2001

Silver Division: Scratch: 1. Morag McQueen (Kelburn) 74, 2. Sylvia Michell (Murrayshall) 81, 3. Helen Dalgleish (King James VI) (BIH) 82
Handicap: 1. D. Cordiner (Bearsden)(BIH) 66, 2. S Chisholm (Killin) 66, 3. J.stewart (Glencruitten) (BL6) 71

Bronze Division: Scratch: 1. Liz Stevens (Killin) 85, 2. M.Stewart (Dunkeld) 89, 3. Lyn Bartlett (Killin) 90

Handicap: 1. Audrey Weaver (Killin) 66, 2. B Latham (Helensburgh) (BIH) 69, 3. V.Smith (Muthill) (BIH 2) 69

Dochart Trophy (best Overall Scratch): Morag McQueen (Kelburn)

Killin Cup (best overall handicap): Liz Stevens (Killin)

Bridge of Lochay Salver (best local handicap): Liz Stevens (Killin)

Magic 2's: L.Maxwell (Aberdour), Lyn Bartlett (Killin),

Longest Drive

Silver: Morag McQueen (Kelburn), Bronze: Liz Stevens (Killin),

Nearest the Pin (5): Morag McQueen (Kelburn)

Sweep: J.Stewart (Glencruitten)

Tay Valley 23 June 2001

The Tay Valley competition is held annually, each of the five clubs involved take a turn to host the competition, which is medal play. A team of 6 players from each club is entered, and the 4 best net scores count.

Tay Valley Shield (lowest aggregate of 4 best net scores)

Aberfeldy 281, Runners up Dunkeld & Birnam 282

Tay Valley Trophy (Best individual scratch): Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 81 BIH

Tay Valley Jubilee Quaich (Best individual handicap): Karen Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 64

Magic 2's: Mairi McColl (Killin), Carol Lambie (Dunkeld & Birnam).



Mixed Open

The Mixed Open Golf Competition held at Killin Golf Club on Saturday 26 May was a successful event. A total of 44 couples from as far afield as Lochgoilhead, Paisley and Grangemouth participated. P & C Lambie from Dunkeld were first in the Scratch Competition, but it was the local pairing of John Guild and Liz Stevens (above) who took first prize in the handicap section and with it the Bill Mitchell Salver. Liz also won the Ladies Open.

However, pride of place must surely go to the event's sponsors – this was the first time the Mixed Open had been fully sponsored, and Killin Golf members wish to publicly acknowledge their appreciation. Generous support was given by the main sponsors:-

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Also, the Old Mill Restaurant who provided the star raffle prize.



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Mushroom & Nut Risotto with Fresh Herbs £4.90

Roast Chicken Breast with Leek & Tarragon sauce £5.90

Obituaries

Jan Rough died on 18 May 2001 in Glasgow Southern General Hospital, after a tragic road accident in Glen Ogle on 17 May. With her husband Jack, she came from Aberdour to Killin in 1993 where they ran the local newsagent's business 'J R News' for 7 years, until their retiral last October.

Jan was born in Glasgow in 1938 and was christened Janet she never liked being called that. Her mother died a few months after her birth. As Jan Gray, she attended Hillhead High School. After college she worked as a secretary and taught secretarial studies. Her brother Aitken emigrated in 1962 and lives in Adelaide, South Australia. After marriage to Jack, Jan lived for 2 years in Airdrie and then 28 years in Fife.

She found great joy in her family, sons John, Stewart and Sandy, their wives and four grand-daughters. The four have now increased to six. The love and unity within the family was something which she treasured. Jan enjoyed so much helping Carole, Leeann and Anne with their children, and in being with them ... and of course having family gatherings, however small.

The Girl Guide Association was an interest in which she was very active for 25 years, the last 10 as County Commissioner for Fife. She remained a Vice President of Fife Girl Guides. Through Guiding she had the privilege of channelling young people into worthwhile pursuits, and of making many friends.

There were the demands of running a home, of which she made a great success. In the newsagents shop she enjoyed the friendship of both staff and customers. An able administrator, her contributions to organisations which she supported were always thorough, and with the interest of others foremost at all times. In golf she acted as Secretary of the Ladies Section at both Aberdour and Killin Golf Clubs, and as Lady Captain at Killin. Competitive, but never too competitive, she achieved a nice balance in her approach to golf, a game which she enjoyed for 20 years in beautiful surroundings with her friends. Jan was also a keen curler and participated enthusiastically on many winter nights, sharing experiences and relaxing with fellow curlers from Killin and afar.

She assisted at the Moirlanich Longhouse during the summer months, and for a short spell acted as Secretary of Killin Heritage Society. As a member of the Scottish Womens' Rural Institute (the Rurual), as with the Guild in Killin Parish Church, she had hoped to be more active in her retirement years. Regretfully, as with other plans to enjoy the area more to the full, this was not to be.

Someone who treated others with gracious and kindly charm, she was a faithful and supportive member of her local church throughout her life. Jan was respected and loved by all who knew her she is, and will be, sadly missed.

Jim Wright died in Stirling Royal Infirmary on Wednesday 20 June 2001. Born and bred in Glen Lochay, he was a hill shepherd all his life. As he was a great "kenner" of sheep, it was his task to mother the stragglers in the various fanks. He attended all the local clipping competitions, and won many prizes. There was no one better to put an "edge" on hand shears.

Jim was educated firstly at the wee school in Glen Lochay, and latterly at Killin. His first job was at the Braes of Balquhider, followed by 15 years at Duncroisk with the McIntyre family. When his father Bob Wright, retired, Jim went to Inchoarach with the Christies, and finally with the MacAskill's at Tullich, who treated him as one of the family. He was a loyal and faithful friend, and knew the high hills of Glen Lochay like the back of his hand.

Jim will be sadly missed by his many friends, and we send our deepest sympathy to his sister Mary, and his relations.

D Willison

Harry Burns. Dolly would like to thank everyone for their kindness and condolences on the sad loss of her husband. Harry was born in Brackenhurst farm by Airdrie, and lived there until he was 14 years old. He lived and worked in Renfrew for many years, but he always wanted to move to the Highlands when he retired. Sadly having suffered four strokes, he never got the full enjoyment of living in Crianlarich where he was extremely happy.

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The Angling

On Saturday 16 June, the first competition was held on the Breaclauch where great numbers of trout were caught. There is an abundance of natural fly life all round the Loch, and also plenty of minnows for feeding the fish.

On Saturday 23 June, several members of the committee and club members, had a clear up at Cloichrain Burn and surrounding area, a skip was provided through the club and it was filled to capacity. There was also an abandoned caravan, and a digger was arranged for the following day, to put it into the skip. But, due to some stupid people, the caravan was set on fire early Sunday morning, damaging the telephone lines and trees. We can only hope the culprits are caught and dealt with.

I would like to remind those going on the Loch Lomond visit, that names and bus money must be with me by 27 July, or there will be no place on the bus later.

Donald McLarty, Secretary

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Killin Gun Club



The shoot on Sunday 20 May, which was the first shoot of the season, saw 21 guns turn out. The results were:-

25 Down the Line

Class A: 1. J Sinclair 75, 2. G Coyne 71, 3. S Christie 69

Class B: 1. F Frost 65, 2. B Donaldson 55

Class C: 1. Cam Frost 57, 2. K Haines 57, 3. E Paterson 56

Sporting

Class A: 1. J Sinclair 72, 2. S Christie 60, 3. G Ross 57

Class B: 1. D Robertson 66, 2. A Gowans 63, 3. F Frost 60

Class C: 1. A McKenzie-Wilson 57, 2. I Downie 57, 3. Cal. Frost 54

Sweep: F Frost

Bolting Fox: J Sinclair

McAllister Cup: J Sinclair

High Gun: J Sinclair 147

The Open Sporting to be held on Sunday 5 August is cancelled.

*G D Coyne
Secretary*



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Cakes & Scones With Jam

Sample Menu

Starters Include

Home Made Soup

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Cumberland Sauce & Oatcakes

Galia Melon Filled With Seasonal Fruits

Cheese & Ham Filo Parcels

Creamy Garlic Mushrooms

Main Courses Include

Fillet and Sirloin Steaks With Choice of Sauces

Breast of Chicken in Asparagus Sauce

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Editorial Comment

It has been quite some time since the Killin News last featured an Editorial Comment Column. Generally, space in the Killin News is too valuable to waste on what I, the Editor, would like to comment upon, but I felt this was necessary, and I obviously can't write a 'Letter to the Editor'!

Once again, I would like to sincerely thank our advertisers who have stuck with us through the Foot & Mouth crisis. Regardless of how much volunteer work we all put in, it is **your** advertising revenue, and donations, that enable the Killin News to exist – without **you** we would falter.

Through **you**, the Killin News performs a valuable function within our area. We endeavour to keep everyone **FREELY** informed about all local news. Local weddings, retirements, new babies, "thank you" column, obituaries, new business, new housing developments, Stirling Council news, letters page, articles of interest, forthcoming events, church news, agricultural news, tourism news, various clubs and societies such as Angling, Gun, Golf, Drama, SWRI, Cancer Research, Herbalists, Floral Association, Doctors Surgery, Community Council news for Strathfillan and Killin, EAK, Green Team, Sports & Leisure Club – these to name but a few. Another valuable function is our work with the Killin Primary 7 Class prior to them going off to the big school. The majority of this is paid for by your advertising, so when you support us, you are also supporting the whole village.

Despite what some may say, **we are apolitical**, and do not use the Killin News as a platform to air our own personal views – quite the opposite in fact. Sometimes, I find myself typing articles which I totally disagree with, but I appreciate that everyone has a different point of view, and what a strange world it would be if we all thought the same. We invite **everyone** to participate in Killin News – and print, almost verbatim, every letter we receive for publication, our only proviso being, it must not be political, offensive, slanderous, or take advantage of free advertising.

The Killin News belongs to the people of Killin and surrounding areas – again I will stress that it is not a tourism magazine, but a local newspaper, which is distributed worldwide. To balance the sensitivities of such a varied community is not an easy task. During the recent Foot & Mouth crisis, we have tried to honestly put forward the views of farming, tourism, local business and villagers – in the full knowledge that not all will agree with their opinions, but hoping that each would see the bigger picture, and appreciate the others position.

No one doubts for a moment that we need farming – equally, we need tourism – local business – services - and quality of life for villagers. The crisis is almost behind us all now, and it is time for us all to pull together as a community once again. Learn from the past, and put it firmly where it belongs – in the past.

Editor



LETTERS

Dear Editor

I was intrigued to read Alec Stewart's letter in your last edition touching on the question of foot and mouth disease, and the devastating effect it is having on the local economy. I truly feel sorry for local businesses, but I thought you might be interested to hear of an experience that my family and I endured while up in Killin on holiday over Easter.

We were a party of seven, and on the evening of Easter Sunday we called into a local hostelry to order a meal. Upon approaching the bar, having viewed the menu we were advised that food wasn't being served as the chef was "too tired". Alec Stewart was present at the bar and overheard the conversation and I'm sure shared our embarrassment and frustration. I have refrained from naming the establishment, as I'm sure when they read this, they will recognise the circumstances and be equally embarrassed.

The point I'm making here is that, while foot and mouth has undoubtedly reduced business in the village, certain business people aren't helping themselves, and indeed are tarnishing the reputation of the village, by turning business away. We found the whole experience to be a total turn off, and the first time we have been treated like this in all the years we have visited Killin. Needless to say our party moved on, and were made very welcome at a Killin hotel where we enjoyed an excellent meal, at a very reasonable price.

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LETTERS



Dear Editor

First of all, congratulations on the balanced content, and increasing excellence of Killin News. It really is a true community newspaper, catering for all ages and tastes.

I was interested to see the footnote to the item in the "Angling Corner" of the June issue by Donald McLarty who is KBAC's Competition Secretary. The practice of returning fish as a conservation tool, has to be considered relative to the welfare of the fish and the circumstances and location of capture. It is only one of many options, and not always the best.

The local Angling Club already has in place the most excellent and effective conservation measure whereby each salmon member is restricted to catching a maximum of 6 salmon per year from club water.

By choice, few members take the opportunity to catch their full quota, the average being two, or three fish per year. Naturally this means more salmon are allowed free passage upstream for eventual spawning, and personally, I think this is much better than the trauma of being caught and returned.

Jack Scougall

President, Killin Breadalbane Angling Club

Dear Editor

With regards to the main article in the May issue of Killin News, entitled "When Will the Visitors Return?", may I draw attention to some points.

1. Consider what the countryside would look like after a few years of not being farmed and managed? Acres of scrub birch etc., would grow up, fields would be full of rank grasses and thistles (just look at set-aside fields). Insects, birds and mammals, which favour farmed land, would vanish and what visitor wants to look at wasteland? A few years ago, I was in the Cairngorm area and went for a walk out to the Green Lochan. It was a beautiful day. There had been a fresh fall of snow – I neither saw nor heard any birds or mammals, and there wasn't a single footprint in the snow, apart from my own. This is land that is owned by a public body. It is a known fact that land that is managed for farming and sporting purposes supports larger numbers and varieties of birds, mammals and insects, than land which is left to its own devices.

2. Farming may not bring in as much income as tourism, but please do not blame the Foot and Mouth for everything. Tourism in Scotland has been in decline for the past three years, due to the high costs of food, accommodation and petrol – that is what is sending people abroad.

3. If Foot and Mouth was to come to this area, think how many people could lose their livelihoods? On this estate alone, the worst scenario would be the loss of work for seven families, plus the part time self-employed people who help out during busy times on the farms.

4. People involved in the tourism business are not the only ones in the area who are losing money. Everyone in one way or another is affected. If Foot and Mouth should break out in this area, hotels and B&B's will lose customers who come to estates in the area for stalking and shooting. At least if this area remains free, then possibly by September or October, the stalking parties will be back and will be staying in the area. Some estates are also losing revenue from fishing because they feel the risk to their livelihoods is too great to open it up. Just the other day, our shepherd found a man exercising his dogs close to one of the lambing parks. He was a shepherd up here for a few days from Yorkshire. But it was alright, the nearest outbreak was 13 miles away!!

The article states, "The income lost from visitors is gone forever". May I suggest that if the tourist business sorted themselves out with regards to prices etc., they will get the public back as soon as next year. If farmers lose all their stock, some will not go back into farming, and any compensation will go straight to the banks to pay off the overdraft, and those who decide to carry on will need at least 3 or 4 years to get back on an even keel.

I am sorry if those in the tourist business think that those in the farming business are being over cautious, but I am sure I speak for all farmers and landowners when I say, "More haste, less speed. We must err on the side of caution".

**Emma Paterson,
Auchlyne, by Killin**

Dear Editor

It was with dismay that I read the first two pages of Killin News. This quickly turned to anger and sadness. Anger that a village newspaper was being used to express such inaccurate, biased opinions – opinions much more suited to the letters section than headline of the paper. Sadness that what was once, an A-political paper reporting on local events and people is now being used to divide two sections of a community that need each other to survive and who have always lived and worked in harmony.

Had the writer been at the meeting referred to, the report would have been far more accurate on why many footpaths were closed and could also have reported on the quite justified, risk assessments carried out before closure. Contrary to popular opinion there is no hidden agenda to close down access to the countryside, merely a desperation to save stock and livelihoods. It is well to remember, many farmers in this area are tenants, their stock is the asset of the business, unashamedly they are protecting that only asset. Given the major downturns facing both industries in recent years there has never been a time when co-operation not division is more needed.

Your paper states that the production team give freely of their time, which is to be applauded. However there are many people in the village who do the same but do not use the paper to air personal opinions. Surely it is time for our newspaper to step back and start to use the paper for what it is intended, report the positive happenings, rather than getting out of depth reporting controversial issues. This is Killin not Wapping leave that sort of reporting to experienced journalists. Start telling everyone about the thousands of pounds given each year by the village to local organisations, praise ourselves and give credit where it is due. This will create a far more attractive picture to future visitors to Killin, who now look beforehand, at the Website and Killin News before booking holidays. These visitors are the future of the village.

**Cheryl Campbell
Ledcharrie, Luib, Crianlarich**

Killin Keepfitters

The first AGM of the Killin Keepfitters was held on Monday 4 June and was well attended. The group, which was started to run a Thursday morning keepfit class, has had a successful first year and is now also organising an evening keepfit session and yoga classes. Help from Suzanne Player and the Stirling Sports Development team, together with grants from Awards for All and the Scottish Co-op have all been crucial in this success. During the year over 120 people attended at least one class, 30 in the mornings, 72 in the evenings and 47 at yoga sessions. Two local people are now training as keepfit instructors and, when they take over classes, this will reduce the cost of keepfit sessions which at the moment include instructors' travel time as well as tuition time.

A new committee has been elected with Jane Kelly as Chairman, Vicky Stephenson and Joanne Airey sharing the job of Secretary and Margaret MacIver as Treasurer.

The Keepfitters look forward to continuing successful classes and hope that even more people will not only come along and try the classes but will also attend regularly. Due to demand from participants, the evening class is continuing over the summer on Mondays at 7-8 in the McLaren Hall – why not come along and try it?

MM

Thank You

Words written, words spoken, thoughts unspoken, grief shared by the folk of Killin, and by visitors, have been of immeasurable support to my family and to me in our time of tragedy and grief. Tributes to Jan, and messages of sympathy have been greatly appreciated. My family's loss has been your loss. Thank you.

The personal emotional involvement of members of the Killin Fire, Ambulance, Medical and Police services, and of the Parish Minister and people of Killin Parish Church, is something that may not be always recognised. Their efforts to save, and care for Jan, and in supporting our family have been outstanding. We are so fortunate to be thus served.

From donations given at Killin Parish Church, and received from local organisations, £350 has been sent to the Killin Residents Assistance Fund for the purchase of equipment for the local ambulance service, and £350 to the Killin Medical Practice. A further sum of £700 has been sent to the Marie Curie Cancer Fund from donations at Perth Crematorium.

Jack Rough and family

Margaret MacKenzie wishes to thank members of her family, friends, and neighbours for cards, gifts etc., received during her stay in hospital. Thanks also to the local doctors and nurses for their attention.

I would like to express grateful thanks, on behalf of members of the family, to all those who attended the memorial gathering for Margaret Hargreave at the McLaren Hall on 30 May.

We were pleased to have the opportunity to meet so many of the people who had made Mum feel so welcome in the community, and who had given her support when she became ill.

Although Mum had lived only a few years in Killin, they were without doubt among the most fulfilling and contented of her life, due in no small part to the great warmth and friendliness of the people there.

We can take enormous comfort from the knowledge that Mum was so happy in Killin, and count ourselves privileged to have an association with your remarkable community.

**Robin Hargreave
Giggleswick, Settle.**

Stuart's death was a sudden and tragic shock to both of us, all the more so after the happy day we had spent together on his 42nd birthday shortly before. The shock is still with us, but it has become more bearable as the village has come forward with so many words and messages of shared grief. We had not realised that he had so many friends in Killin and was regarded with so much affection.

We have found great comfort and strength from your support and sympathy, for which we shall always be grateful. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Morag & Ian Lithgow

Ian Ramsay would like to thank the members of Strathfillan Community Council, and everyone involved in organising the 'surprise doo', held in Crianlarich Village Hall on Friday 1 June, to mark his retirement from Central Scotland Police.

Ian would also like to thank everyone in the community who donated so generously to his much appreciated presentation, and to all those who attended, entertained, and helped with the wonderful buffet.

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Killin – Everest Link

Readers may remember in a past issue of Killin News we were looking for the story of a Pyrenean Mountain Dog's memorial which sits at the side of the path to the Tarmachans. We were informed that the dog had belonged to David McKenzie of Grey Street, Killin. It seems that the McKenzie family have retained a link to the hills. Bill Foster spotted an account of a Scot climbing Everest, and seeing that this was a Kieron McKenzie of Saline in Fife, made the connection. Kieron is the son of David McKenzie of Killin. In his account of his climb, in May of this year, Kieron mentions coming across the frozen and preserved bodies of climbers who had died on Everest. **AW**

Solution to Last Crossword

Across: 1. Leadership 6. Rage 10. Arbitrate 11. Cited 12. Strung 13. Rotator 15. News extra 18. Hudra 19. Email 21. The Missal 23. Needful 24. Import 27. Elide 28. Saddle bag 29. Toga 30. Break dance.

Down: 1. leaf 2. Abbot 3. Enthuse 4. Slang 5. Inebriate 7. Attitudes 8. endorsable 9. Scotch 14. Internments 16. Weakening 17. Totaliser 20. Liffey 22. Impaled 24. India 25. Robin 26. Ogle

Across

1. Sun predictor but he remains unpredictable (10)
7. Irishman and sea bird get together for a plan (7)
8. Tea has little right to entertain (5)
10. Greek nymph who ended up with nothing but a voice (4)
11. Not the best source of heat for a warm welcome (8)
13. Frolicked boisterously (6)
15. Enquire of the insect for a sideways glance (6)
17. Of the sea (8)
18. As a young rascal, I join an S.A. warrior group (4)
21. Obliterate (5)
22. Itinerant loses a well known book which leads to confusion and lethargy (7)
23. No quarter given here – it's this time or never (4,6)

Down

1. Keep an eye on the time keeper (5)
2. So be it (4)
3. He and his sister were partial to ginger bread (6)
4. Having no feelings of compassion (8)
5. Discovered by Amerigo Vespucci (7)
6. First impression – only skin deep (10)
9. Dramatic performance created by the accountant's trial (10)
12. Curiously Ted's mine deposit (8)
14. Greek national dish made with aubergines (7)
16. Sent to Coventry (6)
19. 39" (5)
20. Jack Spratt's figure type (4)

Killin News



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

Thursday 2 August, 2001

This issue will be distributed around 24 August

Editorial Policy

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and business in Killin and District. The aim of those involved is to produce an informative, accurate and entertaining journal for those who live, work and visit in this area. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Production Committee and the Editors reserve the right to shorten, edit, or not publish, any particular article or letter. Contributions will only be published if accompanied by a contact name and address.

Should you wish to make a donation or have any suggestions on how to improve the Killin News, please feel free to get in touch with the Editor or any member of the Production Committee.

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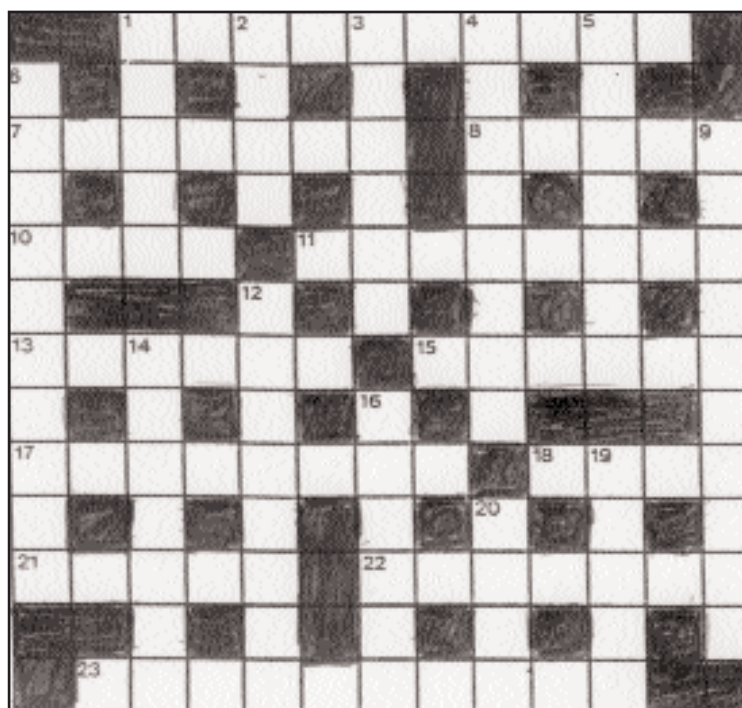
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Crossword by Scorpio



The 7th Killin Traditional Music & Dance Festival

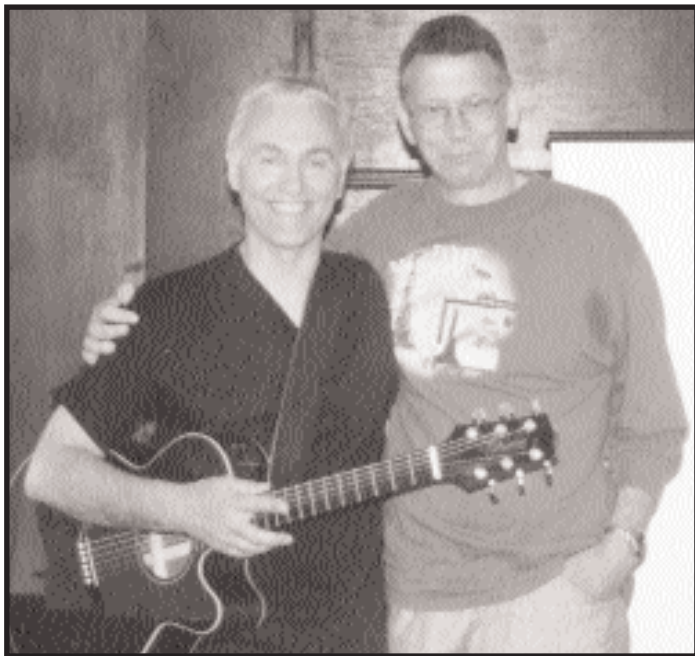
So, it happened! In spite of fear about Foot & Mouth restrictions, planning for the Festival went on, but it wasn't until about April that we knew for certain that it would definitely go ahead. Some of us even got panicky when the programmes didn't arrive in the village until the Thursday afternoon!

However, let's forget about that now, and concentrate on what turned out to be another memorable musical experience (Oh! Of course, not just musical - mustn't forget story tellers, craftsmen, workshops and others). It seemed that there were as many people as in previous years (or perhaps more?). Breadalbane Park didn't have room for another tent or caravan - and the Drama Club's Breakfast Bar at the gate did a roaring trade. Also, one of the organising committee suggested that the improvement this year was that we had more genuine folk music followers and fewer 'dedicated drinkers'!

And, there was plenty of music for them - not only in the three McLaren Hall Concerts and Ceilidhs, but in (or around) all the pubs and hotels in the village.

We did have a wee disappointment at the start, fortunately a temporary one. The traditional Ceilidh for the elderly residents in the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home, nearly failed to materialise, although the audience were waiting. Apparently there had been some transport and travel problems and some performers failed to turn up, but it was rescued by the arrival of Doris Rougvie with her daughter (and grandson); she is a singer, well known in Killin. They entertained the residents, and visitors, delightfully, and even enlisted the help of the audience who gave a number of solo performances (even Allan Walker!)

All three concerts were well attended, the Saturday night was fully booked. Each evening was 'chaired' by an excellent Master of Ceremony, in the person of Susan Kelly of the folk group Stravaig.



(above) The story of Duncan McIntyre - or Donnachadh nan Oran (fair haired Duncna of the Songs) was performed using slides and songs by (L-R) Jack Law and Ian Mitchell (right). It was about the famous 18th century Gaelic Bard. Of special interest to Killin, because Duncan once lived up Glen Lochay.

The Friday night concert was memorable for the music of the relatively new group Dochas (the Gaelic word for 'hope'). Five girls, all recent graduates of Glasgow's Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama. However, there was nothing academic about their music, which was fast, furious and hugely entertaining. What amazed this writer (and not just with this group) was that most of these musicians each play umpteen different instruments - and also sing! Dochas also had a first - the first time a Gaelic song has been performed in a Festival Concert.

But, we're not here to pick winners and losers (although the losers were all at home!). All three concerts were greatly enjoyed, with much whistling, foot tapping and stamping. For me, some things stand out in the memory. Dochas who I have already mentioned, but also Calasaig on the same night, a five piece Scottish band who played an exciting mixture of traditional and contemporary folk music, particularly enjoyable was the singing of Kirsten Easdale.

And, so it went on! On the Saturday night, they were being turned away from the door - a full house! It started with a bang! Pure Malt, a couple of hard strumming, powerful, even aggressive singers and with good 'sing along' items. In contrast was the Irish group Providence, who in their patter, told us where they each came from, and in the process mentioned all the lovely, well known and romantic Irish placenames - Tralee, Sligo, Connemara etc. They also had the delightful voice of Joan McDermot. Their music (brilliant fiddle playing from Clodagh Boylan!) was really of very high quality. And then they were followed by Donald Black, that master of the humble mouth organ (no stranger to Killin) accompanied by Donnie McKenzie on guitar and keyboard.

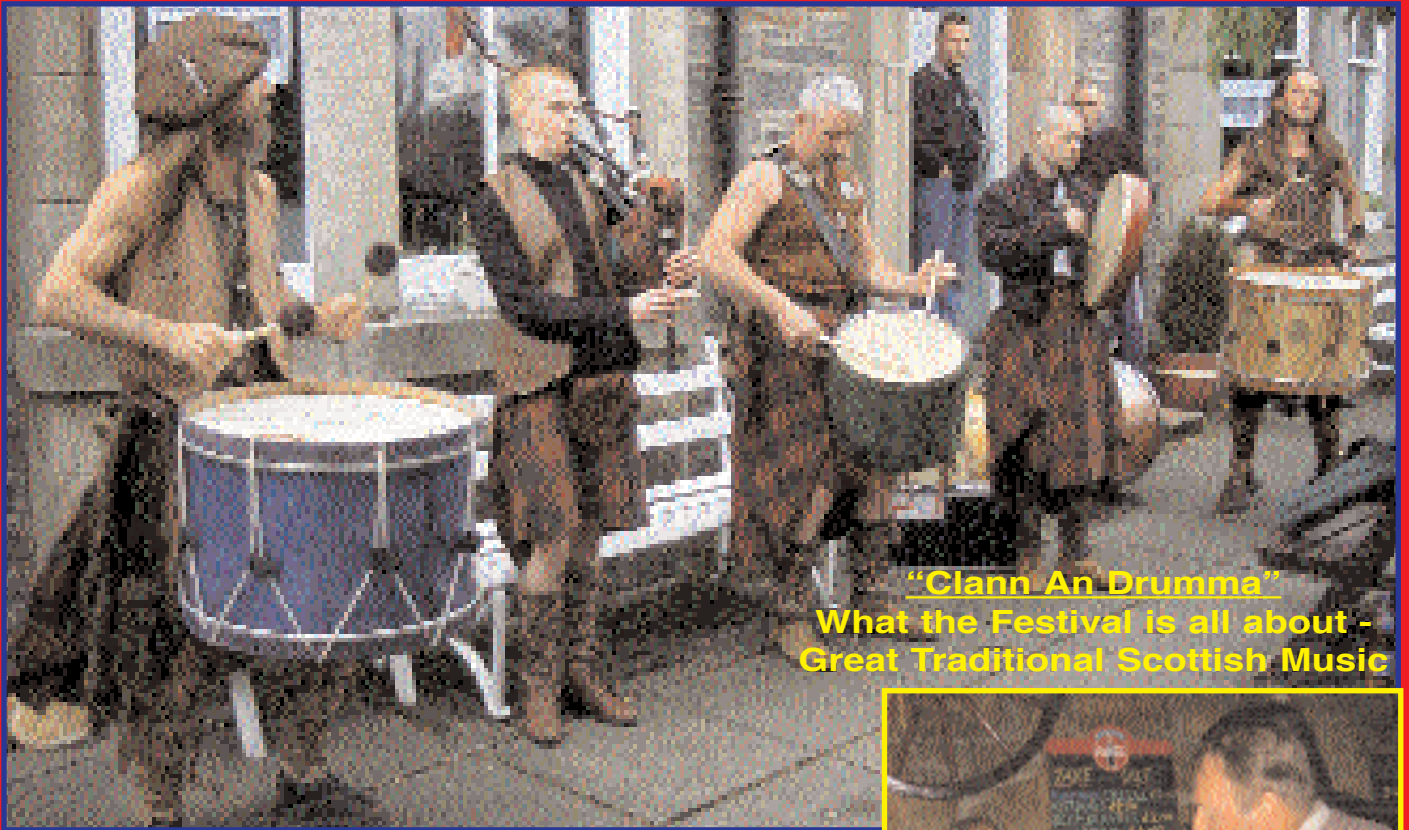
Then, the final concert with the well known woman's group Stravaig, who incidentally sang at the Church service that morning. But of course the big moment was the arrival on stage of the 'much loved' Dougie MacLean. He established a terrific rapport with the audience who roared their appreciation. Particularly enjoyable was the comic song about the Marquis of Breadalbane - "*From Ben More tae Kenmore the land is a' the Marquis's, e'ev the collies bark is his.*" Finally the big one had to come; people whispered it frequently, but we had to wait for an encore - but they demanded and got "**Caledonia**" amid cheers from the audience.

A highly successful sequence of concerts and "Caledonia" was a fitting ending to the Festival week. They'll be back next year, I'm sure.

We shouldn't conclude this article on the Festival without acknowledging the efforts of many people who voluntarily worked hard and long to make sure everything went smoothly. A large number of stewards covering all the venues, local people and helpers from the TMSA in Glenfarg, and the Lomond Folk Club. Others looked after the camp site, drove the bus, manned the shop, and so on. Speaking afterwards to Alex Stewart, the Festival Secretary & Artistic Co-ordinator, he commented on the great support this year from the sponsorship of local hotels and businesses. Congratulations to Lesley Syme, the Chairman, who did an excellent job in motivating her committee to create a great festival.

Festival Feature: SA & IC

Photos From The 2001 Festival

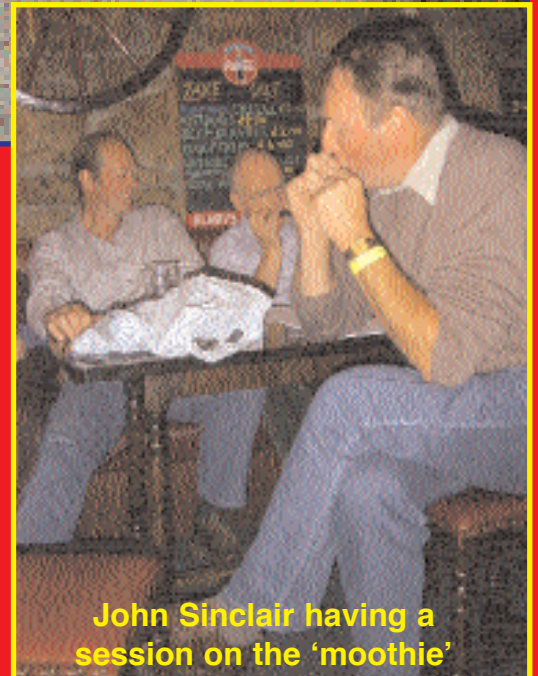


"Clann An Drumma"

What the Festival is all about -
Great Traditional Scottish Music



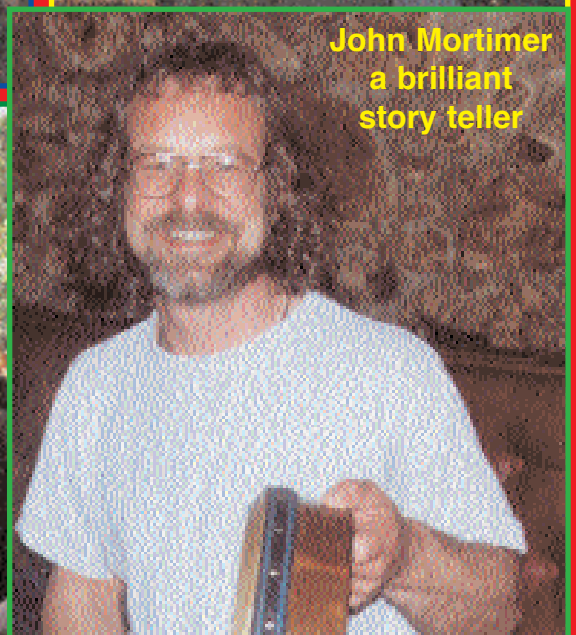
Some well known local
faces enjoying the Festival



John Sinclair having a
session on the 'moothie'



An informal
'jammin' session



John Mortimer
a brilliant
story teller

Wedding Belles



(Above) The happy couple are Dr Emma Forster and Gordon McCallum who were married at Killin Registry Office on Saturday 30 June. Emma is the youngest daughter of the late John Forster and Judy who does the advertising for Killin News. Emma was born and brought up in Killin, and Gordon hails from Hamilton. They both work in Edinburgh and have set up home there.

On the day of the wedding, the official photographer (not to mention the grooms' grandmother) was stranded on the wrong side of Glen Ogle, when the Glen was closed following yet another car accident. Fortunately, the Killin News was on hand to capture the moment.



(Top right and below) The wedding of Craig MacLeod and Marie Fuller took place on 6 April in Doncaster. Craig is an aircraft mechanic and is currently stationed at RAF Waddington. Craig was brought up in Killin, he is the son of Jessie MacLeod. Marie is from Doncaster, where the happy couple will live.

Aimee MacLeod (dark hair) is Jessie's grand-daughter and Yasmin Hislop (blonde hair) is the grand-daughter of Barbara & Dave from Dunkeld.



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