



Every two months

PRICE 50P

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 66 December 2001

The Harvest Festival in Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church was a plentiful and colourful display. However, the photo can not do justice to the wonderful fragrance of fresh vegetables, apples, oranges, flowers and freshly baked bread, which pervaded the air.

After the service, tea and home baking were enjoyed, then the produce was delivered around the village to our more senior residents and families in need.



Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year from Jim Cushley and Staff



OKAY, OKAY! 50 QUID TO TOW US OUT AND 50 TO KEEP IT OUT OF THE KILLIN NEWS.

PETE WILFORD 2000
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BBC Filming in Killin and District

We only heard about it by accident. Word got around (as it does in Killin, often without Killin News!), that the BBC were trying to find accommodation in this area for 80 or so members of a film unit. After some enquiries, it turned out they were going to film part of a Christmas special episode of "Jonathan Creek".

Needless to say, the 80 odd people had to be accommodated in Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. They also had a HQ consisting of about 7 base vehicles, i.e. office, stores, and technical vehicles in the rear car park at Tyndrum. It was there that I met Bart Bailey who told me the story, and allowed me to take photographs at one of the film locations.

The episode has the title of "Satan's Chimney" and stars Alan Davies (as Jonathan Creek) and Julia Sawalha. The total number of people involved on an average day is between 60 and 70: Producer, Director, Assistant Director, 2nd Assistant Director (!), Design, Lighting, Wardrobe, Make Up, not to mention the many camera operatives, sound engineers etc., etc. Incidentally, they filmed for 11 hours every day!

The filming which I was allowed to witness for about 2 hours, will probably occupy only a few minutes of actual screened time. It was a shot in a shallow Highland river, not far from Bridge of Orchy, and involved the two main actors Alan Davies and Julia Sawalha, paddling through the stone (he with wellies on – she in her bare feet!). In the story line, they come across a dead body which Julia nearly stands on. They shot the scene umpteen times until the Director was satisfied. All I could discover was that it was the boy of a dead magician - they would tell me no more!! Be sure not to miss the show at Christmas time.



The other interesting thing is that the film will be made in two places, the Killin area and Darlington Castle. They wanted the outdoor shots to be done with Scottish scenery, the indoor scenes would be shot later in the Castle. The whole drama would then be 'married' together by computer – and you won't even see the joins!

Altogether an impressive taste of drama, filming, painstakingly and carefully constructed, and very expensive in terms of the numbers involved and the time taken.

The Producer is Verity Lambert, Director Sandy Johnson (a Scot) and the script is by David Renwick.

Sinclair Aitken

Short Story



Competition

Attention all story/article/essay writers! The Killin News has started a new competition for all budding or amateur writers, or those who just want to put pen to paper. Regardless of what you want to write about - fiction, non-fiction, historical, local, current - we welcome entries from everyone, in all age groups. We will print entries during the course of the next year and judging will take place end of 2002 or early in 2003.

Articles/stories should be between 200 and 800 words. Either clearly written, typed or on floppy disk (*.rtf preferable) Entries from "under 16's", should have their age marked on it.

The Judge, who is not associated with Killin News, works for a national newspaper, has links with Killin but is not local. Remember, when writing, that the Killin News is a-political and will not print anything slanderous or offensive. All entries must be supported with a name and address.

Entries to: The Editor, Killin News, Dalerb, Craignavie Road, Killin. Tel: 01567 820961 Fax: 01567 820043 or E-Mail: killin.news@virgin.net.

The Killin News reserves its rights under the Editorial Policy on page 29.

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Diary Dates

School Christmas Party
Wednesday 19 December
1.30 pm in McLaren Hall

Killin Primary School
Concert
Robin Hood & Friends
Friday 14 December
at 7.30 pm
McLaren Hall

The New Year Dance

The Dance, which is run by the Killin Masonic Lodge, will take place as usual in the McLaren Hall, from 9 pm until late, on 1 January. Ticket prices (still to be decided) are likely to be in the region of £6 per adult and £4 for the under 12's. Tickets will be available from Alex Stewart, Douglas McRobbie, Colin McRae and Mark Lincoln.

Stirling Farmers' Market

The next Market will be on Saturday 8 December 9 - 2.

Killin Drama Club **Panto**

Dick Whittington
17, 18 & 19 January
McLaren Hall

Killin Heritage Society

Friday 7 December
8 pm - Lesser McLaren Hall

The speaker will be Derek Wilkie from Tyndrum. Derek will be talking about the history of the Tyndrum Mines, a subject right on his doorstep and one he has been studying for a number of years.

Clan Gregor Society



The Clan Gregor Society's annual gathering was held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel on 1 & 2 September. Following an interesting and informative Annual General Meeting in the afternoon, members enjoyed a welcome cup of tea and delicious muffins. In the evening they had a most enjoyable dinner and a very pleasant evening's entertainment. Gilbert and Pat Christie, Auchlyne, ably provided a delightful selection of music. Peter Lawrie, the Society's Vice-Chairman, shared his knowledge of a very rare tartan and demonstrated the wearing of the breacan an fheilidh (belted plaid) and the handling of Highland weaponry. Last but not least, the Society's Bard, recited and sang in Gaelic and English some of his own compositions, and gave a memorable rendering of the epic Battle of Glen Fruin (1603).

On Sunday morning this year's Clan Gregor Roadshow, organised by Richard McGregor, Chairman, centred on MacGregor genealogy in Rannoch. In the afternoon members and friends gathered in the front garden of Sharon and Mark Turnbull, Balquhider (sadly they could not join us) for a parade to the Church for the Annual Memorial Service conducted by the Reverend John Lincoln, with guest preacher the Reverend John Macgregor from Fearn, Ross-shire. The Clan Gregor Society Pipe Band provided the music for the parade to the Church and, after the Service, from the Church

to the Village Hall where afternoon tea, with wonderful home baking, was provided by the local SWRI in aid of three charities. The Church music was provided by Margaret Ritchie, the Commemoration by Rob Roy's Grave was by Dr Gregor Hutcheson and the Pipe Major, who played the piobearachd 'Flowers of the Forest' at the graveside, was Richard Crombie. A short recital in the Village Hall by a few members of the Pipe Band completed a wonderful weekend for the Clan Gregor Society. Grateful thanks go to everyone who helped to make the weekend such an outstanding success.

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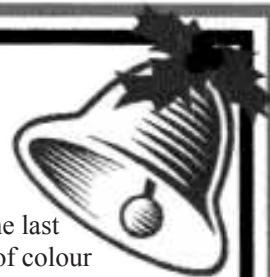
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Editorial Comment

This has been a very busy year for the Killin News Team, with this issue bringing our total for the year to seven - compared with our usual six. Some of our advertisers were heard to remark, "It seems like no time since Judy was last here, to collect advertising!" The reason for the extra issue was that we wanted to do three issues during the summer months to accommodate the main village events i.e. one for the Music Festival, one for the Highland Games and one for the Agricultural Show. However, as the last event didn't happen, we struggled a bit for the September issue, but fortunately the village was a blaze of colour and the Floral Awards more than made up for any shortcomings.



In addition to the seven papers, we did the 'Team 13' with the Primary 7 class of Killin Primary School, just before they went on to the McLaren High School in Callander. This paper has proved so popular with the children (parents and teachers) that it has turned into an annual event. The costs are met by Killin News with assistance in the form of a grant from Stirling Council, who have advised us that they are not in a position to give grant assistance for this project next year, so we are actively looking for sponsor/s. We have already received one very kind offer - is there anyone else out there willing to provide financial assistance to enable this project to continue - and hopefully expand to include the children at Primary 7 of Crianlarich School?

For good measure (just so we don't get bored), we have also just finished the special feature magazine, to celebrate the 10th Birthday of Killin News. This should have been delivered with this Issue of Killin News. It would be appreciated if those of you who receive this in the mail, would send a little extra donation, to cover extra postage costs incurred. We do hope you enjoy reading it over the Christmas period.

As we celebrate another Christmas and New Year - the Killin News Team are having a well-earned break. There will be no Killin News in January 2002. It must be remembered that we are all volunteers and this year we are celebrating the Festive Season without having to worry about deadlines and copy. The next Killin News will be delivered through your door towards the end of February 2002. So, this should give all you budding writers time during December and January to get writing and send us your stories - put that new computer you got for Christmas to good use! (see page 3).

The Killin News Team sincerely thank all our advertisers for their support, and join with them to wish you,

"A very merry Christmas and a happy New Year".

Editor

A & B Services (Scotland)

Main Street, Killin, Perthshire FK21 8UW

Workshop: Tel 01567 820 840 Fax: 01567 820 808

Gordon Aitken (Home): 01567 820 249 Mobile: 07798 718 708

Steve Bennet (Home): 01887 830 548 Mobile: 07798 718 707

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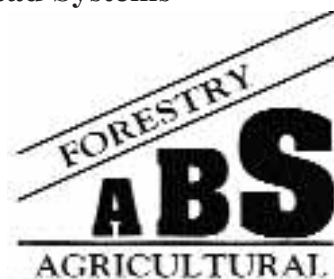


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Strathfillan - "By The Way"

The Strathfillan Community Council held a meeting in Crianlarich village hall on Wednesday 3 October 2001. Ronnie McKenzie, Route Manager (NW South) Bear Scotland Ltd. attended the meeting to answer any questions raised. Several current problems were raised and noted. BEAR have promised that the roads will be gritted before the school bus travels from Stirling. They advised that everything should be reported through the free telephone number, because it gets logged and must be dealt with.

Raymond Bissett, Landscape Co-ordinator for Bear was due to attend this meeting, but didn't arrive.

A grant was received from Green Force Campaign for tubs and plants to brighten up the area around the notice board in Crianlarich. Thanks were extended to Jock Henderson for doing the planting. A Community Grant has been promised to enable the notice board to be replaced.

Jock attended a police seminar where the use of CS gas was demonstrated. He explained how impressed he had been, and appreciated that it is less damaging to the victim than a truncheon, whilst at the same time it offers protection to the officer. Every officer in Central should now be carrying a CS gas canister.

We received a letter from the Stirling Assembly detailing the members of the new Executive Committee. As part of its commitment to facilitating collaboration with Community Councils, the Stirling Assembly had included provision in its constitution for the election of Community Council delegates, to act as a focal point for groups of Community Councils. There are no Community Council delegates from the Highland Area and Eastern Villages. Murray Dickie is acting as a short-term contact for our area. By-Elections will be held in October, so by the time this appears in print, we may well have a representative.

Mobile phones and cartridges can be donated by phoning 01324 678900 and will benefit Strathcarron Hospice.

A Development and Community Safety Group meeting (part of Community Planning) was held in Balquhiddie village hall. The presentations were Rural Community Issues by Colin Roxburgh, Community Futures, and Rural Business Survey by Ian McGhee, Rural Stirling Economic Partnership. The workshops discussed rural development over the next five years, and many very interesting points were brought up.

A letter from Steven Fraser, Customer Service manager (Forth Valley) East of Scotland Water, informed us about the Scottish Executive's intention to merge the existing three Water Authorities into one single organisation, 'Scottish Water'. Jon Hargreaves, current Chief Executive of East of Scotland Water will be the Chief Executive Designate and Alan Alexander, current Chairman of West of Scotland Water is to be Chair Designate. There needs to be a change in the legislation and the new Water Services Bill will be introduced to the Scottish Parliament in September and it is hoped will be passed by April 2002.

*Moir Robertson
Strathfillan Correspondent*

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The Angling

The Killin Breadalbane Angling Club held its AGM on Friday 2 November in the Craigard Hotel. Approx 30 members attended.

Upon conclusion of the formalities, Jack Scougall, Club President and Linda FitzGerald, Editor of Killin News presented prizes to the competition winners.

Club Champion: 1. Calum McLarty (12 lbs) 2. David McLarty (9 lbs 9 oz.)

Junior Champion: 1. Calum McLarty 2. Jack McRobbie

Pairs Cup: 1. Angus McLeanan & Duncan Twigg 2. David McLarty & Grant Tigwell

Peter Ross Cup: 1. Angus McLeanan 2. Duncan Twigg

Handicap Cup: 1. Calum McLarty 2. John Scougal

Heaviest Basket: 1. Calum McLarty (6 lbs.) 2. John Scougal (4 lbs. 8 oz.)

Heaviest Fish: 1. Gregory Dall (1 lb 9 oz.) 2. Duncan Twigg (1 lb 8 oz.)

Presidents Prize Cup: 1. Calum McLarty 2. John Scougal

Awa Cup: 1. Ian Downie 2. George Main

Casting Competition: 1. Ian Downie 2. Douglas McRobbie

Salmon Heaviest Combined 6: 1. Richard MacPherson 2. Ian Downie

Heaviest Salmon: 1. Ian Downie 2. Malcolm McLarty Women's Casting: 1.

Susan McRobbie 2. Alex Tigwell 60 Salmon: 1. Loch Tay Trout (23) 2. Hill Loch Trout (43)

Following the Prize Giving, an excellent buffet was enjoyed by all.

Donald McLarty would like to extend his apologies and thanks to Joanne at News First. "Thanks" for the generous donation to the raffle, and "sorry" for not including it in the 'Thank You' list in the last issue of Killin News.

Prizewinners below are:- Photo 1. **Calum McLarty**, who won the '**Calum McLarty Shield**'

which was donated to the club in memory of his grandfather, (Malcolm) known as Calum.

Photo 2. **Angus McLeanan**

Photo 3. **Richard MacPherson**



Fearnan Scottish Dance Club

The new session of the Fearnan Scottish Dance Club begins on Friday 5 October. The Club meets every Friday evening from 8 pm until 10 pm in Fearnan Village Hall. The cost is £1.50 and this includes tea and biscuits. Regular members are encouraged to Pay £15 in advance per term, and as both the winter and spring term includes 11 session plus a free party night, this is good value. Dates for the winter term are 5 October to 14 December, with the Christmas Party night on Friday 21 December, when accordionist Jimmy Lindsay will play for dancing and a buffet supper will be provided.

Old and new members will be made very welcome, and a beginner's class is held each week before the main session to help newcomers with the various steps which they will encounter later in the programme.

Dancers from the Killin area are especially invited and details can be obtained from Liz Menzies on 01887 830 212.

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Strathfillan Community Development Trust



2001 has been a year of consolidation and consultation. The Trust's AGM on the evening of Wednesday 28 November in Tyndrum Village Hall is a time for members to review the past year and look to the future.

2002 will, we trust, see our three main areas of work leap forward: in Crianlarich progress on developing the old station yard opposite the school into something useful and attractive. In Tyndrum, more activities and community events for young and not so young; including action on the 'kickaround area'; and thirdly, linking both villages and both community woodlands, we hope to bring various parties together to create a cycleway.

The Trust projects that work best are those that have an active Working Group of locals who care. Sometimes they do the work, sometimes they give me the work to do, but with invaluable guidance, support and bright ideas. We will, in the coming weeks, be looking for volunteers for new Working Groups for these three projects - please consider seriously whether you can answer the call when it drops through your door.

The Strathfillan Community Development Trust Board members are pleased to see that (at the time of writing, anyway) both Killin and Strathfillan are highly likely to be within the National Park boundary. Our Strathfillan consultation gave the strong message that not only was a cycle link between Crianlarich and Tyndrum important, but joining it to the National Cycle Network in the Lix Toll area is also on the wish list. This could be the first joint project involving Killin and Strathfillan under the umbrella of the National Park.

Sue Wyllie.
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**Wishing you all a Very Merry Christmas
and a Happy New Year**



Sheona MacLennan Your Community Agent



On 25 September this year, Killin Community Council was welcomed onto the Community Futures Programme, and as a part of this programme, I was appointed as your Community Agent. My role is to assist you in the development of your Community Action Plan, and to help and guide me in my work, a steering group has been set up.

The Community Action Plan brings together information about the community in a document which can be used to back up funding applications, to inform public agencies, and is circulated to the whole community. Included in the document is:-

- A statement about the communities own vision for its future
- Community facts and figures.
- A listing of the priority projects and actions identified by the community.

As part of the planning process, I am presently conducting interviews with representatives from a cross-section of the community, and I am gathering information for the community profile. The Survey Questionnaire will be going out to every household in November and it is hoped that a Workshop will be held in January next year. The Workshop will be your opportunity to put your view across and to discuss priority projects, and actions which have been pin pointed, and which you think are important.

The final Community Action Plan document will be produced after the Workshop has taken place, and it is hoped that a Report on the Workshop will be sent out shortly after the event.

I am here to help you to develop your ideas for your future, and to assist in the production of your Community Action Plan. If you would like any additional information, or if you just want to chat to me then please get in touch. Tel: 01389 722611

George Hogg Trust

Morenish Place, a building managed by the George Hogg Trust, has recently undergone the first stage of a major overhaul. The Trust, whose history was recounted by the late Arnold Young in an earlier edition of the Killin News, was set up by a local man to provide low cost housing for Killin and district people. The building is old, but as you can see from the photo below, the Trust is slowly and steadily taking it into the new century. One of the first floor flats has been completely re-furbished and has been let to a local person.

Local tradesmen have been involved in this village enterprise. The three trustees continue to meet the aims and objectives of George Hogg's Trust deed. *AW*



CHAS

Annie MacNee and Betty MacLean attended an Open Day at the Children's Hospice at Rachel House in Kinross, following a donation from the people of Killin and district of £1,000 to CHAS (Children's Hospice Association Scotland). £1,000 was also sent to the Oncology Department of the Edinburgh Royal Hospital for Sick Children.



Fran's Fabulous Fireworks Fundraiser

On Sunday 11 November, Frances Gaskell, Kirkella, Manse Road hosted a 'Big Breakfast' to raise funds for the fireworks display at The Falls at New Year. Fran (and friends) raised the magnificent sum of £275. Kedgerees, sausages, bacon, eggs, pancakes and 'Bucks-Fizz' were enjoyed by everyone.

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5 pm - late
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12 noon - 2pm,
5 pm - midnight

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~~~~~  
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~~~~~  
Coffee & Mince Pies with Brandy Butter

**BOOKINGS ONLY**

**Meals will resume as Normal after 26th December.**

**Pat, Ian, Alison & Richard would like to welcome you for  
friendly hospitality and good home cooking.**

## Tay District Salmon Fishery Board

The annual meeting in Perth was informed of the considerable support for the 'Catch and Release' policy, particularly in the lower beats, where the majority of salmon caught in the early part of the season were tagged and returned. There were also gifted to the hatchery, the required number of salmon to carry out the programme designed to introduce fish to upper areas which are considered in need of an increased number of spawning fish.

The Freshwater Species Study, which was carried out by Killin Members with supervision by Dr David Summers, was considered of value, in that it did give an indication of which types of freshwater fish inhabited the survey area, and what their diet consisted of. This one exercise could not form the basis of what the larger picture may be but was considered useful as a starting point. Thanks were given to the Killin Club for its co-operation.

The Board is now working on seeding sections of the River Lochay and with the Hydro Board is looking at improving the efficiency of the Boreland Lift. The point was made that trout anglers sometimes do not take sufficient care in releasing salmon parr caught when fishing water where these juveniles are present. All anglers have the duty to look after the future of all stocks, so extra care should be taken with all undersized species.

The tagging policy will continue and hopefully next season the loch and upper rivers will see more fish returned. No fish were tagged in this area last year, but confirmed release reports of 9 on the West End of the loch and 1 on the river is encouraging. There were no reports of tagged fish being caught in the Killin area, most seemed to be on the Isla system and the Tummel.

*Alex Stewart*  
**Killin Club Representative**

## Killin Cancer Research Committee Coffee Morning

**Saturday 24 November 2000**

**10 - 12 noon**

**in the McLaren Hall, Killin  
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Raffle**



## Glendochart Adult Education Group

Gaelic classes with Jennifer Marshall are now under way in Killin and the new evening sessions are proving a success. This will continue in the January term, so if anyone is keen to learn as a beginner or brush up on their conversational skills, they will be able to join the class then.

Upholstery with Catriona McGeoch is a real hit in Lochearnhead. Twenty people from Killin, Lochearnhead and Strathgryre have been attending classes. So many, in fact, that we had to split the class and there are now 2 sessions every week. Students take their own piece of furniture along - ranging from chair seats to huge armchairs - and then set about the transformation with Catriona's guidance. This course will also continue in January and, if there is enough interest, there may also be a class in Killin. At the moment Catriona is only available during school hours but we hope that in the future, she may instruct an evening class as well.

A 6 week art class has started this month in Tyndrum with Joyce Russell. If there is enough interest this will also continue in the January term. It is hoped that aerobics will also be on offer in Tyndrum Village Hall in the New Year.

### Proposed Classes for January - March

- Computing in Killin & Lochearnhead
- Upholstery in Lochearnhead and possibly in Killin
- Art in Killin & Tyndrum · Gaelic in Killin
- Aerobics in Tyndrum · Dog Training in Killin

Work on setting up a short internet course locally continues. There is difficulty around the availability of laptop computers with all the connections required. However, there is optimism that this will happen in the New Year. Ardeonaig residents have also expressed an interest in computing and internet classes and this is also being explored.

All courses will be advertised on posters but if you are interested in finding out more, please contact Suzanne Player, Stirling Council Community Animator Tel: 01567 820154

(Courses are run by Clackmannan College in partnership with Stirling Council Community Support and Glendochart Adult Education Group. Aerobics will be supported by Stirling Council Sports Development).

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## Nine Thousand Year Old Hunting Camp Found On The Slopes Of Ben Lawers

The first meeting of the Killin Heritage Society for the winter season was held on 5 October. Stephen Boyle RCAHMS gave a lecture illustrated with slides, and images covering a survey undertaken during the year 2000/1 of Ben Lawers and the immediate surrounding slopes. The survey, funded in part by EU money and the National Trust, revealed a fascinating history. The results from it will provide the foundation for further work by the National Trust and Glasgow University.

Long before the Roman Empire and the Pyramids of Egypt a group of hunters from Mesolithic times (7000 BC) were pottering about high on the slopes of Ben Lawers. Carbon dating of charcoal in a pot dated at C.7000BC. When you think that this is about 1000 years after the end of the last ice age this is a remarkable discovery.

However, the cumulative evidence of human occupation was revealed by Stephen in his lecture eg., a stone axe "factory" (actually on the Tarmachan range); this latter giving evidence of trade, as the axe type found here has been found on 30 sites in Britain; a chambered cairn and additional rock sculptures in the shape of cup and ring marked stones; remains of bronze age cairns, and hut circles of medieval origins.

The lecture concluded with a picture of the change over from small Highland clachans to the system, brought in by the Age of Improvement in the late 1700's, when the farm patterns we can still see today were established. A summary report will appear on the RCAHMS website for those who are interested. **AW**

The next meeting of the Heritage Society will be on 7 December 2001 when Derek Wilkie will speak about the surprising story of the Lead mines at Tyndrum.

The Society welcomes new members and visitors for a subscription £5 and for this we have a number of excellent speakers covering subjects both local and national concluding on 9 March with an evening of entertainment, music and story telling on the History of the Royal Mile. Meetings are held in the Lesser McLaren Hall, Killin at 8pm.

- ◆ 7 December (Derek Wilkie)
- ◆ 4 January 2002 The Smith Collections of Stirling Museum
- ◆ 2 February AGM followed by a talk on an Archeology Field Survey of Upper Glen Lochay.
- ◆ 1 March The Royal Mile (Quern)

## 70 Wild Miles

### In Aid of Cancer Research Scotland

On behalf of John Allan, his team and myself, I would like to thank everyone who sponsored me for '70 Wild Miles' 2001.

This year, because of your generosity, I was able to send a cheque for £1,220, making me one of their top sponsors. The total raised from '70 Wild Miles' 2001 was over £43,000, which brings the total since it was first started in 1989 to over £272,000. This money helps to keep research into cancer moving forward.

Thanks to Lesley Kettle for collecting the money for me, and also to Rosie for her support on the day. See you all next year!

**Duncan Mac Donald**

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## The Scottish Crannog Centre

It's always nice to receive a pat on the back, and this came to the Crannog recently by way of an accolade from Scottish Enterprise Tayside. Nick Day and Steven Baillie of SET presented the directors and staff with the 2001 'Investors in People' award for teamwork and communication within the organisation. A high note on which to end what has been a very busy and successful season. For months I have been forecasting a final attendance figure of about 21,000. I was wrong! Some 24,000 visitors came to the Crannog during a year that surpassed all expectations and certainly bucked the trend seen at many other visitor attractions where attendance numbers have plummeted.



Ah, that I could end on such a high note – but alas not so!

The Paradise Leisure Group (owners of the Croft-na-Caber complex) has resubmitted its application to redevelop the waterfront adjoining the Crannog Centre (the original proposals were covered fully in the July issue of Killin News). Despite a meeting between two of our directors and representatives of Paradise Leisure, little or nothing has been done to amend what, we and many objectors consider to be a totally out of place and unacceptable planning proposal (the overall timeshare units would be reduced by only one). It can only be hoped that the Planning Officer will take cognisance of the widely held and considered opinions against this over-development of the area before submitting his recommendation to the Planning Committee. Once again, may I implore readers in and around the Killin area who are against such a development to write with their objections to the Planning Department at Perth & Kinross District Council.

And, finally, don't forget our 'Shop 'till you Drop' Christmas shopping bonanza on Sunday 9 December.

**Colin Scott**

## Safari Supper A Sell Out!

The Killin News reported in the last issue that tickets would be available for the Safari Supper from "early to mid November". For those of you who phoned to secure tickets on 1 November and discovered they were sold out - this was not an error on the part of Killin News. The event has become so popular that people had reserved tickets in advance.

## John Lynch

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Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

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Best Wishes from all the  
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## Christmas Message

The traditional message for the Christmas season has been one of peace and goodwill to all people in the aftermath of the September 11 events in America, and the response by America, Britain and others, peace seems to be a remote concept. As I write, we are uncertain who is behind the Anthrax threat, indeed we are uncertain about so many things. Certainly by the time you read this, the world will have changed yet again. Who knows what will have happened in the troubled areas of the world?

The solutions sought by world leaders depend on strength, yet the Christian message is one based on weakness. The Bible tells us "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." What greater sign of weakness and helplessness could we be given than the babe of Bethlehem? The babe of Bethlehem was not born in surroundings befitting the Son of God, but in the place where animals slept, in a country ruled by a cruel king and occupied by a foreign army.

In the land where he was born and raised, there were freedom fighters who yearned for political freedom, some of whom became followers of Jesus. He did not take up

their cause, but followed the path his Father laid before him. Jesus came to this world in order to restore relationships – first our relationship with God and then our relationship with others. At Christmas we need to hear again the great truths about the 'incarnate deity', about whom we sing, remember He was

*Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give them second birth.*

The world in His day was in political turmoil. Today we are again in turmoil, and people are seeking answers for eternity. No wonder a newspaper reported in October that sales of Bibles in both Britain and America had risen dramatically. We have something to discover – and that begins with the Christ child.

May this Christmas season bring us a world that seeks peace, a peace that includes and surpasses the peace of the world, for Jesus came to bring that peace that the world cannot give.

*The Reverend John Lincoln  
Killin Manse*

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## Killin News Resignation

It is with regret that we inform you that Bill Douglas has resigned from Killin News due to pressure of work. Bill recently took early retirement from the Bank of Scotland and was hopeful to spend more time on Killin News, but his talents have come into demand elsewhere, and he is now busier than ever.

Many thanks Bill for all your help over the years.

**Killin News Team**



## W R I

The WRI meets on the first Thursday of every month between October and April. We have a varied and interesting syllabus and would welcome anyone who would like to join us. We also hold a Whist Drive, for the War Blinded, in November and a Christmas Party for Killin Primary School children. In January we have the members' birthday party, and these form our annual events. We have already had 2 very good meetings - an excellent cookery demonstration in October, and a most interesting talk and demonstration of 'Reiki' in November. The following makes up the rest of our syllabus. Please come along on any of these evenings, it will be great to see you!

**6 December 2001**

**Christmas Floral Arrangements**

**7 February 2002**

**Travel Talk and Slide Show**

**7 March 2002**

**A Talk on Feng Shui**

**4 April 2002**

**AGM and Handcraft Evening**

### **Killin Medical Practice Christmas & New Year**

**Monday 24 Dec - 9.00am - 3.30pm**

**Tuesday 25 Dec - Closed**

**Wednesday 26 Dec - Closed**

**Monday 31 Dec - 9.00am - 3.30pm**

**Tuesday 1 Jan - Closed**

**Wednesday 2 Jan - Closed**

- Due to our drug wholesalers being closed over the festive period, please ensure that you order your repeat medication during December and by Monday 18 (AT THE LATEST) in order to guarantee Santa's delivery!

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## **The Dog's Tale**

A new, and different children's book has been written and illustrated by Killin resident Neil McArthur.

The story mixes fact, history, bit of legend and local Strathgry and Balquhidder geography. There is even a map where our own mystical Loch Occasional (now you see it, now you don't) appears. The illustrations are of excellent quality reflecting the author's background in graphic art and design. Neil has also been a soldier, labourer and painter. He plays the pipes and has an interest in Gaelic and much more.

Basically, the story is that of a Deerhound and a wee sparrow's adventure in and around Strathgry, bringing in much local knowledge as the author lived in Strathgry. Worth a read by adults as well as children. I believe another book is in the offing.

*AW*





### **News First at Christmas**

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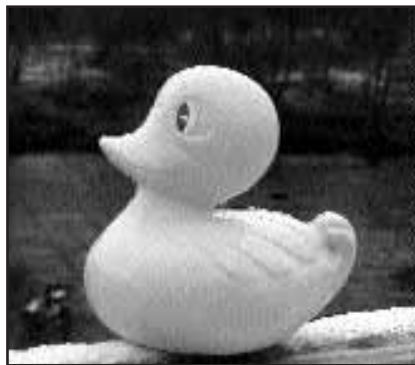
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## Help Me! Save Me!

I'm Duck Number 42 from the Duck Race. I was washed away to sea (well Loch Tay actually) when they failed to rescue me in the net at The Falls. I was then held captive by Stormin' Norman at Kenmore for weeks, but was 'rescued' by **Killin News**. They are now holding me to ransom and will allow me to return to my friends and family if you pay money! **Yes CASH!** Please put your **££ \$\$** into any of the tins in the village for the **Fireworks**



**Display** at The Falls at New Year, or give it to any Killin News person you meet in the street. Please hurry as they keep threatening me with Orange Sauce!

## Dochart Adult Learning Group Introduction to Hillwalking

### Been there, done it!

Short notice didn't deter three eager participants taking part in the recent Introduction to Hillwalking day. After an evening session discussing route planning, safety and kit, all were prepared for the day's walk to the top of Ben Lawers. Roaring stags accompanied us up into Coire Odhar where we were met by strong winds on the last pull up to the summit. The group also 'ticked' off Beinn Ghlas on the way back. Well done and thanks to all who took part. Thanks also to Suzanne for organising the day. In Spring we plan to run similar days. Watch for the posters.

*John Wyllie*

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## Happy Motoring!



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# Killin News Across The Globe

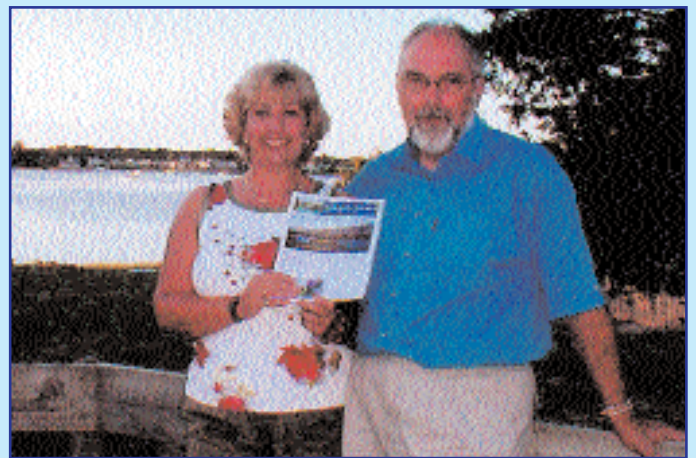


(Right) Fiona, Heather and David Stewart with the Killin News in front of Queen Hatshepsut's Temple Dier el-Bahari, on the West Bank at Thebes, near Luxor. This magnificent temple is between the Valley of the Kings and the Valley of the Queens. The photo was taken by Alex Stewart.



(Below Right) More Killin News readers are, Tony and Helen (Fenton) Harrison, who were in Cape Cod, USA in July. They were visiting friends who live on the Bass River.

(Below) Margaret Martin is pictured here reading Killin News whilst she cooled off under the shade of a beautiful tree in Kassipol, Greece.



(Left) Killin News reader, M Cruickshank from Auchroch, Crianlarich sent us this photo. He has recently returned from a trip to California organised by the Association of British Military Parachutists (ABMP). During his trip he successfully jumped from 26,000 feet – establishing a new world record for high altitude, high opening (HAHO!) static-line, round canopy parachuting. Sounds like quite a mouthful, as well as quite an achievement, but in a nut-shell it means, high altitude jumping with military chutes. (I'm sure if I had to jump out of a perfectly serviceable aircraft, the last thing on my mind would be, "Now where did I put the Killin News!" - Editor)





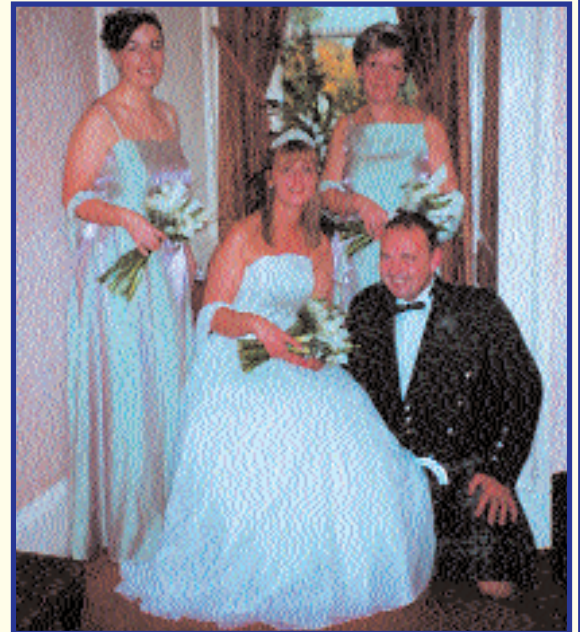
## Look What The Stork Brought !

John & Ellen Stewart, Dreadnought Place, Main Street, Killin, would like to introduce you to their new grand-daughter, Iona Rose Blades. Thanks are extended to everyone for their good wishes and kindness shown.



Wedding day smiles from Johanna MacGregor who was married to Steven Cook of Muirhead, Glasgow on Saturday 20 October at Culreugh Castle, Fintry. Her bridesmaids were her sisters Lynn & Karen. Johanna is the daughter of Roy MacGregor and the late Christine, and step-daughter of Margaret. She is the niece of Helen & Gordon. Karen, Lynn and Johanna formerly lived in Fingal Road, & attended Killin Primary School, and McLaren High.

The reception was attended by family and friends from Killin, Stornoway, Glasgow and England.



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## Wedding Belles



On Friday 12 October, Hazel Kelso was married to Derek Scott at Killin Registry Office. The couple live in Glen Lochay, by Killin.



On 5 October, Jacqueline Macdonald and Alasdair Gillies tied the knot at Killin Registry Office in a ceremony conducted by Registrar Elizabeth Woods. A reception for family and friends was held thereafter in Killin Hotel. The happy couple live at Auchtertyre Farm, Tyndrum.

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## Stalking in Glen Dochart !



Recently, on his return from a day's stag stalking, a local game keeper found this rhinoceros happily feeding on his border flowers. Suspicion was laid at his neighbour's door, as their daughter had just returned from Africa. But a spokesperson said that this animal had come from an area in East England, better known for its growing of vegetables for the home market!

## Golden Wedding

Bobby and Cissie McGregor celebrated their Golden Wedding on 6 October 2001 in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel, where they had their wedding reception 50 years ago. A happy night was enjoyed by around 60 relatives and friends including their Bridesmaid and Best Man. Bob and Cissie left Killin in 1963, to move to Fort Augustus which has been their home since.



## Well Done, Girls!



Killin Keepfitters are delighted to report that both Joanne Airey (above) from Killin and Nicky Pye from Balquhider have now qualified as keepfit instructors. They have both put a lot of hard work into their training, which was spread over some months in order to fit it in with their other commitments. Joanne will start taking the morning class straight away and, because Thursday is one of her busiest days in News First, the class will now be on Mondays from 10.30 to 11.30. Nicky will be taking over the Tuesday evening class in December. **MM**

## An Unusual Occurrence



This Yucca plant bloomed outside in John and Ellen Stewart's garden at Dreadnought Place in the Main Street, despite a poor summer. **AW**



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by Killin  
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**'On The South Shore Of Loch Tay' E-Mail: ardeonaighotel@btinternet.com**

*May we take this opportunity to*

*Wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

**During November, December and January, the Hotel will be open to residents and non residents from Tuesday Evening at 5pm until Sunday Lunch time at 2pm.**

**Dinners in the Restaurant are served from 7pm - 9pm.**

**Bookings are required for dinner.**

**Lunch is served from 12 noon to 2pm.**



**We are doing a special Christmas Lunch for groups of 10 people or more. Please telephone us for a sample menu.**

**We are also open for morning and afternoon Teas and Coffees.**

**The Hotel will be closed for Christmas between Saturday 22nd December and Friday 28th December inclusive.**

**We are open for Hogmanay and New Year from Saturday 29th December to Sunday 6th January 2002.**

**The Hotel will then re-open for the Season on Tuesday January 22nd 2002.**



## Killin Initiative Annual General Meeting

The Initiative Committee held its AGM on 22 October. Five Initiative members and four members of the public were present. Reports were given from the Initiative, the Festival and the Highland Games. The Treasurer presented the audited financial statement, which was accepted by everyone. The following were elected to serve for the 2001/02 year. Chairman: Alex Stewart, Secretary & Treasurer: Tom Bolton, Committee: Fiona Stewart, David & Lesley Syme and John Mallinson.

Alex Stewart remarked that the committee was disappointed with the exceedingly poor turn out. The Initiative over the past years has, with organising events, contributed greatly to the stability of the local economy. Contributions have been made to many local organisations when funds permitted. Thanks were given to all who assisted in making the year successful, enabling the precarious financial position at 2000 to be turned round in 2001.

### ***A Message from the Chairman***

The small band of Initiative volunteers can only do so much and have devoted considerable time to working for the good of the community. They are financially responsible, and more practical support is badly required. I shall be asking the committee to review the position in the autumn next year. The sub committees will be formed and the 2002 events will take place. I appeal for more support in taking a role to assist with organising both events. There is a considerable amount of work to be done during the next four months to ensure the success of the Games and Festival, and if more people are willing to take a part in helping, the work will be shared and not fall on a few individuals. Killin has now a worldwide reputation for hosting the two events, and visitors do plan holidays to be in the village when the Games and Festival are on. In the next few weeks there will be meetings to form the organising committees and new helpers will be warmly welcomed. New members with new ideas will ensure success so I ask for your support.

**Alex Stewart**

## The Frost Report Frosty Weather - or Not!

Usually we see the first skiffs of snow on the tops in mid September, but this year it was the end of October before they arrived, and at the time of writing there have only been two frosts.

The stag stalking season finished on 20 October and the weather was still very mild, albeit very wet, for that time of year. Usually the last few days of the season are heralded by crisp frosty mornings, followed by bright clear days. Maybe it is the unseasonable warmth, or some other new environmental factor, but the rut did not seem to 'happen'. The rut is the red deer breeding season, when the stags collect up a harem of hinds (females), and spend all their time fighting off challengers. They roar over miles of hillside to tell anything interested that they are the monarch of that particular glen, and finding a little time here and there to mate with their harem of hinds. This event is not often seen (maybe they are shy than we like to think). But this year, a regular stalking guest and myself, on the last day of the season, saw a stag cover two hinds in the space of a few minutes. We left him to his girls, as he stood with a glazed expression - possibly wondering where to get his next viagra!

The same guest had another unusual experience on another day's stalking. A stag which he had shot rolled into one of those broilaching holes we talked about in the last issue of Killin News. The wet weather had made this hole particularly soft, and soon all that was left in view were the antlers, and it was with quite a struggle that we managed to get it free.

Near Creag Mhor, at the edge of a hill lochan, a heron was standing rigidly still with its long beak pointing vertically skywards. He was watching an eagle overhead and presumably trying to look as least like an eagle's lunch as possible. He stood still long enough and the eagle passed on towards Glen Lochay.

Talking of mild Autumn weather - there were butterflies on the hill in late October and tiny toadlets, no bigger than the end of your pinkie, hopping around. I wonder whether it's likely that they will survive. There are certainly a great many larger toads and frogs still around and not yet down in the mud for the winter.

There are large flocks of fieldfares finishing off the blaeberreries on the hill, their purple droppings very noticeable when you are crawling through the heather. As you lie spying the deer, you hear the rush of wings as another flock go zooming overhead. They seem just as hungry - frosty weather or not.

Large flocks of geese have been having trouble orienteering on the very misty mornings and taking a few turns around the Glen before finding their bearings.

At the start of the hind season (directly after the stag season ends) a couple of hinds were shot early in the day and left to be collected later. When we returned, an eagle was sitting on one of the carcasses in the process of enjoying a free meal (wonder if it was the same poor guy who didn't spot the heron?). It reminded me of a good many years ago in the North watching an eagle who had done the same thing and was so heavy that it took him four attempts to take off.

Regardless of the temperatures, the trees recognise the time of year and are shedding their beautiful colours. On several mornings while feeding the pheasants - and the large number of small wild birds who are attracted to the feed rides - the larch needles have been drifting down like tiny snowflakes making their golden yellow carpet on the ground.

**Tim Frost**

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## Killin Golf Club

(right) Some of the prize winners for the 2001 golf season at Killin Golf Club.

(below) Some of the Junior Section golfers at the prize giving in September.



(below) Fraser Kane was one of the Juniors being presented with the Golf Foundation Merit Award Certificate by Dickie Lewis at the Junior Prize Giving at Killin Golf Club.

### KILLIN GOLF CLUB WINTER OPENING

The clubhouse will be open for meals on the following dates in December:

Saturday 8th, Sunday 9th 6 - 8.30pm

Monday 10th 12 - 2 pm

Saturday 15th, Sunday 16th 6 - 8.30pm

Monday 17th 12 - 2 pm

*\*\* Booking is advisable \*\**

We are also happy to take bookings for Christmas meals outwith these dates, up to Saturday 22nd December. Prices vary depending on requirements.

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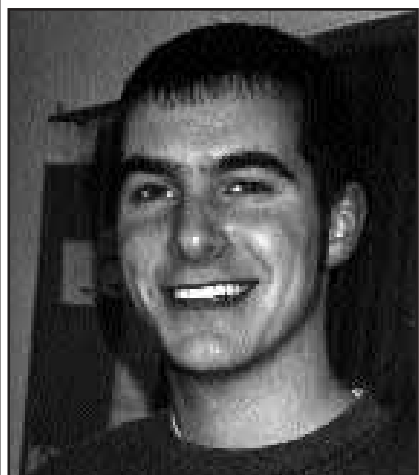
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## Student Of The Year

Simon Lewis (son of Dickie and Mary in the Wee Bake Shop) was recently awarded 'Student of the Year', for his achievement in completing the Sportsturf Management Course at Oatridge Horticultural College.

Simon is the Assistant Head Green Keeper at the Braid Hills Golf Course where he has, for the past two years, been combining work with further education. Simon also worked under Sandy McLeod at Killin Golf Course in 1995. He then spent a period in Australia before moving to Edinburgh and Braid Hills.



## Mervyn's Weather

It is almost inevitable in the British Isles that the opening gambit of conversation on meeting someone will refer to the weather. Weather affects everyone in varying degrees, even city commuters and office workers must decide whether or not to carry their umbrellas for the short dash from car to their place of work. At the other end of the scale those of us in close contact with nature and the elements are more or less ruled by the vagaries of weather. How boring it must be to meet up with a Bedouin or Tuareg in the arid wastes of the Sahara!!



What then of the three months classified as "Summer 2001", June, July and August? While the rainfall total was well below average the incidences of reliable "good" spells were painfully scarce. Thus at long last, towards the end of August, came the hoped for "Indian Summer". While this was a somewhat insipid example of the phenomenon, with any dry spells lasting two or three days at most, it did give those of us who indulge in the somewhat dubious exercise of haymaking, and who had resisted the urge to embark on it earlier in the season, a chance to secure some good quality, though late crop.

By end of September, now well into Autumn, conditions had reverted to "normal" and indeed the period 30 September to 29 October produced something like 11 inches (275 mm) of rainfall, thereby recouping somewhat the earlier deficit. Those of us who go "a chasing the wild deer" have had an unpleasant stag stalking season with humidity, east wind and torrential rain the order of the day. Indeed, it has been a noticeable trait that most of the precipitation has occurred accompanied by stormy winds with an easterly component due to the centres of low pressure having taken a more Southerly track than normal. These low pressure areas often became static in the North Sea, thereby giving South East England, an area being generally flat and lacking in runoff, and thus more susceptible to flooding than we in Perthshire, a repeat of the floods of AD 2001. However, due to centralisation of roads authorities and lack of the old style roadman on his beat, there are times, particularly on unclassified roads, that one could be forgiven for imagining that one is driving alongside the Crinan Canal!

*Mervyn Browne*



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## The Night's The Night

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The Neish headquarters was on the island on Loch Earn. The McNabs carried a boat over the hills between Loch Tay and Loch Earn, landed on the island and bumped off the Neish Chief, bringing his head back to Killin. This in a nutshell was the substance of a wonderful one act opera in Comrie, full of colour with local children acting as the 'Little People' who provided the continuity of the story. A story teller or Seannachaidh relates this old true tale of our own area and bends the story a wee bit.

A mix of fact and fantasy. The music was provided by a 14 piece orchestra. Music by Alan Craig and Libretto by Ronald Armstrong and lighting by Killin Drama Club.

An ambitious, well produced and unusual event that certainly came off. A pity that something as good as this with strong local connections could not have been brought over to Killin for a night. Mind you, the cost of a ticket was £10 – but it was worth every penny.

AW

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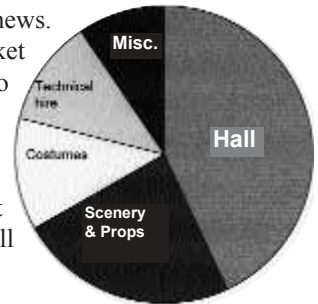
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## Dick Whittington

Rehearsals are well under way at the McLaren Hall for Killin Drama Club's next show, the pantomime 'Dick Whittington'. The "old hands" will be joined by some new faces in this year's show which will be performed on 17, 18 and 19 January, at 7.30pm.

In true pantomime style we do have good news and bad news.

Firstly the bad news. There are some changes to the ticket prices this year, as rising costs have forced the Club to increase the cost of an Adult's ticket to £6. Despite good support from local businesses, club members and patrons, we struggle to find the £2500 costs involved in putting on a large production and we have been reluctant to increase prices, but hope that the chart on the right will help you understand how our income is spent.



But now for the good news. In an effort to assist those with families, we have introduced a family ticket, which will admit 2 Adults and 2 Children for £15 and we have also reduced the price of a Child's ticket to £3.

And there's more good news! Tickets will be on sale from 1 December, and this year, provided your ticket is purchased prior to 23 December, you have the chance to book your seats. Having purchased your tickets from the usual outlets, you may reserve your seat by phoning the telephone number shown on the ticket. This is our seventh year of pantomime, and once more we hope to bring some warmth into a winter's evening.

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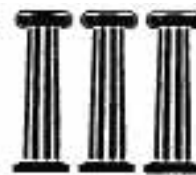
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## Tay Liaison Committee

Another fairly eventful year draws to a close, one that has seen the overall numbers of angler's fall as a result of Foot & Mouth restrictions. However, progress has been made with the booklet publicising where and when to fish on the Tay System, going to press shortly. This information provider is aimed at visiting anglers and can be purchased through the web and at sale points throughout the area covered by the Protection Order.

To raise funds, the TLC is having a competition; the prize is six nights' dinner, bed & breakfast with five days fishing, and the lucky winner staying in Killin. This is aimed at all anglers and details are advertised on the web, and in fishing publications.

Further progress is being made with a riparian owners group being formed in Glen Lyon. Information will be co-ordinated, and the duty wardens and bailiffs will have closer contact with the glen beats, and respond to assist. Meetings will also be taking place with a number of riparian owners, throughout the system, who have previously not permitted easy access to trout anglers. If, as is hoped, the outcome is successful, then additional water will be under new agreements, some of which will be accessible with permits, and parts an exclusion zone for special reasons.

The warden training session at Dunkeld, was well supported by the Killin Club. David Dunkley, Scottish Executive, was present, and he enlightened us to how the decision-makers interpret the Acts, and how changes are made.

The Green Papers will all be in by the end of October, and we await to see what the future holds for the trout angler.

*Alex Stewart  
Recorder to TLC.*

## Heart of Scotland Herb Society

Our new season started off brilliantly with 44 members and friends attending the Native Dye Plant presentation by Doreen McIntyre. While investigating for her master's degree thesis at Edinburgh University, Doreen had the opportunity to travel extensively in the Shetland Island area and gain first hand knowledge from families who have practised this art form for generations. Using the natural wool and fibres of the area and natural and chemical fixatives for fastness, Doreen produced a fascinating display of slides, products and dyed wool, enough to make us all want to experiment with the locally available colour.

This years programme is varied and includes multiple areas of herb usage and interest. November 14 is the Annual General Meeting, followed by a presentation of fruit wines by Caer N' Mhor Winery, Errol. December 12, being a festive night, we introduce a selection of 'Christmas Liqueurs, Breads and Spreads' mostly produced and enhanced from local wildcrafting and our herb borders. Into the New Year, to name just a few topics: 'Bush & Australian Flower Remedies' with Paul Temple, 'Cooking with Herbs' by Head Chef, Grant Walker of the Ardeonaig Hotel, and 'Cultivating Herbs' with Duncan Ross of Poyntzfield Nursery, Black Isle.

Anyone wishing further details or information about the Herb Society or any of our up and coming events please phone either Patty Hope at 01567 820408 or Judy Forster at 01567 820298.



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choose from, we will be  
back there next year for  
sure."



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# LETTERS



Dear Editor

*I felt compelled to write for two reasons. Firstly, I would like to congratulate you on your paper. I spent the weekend at my daughters, in Glasgow, and while there, I read her collection of Killin News. She is a regular visitor to the Killin area. I found the paper eminently readable and most enjoyable.*

*My second reason is rather more pedantic, and I hope you will forgive me. In the most recent issue, your correspondent, writing about the doctor's surgery, uses the metaphor of a 'duck on a river'. My academic life was spent in the study of wildfowl and in fact ducks are very efficient birds. They spend 90% of their time drifting on the current of the river and there is much more activity above water than below. The only time there is more activity below water is when they flee from danger or are in pursuit of food. The activity you see above exceeds what is going on underneath. I am sure this is not what your correspondent is implying!*

*Once again may I say how much I enjoyed the paper, and in future my daughter will ensure she gets two copies and one will be sent south.*

*Prof. E B Richmond (emeritus)  
Gloucestershire*

Dear Editor

*We would just like to say "congratulations" on your community newspaper, 'Killin News'. We picked up Issue 64 on our recent visit. We spent our honeymoon in Killin 33 years ago, so it was pleasant to return and visit the Killin Hotel. Being retired teachers, we were very impressed with 'Team 13' which we found enclosed with the newspaper. Congratulations to all concerned!*

*K & W Quinn,  
Dungannon,  
Northern Ireland*

Dear Editor

*Having recently enjoyed a two week holiday in Killin, I wonder if my wife and I could use the letter page in the Killin News to express our appreciation to the residents of the village for their contribution to our enjoyment.*

*This was our first visit to your part of Scotland and you have lovely scenery around you. But this was enhanced by the welcome we received from Barbara Laing at Mill House, and all we had contact with in the shops and Visitor Centre. We look forward to a return trip in the future.*

*Whilst writing, my I ask you to pass on the enclosed small cheque to the Sport and Leisure Centre (done-Editor), I have to admit to stealing a duck! I help to organise a duck race here in Canterbury, and could not resist taking back a trophy! We did rescue a number of the little rascals from McNab Island and returned these, but brought one back – hence my donation! By the way, your ducks are like ours, in that they seem to prefer to float on their sides!*

*Until next time. Richard Akister  
Canterbury*

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# Obituaries

Sadly, my mother, **Irene Duncan**, died on 21 October at Strathcarron Hospice, Denny. She had enjoyed 14 years in Killin and knowing the care that neighbours and friends gave to her, I can understand why she was reluctant to leave the area when she became too ill to manage on her own. I would like to take this opportunity to express my appreciation to all who helped to care for her, especially Dr De Laat, Jess Kernaghan and Alda Noble, without whom she would have needed to leave the village much earlier. The many friends who called to visit whilst she was still at home helped to keep her in touch with the village and those who made the arduous journey to Denny on a weekly basis are a real blessing. Special thanks also go to Graham and Margaret Wilson, Iris Donaldson, Stan and Johnnie Mudd and Rev. Lincoln for their care and support. Many other people phoned her or wrote to her on a regular basis and my brothers and I are very grateful for their love and care towards our mother.

Bless you all, for you made her feel loved and remembered when her family were too far away to be with her all of the time, and you also made us feel supported when she reached the terminal stage of her illness.



(Above) My mother was presented to The Princess Royal at Strathcarron Hospice on 12 October, a week before she died. Accompanying my mother were Alda Noble and Iris Donaldson, who reported that the Princess had visited Killin earlier this year and had found the Falls of Dochart to be beautiful.

*Evelyn Gothard*

**Tom Shearer.** Tom passed away on Tuesday 28 August in Stirling Royal Infirmary.

He was born and brought up in Orkney on the island of Stronsay. He came to Killin in 1952 to work in the Co-op Butchers, this was when he met Helen, who also worked for the Co-op. They married in 1955 and settled in Killin. Later Tom worked for CIS Insurance for a time and enjoyed the travelling and meeting people. He then returned to the butcher trade and worked for John McRae until ill health took its toll in 1980 and he spent a time in hospital.

Upon his return to better health, he drove for the Hospital Car Service and later took over organising the cars, which he enjoyed a great deal.

Tom enjoyed his garden, and the company of his neighbours with a dram. He is fondly remembered for his cheery nature and is sadly missed by his family and friends.

*Kate Stewart &  
Jane Brown*

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# Thank You

Our annual pub auction in aid of the Oncology Department, RHSC Edinburgh, took place on Saturday 27 October. Very many thanks to David Osler (auctioneer), Liz and Betty for all their help and support, to Manny and staff at the Salmon Lie, and all who helped to raise £1,454 amid such fun and enjoyment. Sincere thanks also to all donors and buyers whose support was overwhelming and very much appreciated.

**Morag McNee**

I would also like to thank the many family and friends who expressed their condolences and for their generous donations to Strathcarron Hospice in memory of my mother, Irene Duncan. At the time of writing this amounted to over £250. Many thanks.

**Evelyn Gothard**

## Crianlarich Coffee Evening

28 September For  
**MacMillan Cancer Relief**

Elma Scott and friends wish to thank everyone who helped in any way to make the evening a great success. Thanks also for the donations, raffle prizes, baking etc. The sum of £1,100 was raised. Thank you everyone.

The Killin News would like to sincerely thank the Strathfillan Community Development Trust for their very kind donation. It is donations like these which enable the Killin News to continue and expand and for that we are most grateful.

**Linda FitzGerald, Editor  
For the Killin News Team**

Killin Medical Practice held two flu clinics/coffee mornings this year one in Killin and the other in Crianlarich. The coffee morning was once again superbly organised by the ladies of the WRI.

The total amount raised was £285.25 the bulk of which will be going to the MacMillan Nurses.

We would like to thank all the ladies from Killin and Crianlarich for their hard work and superb home baking.

Thanks again.

John & Ellen Stewart would like to thank all for their good wishes and kindness shown on the birth of their grand-daughter, Iona Rose Blades.

## Christmas Prize Crossword by Scorpio

### Clues Across

- 4 An.....and a gentleman (7)
- 8 Beginners leave! – A stiff exam is called for (1,5)
- 9 Reached the top of a wave (7)
- 10 Grow or change (6)
- 11 Purer than the driven snow! (6)
- 12 Eton's prize pupil could become rather decorative (8)
- 18 Crazy Loon fowl is needed to bring up the rear (6,2)
- 20 Donkey joins the European secret service to make an appraisal (6)
- 21 A quiet crack of thunder can have a kind of attraction (6)

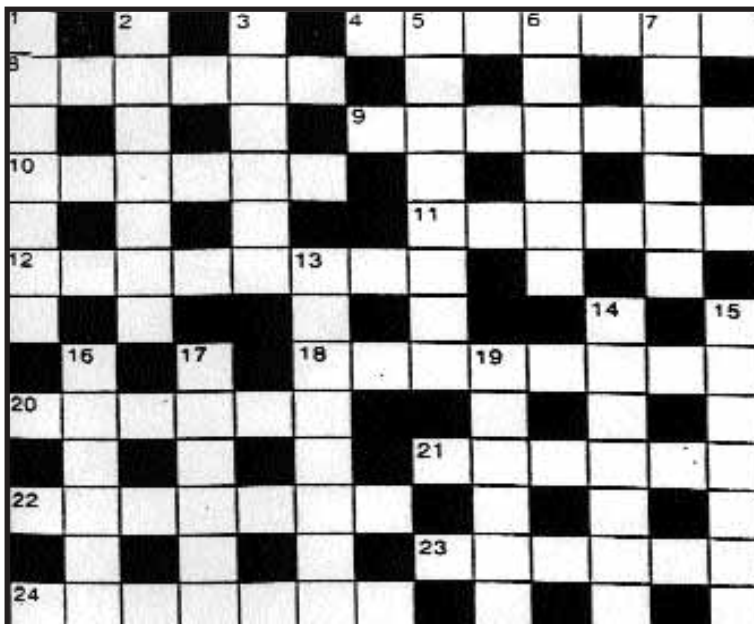
- 22 Rap Laos for getting confused about a suitable sun shade (7)
- 23 100 sporting sixes give protection (6)
- 24 Strange rite in colour must be attempted again to achieve justice (7)

### Clues Down

- 1 Clothing for the old? – Rubbish (7)
- 2 A friendly doorstep greeting (7)
- 3 Garment worn only by the Scots? (6)
- 5 Feast heartily and say goodbye (8)
- 6 Introduce gradually (6)
- 7 County town in SW England (6)
- 13 Suitable area to find gushers (3-5)
- 14 Pleasant sovereign results from the

- addition of sugar (7)
- 15 Surround on all sides (7)
- 16 Two points on the promontory indicate how to gain freedom (6)
- 17 Restore sounds as if it concerns two people (6)
- 19 Deity rising with a chum is only a pampered pet (3,3)

**Send your completed crossword to the Editor, Killin News, Dalerb, Craignavie Road, Killin. FK21 8SH. The first correct crossword received will receive £10 from Killin News.**



### Answers to Crossword in Issue 64

#### Across

- 4) Concave 8) Greyer 9) Unusual 10) Trench  
11) Minute 12) Tentacle 18) Saturate 20) Limpet  
21) Ground 22) Outcome 23) Salami 24) Tenders

#### Down

- 1) Agitate 2) Demesne 3) Mercia 5) Ornament  
6) Cosine 7) Yeasty 13) Customer 14) Natural  
15) Tendril 16) Figure 17) Spiced 19) Uproar

The Killin News would like to take this opportunity to apologise for the crossword in the last issue. We printed the wrong grid, but to make life easier for you, we also printed the answers to the clues! Well, when we get it wrong - we do so in style! Our apologies are also extended to 'Scorpio' (May Aitken).





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## Folk Festival

The 8th Festival will take place on 14, 15 & 16 June 2002. A new committee will be formed to prepare for the weekend and everyone interested in assisting will be made very welcome. The more helpers at planning stage the easier it is to share the responsibilities. Contact Lesley Syme if you wish to become involved, and watch for the notices calling the meeting. More assistance is required to ensure the running of the weekend goes smoothly.

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# Killin News



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

**Monday, 4 February 2002**

**This will be distributed around 22 February.**

**Notification of events occurring during late February, March and April must be in this Issue.**

### 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. Articles and adverts are accepted and printed in good faith.

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.

### Production Committee

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Linda FitzGerald

#### Assistant Editor

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Kay Riddell

Dani Grant

Iain Campbell

**Postal Address: Kilchurn, Killin**

**Telephone: 01567 820 298**

**Fax: 01567 820 043**

**E-Mail: [killin.news@virgin.net](mailto:killin.news@virgin.net)**

**on line at: [www.killin.co.uk](http://www.killin.co.uk)**

## Church Services for Christmas

### Episcopalian Church

**Normal Communion Service at 11.15 am on Christmas Day conducted by the Reverend Ladd Fagerson.**

### Church of Scotland

**Christmas Eve Service at 8 pm held by The Reverend J Lincoln**

### Roman Catholic

**A Christmas Eve service will be held at Lix Toll House at 7 pm by Father McCruden**

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Laundry Winter Hours:  
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9 am - 5 pm  
Saturday 9 am - 12 noon

## Health and Social Care Information Booklet

This informative booklet will be delivered to your door in the near future.

In late 1999/2000 an independent Health and Social care study was commissioned by the Killin GP Practice. One of the recommendations that came out of this study, which involved consultation with a number of local groups, was the need for all the information on the wide variety of health and social care services available to people in this area, to be contained in one booklet.

Liz Lambert, the Practice Nurse, decided to take this project on and has been working away for many months, collating information on services available. With the help of the GP practice, the Killin News and a Community Health Promotion Grant, this booklet is about to go to print. It will be a handy guide to sources of help available and who to contact for that help. As well as details of national and regional organisations, it will also include information about local clubs and organisations.

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Happy Christmas and a healthy and peaceful New Year.

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The cost is £5 per table.

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**Medieval Feast on November 24 - book now!**

**Pool Competition - December 1 at 12 noon**

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Live music on 15 January by Damian & John**

**For Information and Bookings  
phone (01567) 820349 or E-Mail: [info@hotelkillin.co.uk](mailto:info@hotelkillin.co.uk)**





# Local Folk Graduate



We May Have To Travel a Distance For Education - But What A Clever Lot We Are!



The Campbell family at Ledcharrie, Luib, Crianlarich have not one, but three graduations to celebrate this year. Mum Cheryl (middle), graduated from Stirling University with a BA in Business Law & Politics. Daughters Isla (right) and Ruth (left) were both formerly pupils at Killin Primary School and McLaren High School in Callander.



Isla graduated from Robert Gordon University in Aberdeen with an MA (Hons) in Geography, and Ruth from the Scottish Agricultural College of Edinburgh University with a Bachelor of Technology – Rural Resource Management.



Graduating from Dundee University with Master of Arts (History and Psychology), is Richard, son of Jennifer and John Morris, Craignavie Farmhouse, Killin.

Richard and his fiancée Emma Maddison who also graduated with a MA (Hons) (History and Politics), are off to Australia for a year. Family, friends and Killin News wish them well – Haste Ye Back!

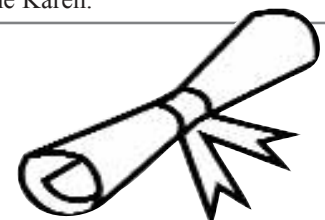


Keren Fergusson graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a Bsc. (Hons) in Interior & Graphic Design. Keren lives and works in Glasgow and is the grand-daughter of Anne & Charles Riley who live in Killin.

Keren's parents Joyce & Jim Fergusson, who reside in Milnathort say "Hello" to all who remember them, especially those who attended school with Joyce in Killin and Callander and who knew her when she worked for a time in McEwan's shop, and also the caravan site shop in the '70's.



Karen Hewitt from Lochearnhead graduated recently from Falkirk College with an HND in software development. Karen who is a mature student and single mum, travelled every day from Lochearnhead to Falkirk to complete the course. Well done Karen.



## Highland Games

Killin's International Highland Games will be held on Wednesday 31 July 2002. The reputation of the Games has prompted the Clan MacNab to hold their gathering at next year's games. The North American contingent have been in contact, and it is this early enquiry which resulted in the Initiative confirming the annual event. In addition it is expected that the Clan MacNab will invite their Chieftain, John MacLeod, as a guest. With our own Games Chieftain, Brigadier Sir Gregor MacGregor of MacGregor Bart. this will bring three Clan Chieftains to Killin's Games. The new committee will be formed shortly and anyone wishing to be involved should contact Fiona Stewart.

## Bye Bye

Steve and Beck Cameron would like to thank all their friends in Ardeonaig and Killin for all the support and encouragement they have received during their move to Perth, where Steve will be working at Perth College. We have loved living in this fantastic area since March 1994, and have many great memories. But, it's not really goodbye – we'll be back to say "Hi" often!



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## Killin Gun Club



18 Guns turned out to our Club 50 Bird Sporting. The main results were:-

Driven Grouse – P Robinson 10 x 10  
Walked Up Grouse – J Sinclair 10 x 10  
Rabbit & Pigeon – P Robinson 8 x 10  
Duck & Teal – J Sinclair 9 x 10  
Settling Crow – P Robinson 10 x 10  
High Gun Club Member – J Sinclair 43 x 50  
High Gun Killin Postal – T Frost 31 x 50  
Continuation – J Sinclair

Shoot Results from 9 September when 23 guns turned out on a good day.

### Down The Line

Class A: 1. G Webster – 73, 2. G Ross – 73, 3=. E McAllister, R Cairns, G Coyne – 69.  
Class B: 1. C Frost – 66, 2=. M Frost, F Frost – 63  
Class C: 1. J Miller – 63, 2. A McKenzie-Wilson – 59, 3. K Hames – 53

### Sporting

Class A: 1. I Hall – 69 2=. H Campbell, J Sinclair – 63  
Class B: 1. M Frost – 63, 2. F Frost – 51, 3. D Robertson – 48  
Class C: 1. J Morris, 2. E Paterson, 3. J Miller. After a shoot off, they all scored 39.

High Gun Visitors: I Hall – 135  
High Gun Club: E McAllister – 129  
Down The Line Cup: G Ross – 73  
Continuation: H Campbell

*George D Coyne  
Secretary*

## Highland Dancing

It is good to be back at the dancing class after our summer break. A special welcome is extended to our new contingent of dancers who travel all the way from Ardeonaig. They include Ishbel and Ailsa Taylor, plus Amy and Sarah Armstrong. Unfortunately we have lost Thomas Lamb, who has moved out of the area, and Catriona MacLennan, as her school choir is on the same night in Stirling.

However, it is encouraging to see the children enjoying their dancing and improving all the time. Gillian and Siobhan have once again been competing this year with more medals to their credit. Both have moved up grades, with Gillian now in Novice and Siobhan in Intermediate. They continue to dance at the Highland Heritage Hotels. Also starting to entertain the holidaymakers this summer are Becky Holliday, Jessica Wilkie and Kirsty Somerville with Seona Christie hoping to start this month. It is great to see these girls dancing with so much enthusiasm and delighting their audiences. Also, we can't forget the parents who run them around the country to these events – thank you!

Hopefully most of the girls will do a medal test at the end of November, and in the meantime we will continue to learn more steps, dances and enjoy ourselves on a Tuesday night.

## Strathfillan Lunch Club

A well supported lunch was held on Friday 5 October with an after lunch talk on "Killin Parish Records" by Dr M MacColl. Our grateful thanks are extended to her for enlightening us with all her knowledge. It brought back a lot of memories for some of the members.

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Seasons Greetings to all customers



## Killin Carpet Bowlers

The AGM of the Club took place on 24 September. Chris McLarty who took over as President, following John Ogilvie's resignation, moved swiftly through the agenda.

Office bearers were appointed as follows: President - Chris McLarty, Vice President - Charlie Grant, Secretary - Frances Gaskell, Treasurer - Lester Mitchell, Match Secretary - Hazel Guild, Committee Members - Jack Guild & Dougie Livingstone.

Membership fee set at £15 plus £1 for each night's play. The Club meets on a Monday night in the Lesser McLaren Hall at 7.30pm for 7.45pm start. The season will run until the last Monday in March.

On 10 October the Carpet Bowlers inflicted a heavy defeat on the Green Bowlers in the Lesser McLaren Hall, but a lot of fun was had by all. Thanks to Hazel Guild for managing the supper.

**AW**



## Killin Summer Theatre Group

New Members Welcome

We will soon be booking up our monthly visits for next season to Pitlochry Festival Theatre. We plan on seeing five plays: 'Amadeius', 'Absurd Person Singular', 'Arsenic and Old Lace', 'The Hollow' and 'The Queen of Spades'. We are also hopeful to see a sixth play, 'The Haunted Man'.

No joining fee is required, just your commitment for the season. We go once a month from May until September, in the Killin Community Bus, to mid-week matinees (with optional pre-theatre snack lunch). Seats are £14.25 per visit, plus bus fare. If you would like to join us for a good seat in the stalls, good company and a good day out - phone Morag Lithgow on 01567 820 440.

### Strathfillan History Group

Another season of the Strathfillan History Group got under way with a very informative talk on the "Woodland History of Breadalbane", by Mairi Stewart, Scottish Native Woods.

## The Tuesday Club

The Tuesday Club meets in the Church Hall, Killin, every Tuesday afternoon from 2 until 3.30pm. The President Mrs Mairi Stewart would welcome new members. Entertainment consists of talks, illustrated talks and games such as whist and scrabble. A summer outing and a Christmas party are also held. The meetings end with a cup of tea.

*Babs Gordon*

## Killin Crafts



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|-----------|-----------------|----------------------|
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| Tuesday   | 1.30 - 2.30 pm  | - Bums, tums & legs  |
| Wednesday | 10-11 am        | - Beginners aerobics |
|           | 7.30 - 8.30 pm  | - Circuit class      |
| Thursday  | 6.15 - 7 pm     | - Beginners step     |
|           | 7.15 - 7.45 pm  | - Aqua Aerobics      |
|           | 7.30 - 9.00 pm  | - Yoga               |
| Friday    | 9.30 - 10.30 am | - Bums, tums & legs  |
|           | 1.30 - 2.30 pm  | - Bums, tums & legs  |
|           | 7.30 - 8.30 pm  | - Circuit class      |

### Book appointment for Holistic Therapies -

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please contact reception on: **01877 330000**

### Osteopath

Morag Frazer will be will be available  
on Wednesday afternoons.  
Phone for an appointment.

## Killin SWRI

President Mrs Mairi Hunter opened the first meeting of the session and welcomed old and new members. Mrs Hunter then introduced Mrs Eileen Malone who gave a very interesting talk and demonstration on preparing and cooking for a dinner party, after which we were invited to sample the dishes of 'Smoked Haddock with Bacon in a Cream Sauce', 'Venison Casserole' and 'Chocolate Tart' - so much for the diets!

The Vote of Thanks was given by Mrs Bunty MacGregor. The Hostesses for the evening were Mrs Bunty MacGregor and Mrs May Graham.

### Competitions

#### Favourite Cup

1. Mrs M Hunter, 2. Mrs C Fenton, 3. Mrs M Graham

#### Strawberry Jam

1. Mrs M Twigg, 2. Mrs C Fenton, 3. Mrs M Hunter



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HAPPY CHRISTMAS AND A  
'MERRY' NEW YEAR*

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## Hallowe'en

The children of Killin Primary School really succeeded in making Hallowe'en' not just scary, but loads of fun too. Everyone dressed up (including teachers and parents) and entered into the 'spirit' of the night.

Judging the best was very difficult as the costumes, showed such incredible imagination that prizes could have gone to every single one. Particularly unsettling was Jinny Dowling (left) who was terrifyingly 'un-dead' in her coffin, with blood dripping from the wooden stake through her heart! Victoria Campbell (right) not only looked the part of the Hunchback of Notre Dam, but played the part to perfection.

Squeals of excitement were heard as the children played competitive games, followed by a 'Hallowe'en'



Feast'. Sausages dripping in blood (ketchup really) dangling from the ceiling, dookin' for apples (left - Jamie McPherson nearly drowned in his effort!), there was a bucket of fruity jelly/sludge which the children rummaged around in to find wrapped sweets.

Primary 1, 1. Lauren Third as a chicken 2. Adele Melia



flower. Primary 2, 1. Harry McRobbie as Bart Simpson 2. Katy Holden as Miss Tahiti. Primary 3, 1. Jinny Dowling as the 'Un-dead' 2. Amy McLeod as a bat. Primary 3, 1. Oliver Dowling as a Green Zombie 2. Jack McRobbie as Count Dracula. Primary 4, 1. Andrew Anderson as Madonna 2. Michael Farquharson as Lady in Black. Primary 6, 1. Donald McAskill as Tiger Woods 2. Ian Hancock as the Nutty Professor. Primary 7, 1. Victoria Campbell as The Hunchback of Notre Dam 2. Garith Tigwell as Mr Bad Habits. Pumpkin Prizes: Dale Pritchard, Iona Pritchard, Claire Melia and Jamie McPherson.

The Party was assisted by parents and teachers. Tony Webb's boundless energy and enthusiasm captured the children's imagination for the duration of the evening. Chris McLarty will be cleaning up sticky jelly for weeks! You can see the photos, but you had to be there to experience the excitement, and the mingled (or do I mean minging?) smells of sweet jelly, ketchup, sausages and apples! All in all - a horrendous and feindishly good night!



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