



Every two months

PRICE 50P

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 71 September 2002



Iain & Mairi Hunter
6 Dochart Road

Killin Floral Awards

See Middle Pages



Shutters Restaurant, Main Street
Corner: Stan & Johnnie Mudd, Grey Street

Revealing The Past

The photograph shows Dr John Atkinson's group of Thistle Camp volunteers participating in the last excavation of the season on the archaeological project currently being undertaken at the foot of Ben Lawers.

See article on the facing page.



Killin News Across The Globe



Left: Richard Morris, Craignavie Farmhouse, Killin and Emma Maddison pictured 'down-under' with Killin News at the worlds largest monolith - Ayers Rock. Richard and Emma took advantage of the perfect light at Uluru (the Aboriginal name for Ayers Rock) for this Killin News photo opportunity when en-route (in their wee touring van) from Sydney to Perth during their recent tour of Australia.



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

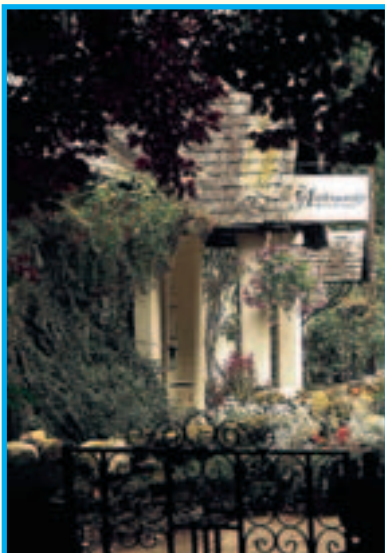
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Scotsman - July 2002

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Above: Carole Robertson (nee Grosset) is reading the Killin News on the Great Wall of China. She went to China to do charity work and went to the Great Wall on her day off. This copy of the Killin News should have had its own passport as it travelled with Carole to Dubai, Hong Kong and China!

Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project

(photo facing page)

Ben Lawers has been recognised as one of Scotland's most important archaeological landscapes and now, for the first time, the mysteries held on its slopes overlooking the north shore of Loch Tay are to be revealed. Archaeologists from The National Trust for Scotland are about to launch a new five-year project surveying and excavating the incredible wealth of remains on one of Scotland's greatest mountains.

The project is unique in that it will be a co-operation between the NTS, owners of the mountainside, Glasgow University's Archaeological Research Department (GUARD), participants in the Trust's popular Thistle Camp programme (working holidays for conservation volunteers) and, of course, the owners of the land reaching down to the lochside.

The endeavours of volunteers are crucial to the completion of the project. Derek Alexander, The National Trust for Scotland's West Region Archaeologist and Project Manager, and Dr. John Atkinson, principal, Glasgow University Research Division and Project Director (of excavations), both hope that members of the local community will also become more actively involved over the next five years.

Generous funding for the project, which is the largest of its kind in Scotland, has come from The Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic Scotland. The multi-disciplinary nature of the work aims to co-ordinate studies into the human influence on the north shores of Loch Tay. Archaeological and ecological remains will be examined and historic research will focus on the woodland, grazing and settlement history, place names and oral traditions. Investigations will even take place on some of the loch's crannogs. Understanding the past use of the landscape will be helped through soil science, pollen analysis and detailed geophysical survey.

The excavations at this long house in the photo have revealed several stages of habitation and changes of use from dwelling/byre to storage/dairy/hen house. Pottery eggs found with feathers still stuck to them are sound evidence of the latter! This, along with other finds - including an incredibly thin and well worn mill stone, three horseshoes concealed behind the fire-back, an eye glass, a child's shoe and a large collection of pieces of pottery and glass - helps to build a clearer picture of what everyday life was like during the time span of several hundred years of occupation. As well as presenting us with a further series of questions still to be answered!

Kevin FitzGerald & GF

Heart of Scotland Herb Society



Calendar of Events 2002-2003

September 25

Permaculture: An Alternative form of Gardening. Pitnacree with J. Hazzard MNIMH at 10am

October 23

AGM and Cheese & Wine. Fortingall Hall at 7pm

November 20

Make Your Own Pot-Pourri. Killin Hotel with Patty Hope at 7pm

December 4

Members evening dinner at Guinach Country House Hotel. Aberfeldy at 7pm

December 14

Wild Scottish Orchids with Sid Clark. A joint meeting with Scottish Wildlife Trust. Moulin Hall, Pitlochry 7.30pm

January 22

Fresh Beauty Products with Cath MacGregor and Beryl Pointer. Aberfeldy Town Hall at 7pm

February 19

Spring Tonics with J. Hazzard MNIMH. Grandtully Hall 10am

March 19

Delicious Herbal Desserts with Eileen Malone of County Catering. Aberfeldy Town Hall at 7pm

April 16

Energetics of Herbs with Jenny Boys a Practicing Medical Herbalist. Ballinluig Hall at 7pm.

May 21

Plant Identification and Latin Terminology with C Bolton. Scottish Crannog Centre at 7pm

June 18

Working with Willow with Diana Horsfall. Forge, Rannoch at 10am

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Killin Community Council

Meeting Held on Tuesday 10 September

Police Matters: Superintendent Neil McDonald of Central Scotland Police spoke to the meeting about the policing of this area. New officers were joining Lochearnhead, Crianlarich and Killin. He said it was crucial that the public had access to the police. His colleague, Inspector Findlater, said that the unmarked police motor cycle had been very successful in apprehending speeding motor cyclists and he also hoped that the police would patrol the village on foot regularly. The police would like to introduce Special Constables to this area again and anyone interested should contact them. The question of a Bye-law to stop drinking in public places was raised but the police and the National Park Representative felt that, unless this was a serious problem, a Bye-law could have a detrimental effect. It was suggested that a police officer should occasionally make an appearance at the last pick-up point of the first bus out of Killin to ensure that all passengers had seats. Any complaints about this should be raised through the Education services.

National Park: Owen McKee, recently elected the Local Representative to the National Park and member of the Park Planning Committee, gave a brief outline of the aims of the National Park, whose two main concerns so far were wild camping and litter. Calum McNeil-Ritchie, senior ranger for the Breadalbane area, talked about the work of the rangers and their co-operation with the police. The rangers hope to give talks to school pupils about the National Park.

Residential Home: A manager has been appointed and the Home should be taken over by Killin Care Trust on 28 October.

Nurses Clinic: Work is continuing.

Fingal Road Development: Extracts from letters of complaint from neighbouring residents were read out and the Council approved replies to be sent. The National Park has now taken over planning from Stirling Council. Objections had been received, mainly about flooding and the lack of pavements in Manse Road but no decision would be taken until the risk assessment had been looked into. This will be discussed at a meeting of the National Park Planning Department on 24 September, at which Councillor Ffinch will act as the local representative.

Other meetings: Council representatives would be attending a meeting in Balforn High School about the state of rural roads and the Highland Forum in Aberfoyle, both on 11 September.

Christmas tree: A decision will be taken at the next meeting.

Breadalbane Park: A meeting of the main users would be held on 17 September to discuss drainage.

The next meeting will be in the Primary School on Tuesday, 12 November, at 7.30 pm.

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McGonagall

The weekend that this paper is due to be delivered marks the 100th anniversary of the death of Dundee's best remembered nobody and one of the world's greatest poets and tragedian - McGonagall. To mark the occasion, and in keeping with our main theme in this issue, the Floral Awards, we have printed below his poem 'Forget-Me-Not'.

Forget-Me-Not

A gallant knight and his betroth'd bride,
Were walking one day by a river side,
They talk'd of love,
and they talk'd of war,
And how very foolish lovers are.

At length the bride to the knight did say,
'There have been many
young ladies led astray
By believing in all their lovers said,
And you are false to me I am afraid.'

'No, Ellen, I was never false to thee,
I never gave thee cause to doubt me;
I have always lov'd thee and do still,
And no other woman
your place shall fill.'

'Dear Edwin, it may be true,
but I am in doubt,
But there's some beautiful flowers
here about,
Growing on the other side of the river,
But how to get one, I cannot discover.'

'Dear Ellen, they seem beautiful indeed,
But of them, dear, take no heed;
Because they are on the other side,
Besides, the river is deep and wide.'

'Dear Edwin,
as I doubt your love to be untrue,
I ask one favour now from you:
Go! fetch me a flower
from across the river,
Which will prove
you love me more than ever.'

Dear Ellen!
I will try and fetch you a flower
If it lies within my power
To prove that I am true to you,
And what more can your Edwin do?'

So he leap'd into the river wide,
And swam across to the other side,
To fetch a flower for his young bride,
Who watched him eagerly
on the other side.



So he pluck'd a flower right merrily
Which seemed to fill his heart with glee,
That it would please his lovely bride;
But, alas! he never got to the other side.

For when he tried to swim across,
All power of his body he did loss,
But before he sank in the river wide,
He flung the flowers to his lovely bride.

And he cried,
'Oh, heaven! hard is my lot,
My dearest Ellen! Forget me not:
For I was ever true to you,
My dearest Ellen! I bid thee adieu!'

Then she wrung her hands
in wild despair,
Until her cries did rend the air;
And she cried,
'Edwin, dear, hard is our lot,
But I'll name this flower Forget-me-not.

'And I'll remember thee while I live,
And to no other man my hand I'll give,
And I will place my affection
on this little flower,
And it will solace me in a lonely hour.'

William Topaz McGonagall
(1825-1902)

Editor

Fingal's Stone Project

The annual Fingal's Stone Project Book Sale was held on 10 August. Thanks to the generosity of the people who donated the books, those who gave wonderful raffle prizes and the hard work of all the volunteers who shifted books and tables; baked cakes; served at coffee tables and book stalls; slaved in the kitchen; sold raffle tickets and manned the door, a total of **£571.22** was raised.

The Fingal's Stone site is now fenced off but until the new housing development has been clarified, our plans are delayed.

A huge amount of time was spent categorizing the books into various sections (eg detective stories, general fiction, science fiction, facts, encyclopaedias etc) as they arrived at the collection point in their hundreds. This great feat of organization made setting up the stalls easy for everyone, so getting ready seemed to take no time at all.

Thank you all for coming and supporting us, and thanks to those who made private donations. Thank you too to Jenny Lambert who drew the Fingal Stone logo that has appeared on our adverts over the past two years. We look forward to seeing you again next year.

News First

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Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Strathfillan Summer Youth Programme: Postponed until next year we hope!



You may remember that the Community Development Trust and the local youth group EXIT YG joined forces to put on what we called our Summer Youth Programme: one day's activities a week, collecting in Tyndrum Village Hall, for kids aged 8 to 18 years, with the under 8's being kept busy in Crianlarich Nursery on two of the days. We raised nearly £600 in grants from The Lankelly Foundation and Stirling Council. Unfortunately, only two children were signed up; the programme was cancelled and the grant money returned.

After initial shock, disappointment and embarrassment, we decided to phone some parents to ask about the Programme. Sometimes we can learn more from what we do wrong than what is an immediate success. We're glad we called. All we spoke to thought it was a great idea, and well priced: "absolutely brilliant idea"; "I thought to myself, that's going to be really busy". However, some parents did not receive the information, even though the school let us talk to and hand it to each child. The last few weeks of the summer term are chaotic and busy in most households, and we all know how papers are put aside for looking at 'later'. Parents with one child over 8 and one under 8 didn't want to send only the eldest child, and we weren't clear enough about where and when the under 8's were being catered for.

So, we're planning to try again next year. This time we'll involve parents from the start of the planning (about Easter). If we don't get any interest then, we'll go no further. If we do, we'll take their ideas and views on board from the beginning. £600 (plus the money the Strathfillan Community Development Trust was prepared to put in) is a goodly sum to expand the experience and horizons of our young folk. On a personal note, I must give credit to Joyce, Theresa, Moira and Effie who came as volunteers to many and varied planning meetings. That they have the energy and enthusiasm to try again is just superb.

Sue Wyllie

SCDT Office. Telephone 01838 400 545

Email: strathfillancdt@onetel.net.uk

Second Volume of BAP Launched

The second volume of the Stirling BAP (Biodiversity Action Plan) was launched during Scottish Biodiversity Week, 31 August to 8 September. This volume contains 24 habitat and species action plans ranging from the Scottish wood ant to the red squirrel and transport corridors to native pinewood.

Summaries of these plans and comprehensive plans are available in local libraries.

I hope the most interesting plans will be the gardens, transport corridors and buildings Habitat Action Plans. These habitats surround us all and we interact with them every day. Some of the Species and Habitat Action Plans eg the slender naiad (an underwater plant), can seem a little obscure or of little relevance to most people. By including these habitats we hope to make the Stirling BAP relevant to all the folk that live here. I look forward to facilitating community led action to improve these three urban habitats for biodiversity. The final piece in the urban jigsaw, 'Green Space', will have its plan launched next year.

Coinciding with the launch, is the production of a leaflet called 'The Biodiversity Trails of Stirling'. This highlights some of the best areas in the district to go looking for all kinds of biodiversity. The sites chosen have had to be robust enough to cope with reasonable numbers of visitors, so they may not be special sites that you are aware of, but they still have more than enough to interest someone keen on looking out for biodiversity. The leaflets will be widely available from mid-September onwards.

On a final note, I will be saying goodbye for a wee while, I am off to Namibia for 4 months on a Raleigh International Expedition. I am very excited about this and will no doubt have tales to tell on my return. The Council have granted me unpaid leave for the Expedition, so I will be back in post in January. If you would like to contact someone about biodiversity while I am away then contact Gwenda Diack, Senior Ranger on 01786 442875 (diackg@stirling.gov.uk) or Jonathan Willet on 01786 442768 (willetj@stirling.gov.uk)

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Wee Message from the Minister

As I sit down to write this, the radio news has been going on about the criminal records office backlog in clearing teachers to go into new jobs for the next school term. Should head teachers take a risk and employ non-cleared staff, or take the risk of sending children home early? The government says that no un-cleared teacher should be allowed in - the risk is too great. What risk to the children? That's what they claim, but is it in fact to avoid the repercussions of anything going wrong in their area of responsibility?

We must ask why have all these checks suddenly become so necessary anyway? It is because we have accepted the idea that anything goes. "It's OK as long as it does not affect me." All the old taboos have gone. There are no rules of social behaviour - that would be non-PC! So we look to the law to decide what is right and wrong. Jesus told us that whether we are right or wrong comes from within. It is not something forced on us from the outside.

Incidentally, Robert Burns took up that theme when he wrote, "It's the heart, aye the heart, that makes us right or wrong." The more we stand up for what is right and reject what is wrong, the less wrong we will have in our communities.

Reverend John Shedden



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Litter Louts

In July I was driving along the old road (private) to Innishewan Farm and came upon the scene shown in the photo below. Unfortunately I didn't see the culprits, but was told that they had camped for one night only. The following morning I gathered a full black bin bag of cigarette packets, beer bottles and cans, crisp packets etc.

Is it any wonder that some landowners, managers, farmers etc don't want members of the public to have the freedom to roam in the countryside? We are now in the National Park. I wonder if the guilty party who left their rubbish on my land gave a toss!



There was another instance back in June when some folk camped wild on the estate, but luckily I was told about them and before they decamped I approached them. The mess round the tents was far worse than that in the photo and there was stock in the park at the time. Politely I spoke to the only man visible and asked if they had permission to camp and the answer was "No". I then asked him to make sure that when they packed up later on that day that all the mess was tidied up and they did so. But why should I have to chase after campers to make sure they tidy up their mess?

I would also like to know where the Park Authority stands on wild camping and the litter problem, which in this area is a major one.

**Emma Paterson
Auchlyne**



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WRI

The WRI meets on the first Thursday of each month between October and April. We have a very good syllabus for this year and hope that some ladies, who have not joined us before, will come along and 'try us out'. The following meetings will take us up to Christmas time.

3 October
Virgin Cosmetics

7 November
Rescue Dogs
This is an open meeting

8 November
Whist Drive
In aid of the Killin Retirement Home

5 December
Cake Decoration

All meetings take place in the Lesser McLaren Hall at 7.30 pm. Look out for the posters which go up each month before the meeting.

Death Of An Old Friend

Today we mourn the passing of an old friend by the name of Common Sense. Common Sense lived a long life but died from heart failure early in the new millennium. No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life to service in schools, hospitals, homes, factories and offices, helping folks get jobs done without fanfare and foolishness. For decades, petty rules, silly laws and frivolous lawsuits held no power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating such valued lessons as to know when to come in out of the rain, the early bird gets the worm, and life isn't always fair.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you earn), reliable parenting strategies (the adults are in charge, not the kids), and it's okay to come in second (or even last, as long as your best efforts were given). A veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, and the Technological Revolution, Common Sense survived cultural and educational trends including body piercing, whole language and "new math". But his health declined when he became infected with the "If-it-only-helps-one-person-it's-worth-it" virus. In recent decades his waning strength proved no match for the ravages of overbearing regulations. He watched in pain as self-seeking lawyers ruled good people. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools endlessly implemented zero tolerance policies, reports of six-year-old boys charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, a teen suspended for taking a swig of mouthwash after lunch, and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student. It declined even further when schools had to get parental consent to administer aspirin to a student but cannot inform the parent when the female student is pregnant or wants an abortion.

Eventually, Common Sense lost his will to live as churches became businesses, criminals received better treatment than victims, and federal judges stuck their noses in everything from Boy Scouts to professional sports.

Finally, a woman who was not smart enough to realise that coffee is hot, and was awarded a huge payout for her stupidity, caused Common Sense to finally throw in the towel.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents Truth and Trust, his wife Discretion, his daughter Responsibility; and his son Reason. He is also survived by two stepbrothers, My Rights and Ima Whiner. Not many attended his funeral because so few realized he was gone.

John Riley

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A Fisherman's Tale!

I am writing this high above Tombreck, looking across Loch Tay to Dall Bay and Manse Bay, which are probably two of the most prolific bays for good, brown trout fishing to be had on the loch. I have found that this year, particularly since July, the dry fly has been taking the better fish, with trout up to 3lb in the good bags of fish caught with friends. Gull Island, is another good area, especially now with the 'daddy long legs' appearing in large numbers. Fishing an area away from the most popular ones often achieves the best results.



The photograph (above) of friend Paul and his daughter Jade, from Dorset, was taken on one of those August days that started sunny, with a brilliant blue sky, and continued like that all day long. I decided to fish one of my favourite hill lochs, not easily accessed but well worth the effort and not a footprint or any litter in sight. We decided to lunch first, by the mouth of the burn, but food was not on Jade's mind as she was desperate to catch her first fish. I flicked a line out to one of the many trout showing. The line went taught almost immediately and the look on that wee girl's face was a picture as we reeled in five, beautifully marked, wild 'brownies' within five minutes. And that was before lunch! She could not believe fishing was so easy and such fun. Good company, good weather, beautiful scenery and plenty of sport - what more could you ask?

As for salmon, this is a great time of year. The other day I watched, just feet away from me, at three different locations, a good number of salmon on the redds going through their manoeuvres of spawning. Considerably more fish than in previous years, which is a good sign for the future. Anyone trolling for salmon on Loch Tay, in all weathers, deserves to keep their fish as it is well earned when it happens, but it would be sensible if a few more of the salmon taken on the river were returned. A small but responsible gesture and I know there are many who feel just as pleased as I do to see the salmon swim away. After all, it is meant to be sport.

Gregor Macaulay

You will notice if you look close that even Gregors' dog has caught a fish! Editor

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Rehearsals are now well underway for our pantomime which is 'Aladdin'. The performance dates are January 16, 17 & 18, so put the dates in your diary now!

The panto has now been cast (with a few new faces and the old ones as well), but we are always on the lookout for help in other areas (backstage, costumes, set building, scenery painting, props etc), so if you feel that you could help in any way - big or small - please give Gordon Hibbert a ring on 820422 or Glenda Mardon on 820248. If you want to help backstage please phone Lesley Syme on 820424. **LS**

Community Futures Programme

Killin Community Council members have been working in partnership with the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Community Futures programme to produce a Community Action Plan for the Killin Community Council area. Eight communities have been included in the first round of Community Plans. These plans will feed into the planning process for the National Park.

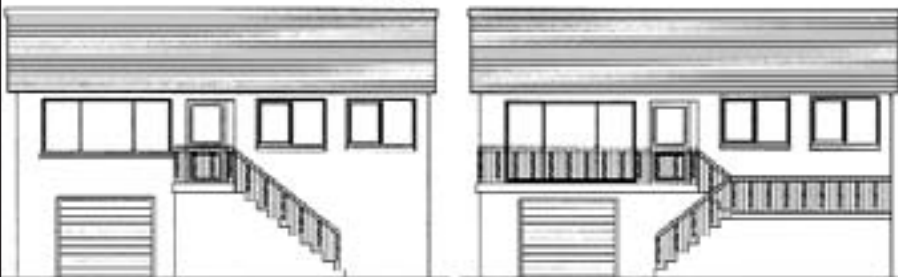
The plan has been developed following extensive consultation with members of the community through interviews, a household survey and a workshop, all organised by Catriona MacLennan, Community Agent, and a local Steering Group. The survey was distributed to every household in November 2001, asking every one's views on how the area should develop over the next few years. The results of the survey were discussed at a very well attended workshop held in February this year in the McLaren Hall, where there was much animated discussion about priorities for action. The final Action Plan has now been produced and is being distributed to every household in the Community Council area. This includes a description of the area and key action points for development. These include:

- § better leisure facilities for young people
- § improvements to the school playground and park
- § more locally based services: elderly day care, health facilities, learning centre, sports facilities
- § improved roads, road safety and public transport
- § improved local path network and signage for cycling and walking
- § better signage for Killin and promotion of the area as a tourist destination
- § explore feasibility of year-round tourist attraction

Already some of these key points are being taken forward with the setting up of a youth group, funding for playground improvements and the development of the Nurses' Clinic to provide a multipurpose treatment room and space for elderly day care. Different local groups are in negotiations to improve the Sports' Pavilion, develop a path network and identify a site for a more accessible and larger library and learning centre. The production of a formal Community Action Plan will help groups when applying for funding for individual projects within the plan. If you wish any further information you can contact members of the Community Council or speak to Kay Riddell in the library.

Elaine Turner
On behalf of Community
Futures Steering Group

Planning a Facelift ?



Plans drawn up for extension and conversion of houses, garages, patios, balconies, conservatories etc.

Fax and Phone 01567 820692
Home 01567 820345
E-Mail: allanjchisholm@aol.com

Allan J Chisholm
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Killin & District Art & Craft Exhibition 2002

Our visitors' book tells us we have had 438 people through the door, 60 less than two years ago, however, as only one person from a group signs the book it is difficult to be more accurate.

Despite this, the door collection amounted to £489.32, sale of pictures £899 and sale of craft £988.25.

This allowed us after expenses to donate to the following:-

Falls of Dochart
Retirement Home - £200
Killin Mountain Rescue - £150
Nurses Association - £75
Boys Brigade - £75
Youth Club - £50

We try to make the exhibition as attractive as possible (as you will have noticed from the photos in the last issue of Killin News) having introduced screens to show pictures off to advantage and are now in the process of designing shelves where china painting and small craft articles can be better displayed.

New this year is the introduction of photography, upholstery and basket weaving, all of which added interest and variety to the exhibition.

Once again we must thank the people of Killin and surrounding area for their generosity and support.

E Lumsden
Secretary

Killin Heritage Society Winter Syllabus

Programme for 2002/3

Friday 4 October

Talk by Malcolm Allan, Rare Books Librarian (Rtd.)
University of Strathclyde on:

Archbishop Leighton and his Dunblane Library - 300 Years Plus

The Leighton Library in Dunblane is the only 17th century library building in Scotland and houses the only such library still operating in its original building.

Friday 1 November

the Society will welcome Jim Crumley to talk about the:

Travels of a Nature Writer

Many will know Jim's work from local newspapers, magazine articles and from the many books for which he has provided the text.

Friday 6 December

Dr Nicholas Dixon, from the Crannog Centre at Kenmore makes a welcome return visit to talk about:

The Crannogs of Loch Tay – an update

Much has happened since Dr Dixon last spoke to the Society, including the construction of the Crannog and the opening of the excellent visitor centre.

Stirling Mobile Library Wins Top Award!

Following the outstanding response to a customer survey held earlier this year, where they attained almost 100% customer satisfaction, Stirling Council Library Service received a prestigious accolade from their peers at a recent Mobile Library Meet, held at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow.

The event opened the IFLA Conference (International Federation of Library Associations) attended by thousands of librarians from across the globe. Over 40 mobile library vehicles were in attendance from England, Scotland and Ireland, as well as others from several European countries. Several awards were presented by an adjudicating panel, but the most prestigious award, the 'Delegates Choice' was voted for by all the mobile library staff in attendance and was won by the Stirling mobile,

which narrowly beat a vehicle from Sweden. The brightness of the vehicle interior, overall cleanliness, the excellent use of space and the overall attractiveness of the vehicle especially impressed delegates.

An added bonus for the Stirling staff is that they keep the trophy, specially created for the IFLA event. We're sure you will want to congratulate them on their next visit.

KILLIN GOLF CLUB WINTER OPENING

We are now taking bookings for Christmas parties between
Sunday 1st and Saturday 21st December.
Menus can be varied depending on requirements.

****Non members welcome****

Phone Shona or Inga on 820312 for more information.

Min party size - 8

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Scotland's Newest Long Distance Walk - full of changing and beautiful scenery

The name Rob Roy is full of romance and excitement, so also is this new 79 mile / 92 mile walking route. The route starts in Drymen close to Loch Lomond and ends in the Festival Town of Pitlochry. This route offers principally one major route alternative, either taking to the wilder open scenery of Glens Chilleine, Almond and Quaich or passing along the Loch and River Tay to Aberfeldy. Other smaller route options allow the walker to choose which village or town to visit and stay in, and to plan the walking days to suit their requirements.



View overlooking Lochearnhead

The route starts close to the West Highland Way crossing the path just to the NE of Drymen. By the end of the first section the landscape is starting to change as it reaches the Highland Lowland line at Aberfoyle. Along the earlier part of the route the way passes Loch Venachar and Lubnaig then passing Loch Earn before arriving at Loch Tay. At this stage the Tay becomes a dominant feature as does the mountains of Ben Lawers and Schiehallion. In the final section the landscape is full of the wonderful trees of Perthshire.

To add to the scenic variety and interest the route also offers a varied range of history. With a stone circle and Crannog dating back to pre AD times, there is also more recent industrial history in the form of the Glasgow Water Supply aqueducts and the railway heritage of Callander to Killin. However the area is steep in connections with Rob Roy MacGregor 1671 -1734 who must have been so familiar with the area around this walk. In the western section he was brought up and finally died, in the central section much of his cattle trading was undertaken and in the eastern section his early Jacobite interests were played out along with one of his notorious escapes from captivity.

The walk is generally off road, but where this is necessary it is on minor but attractive sections. Forestry sections exist more at the start of the Way with the most remote glen sections towards the second half of the route. The Way passes by one or two dramatic water gorges as well as the dramatic Falls of Dochart. What also makes this a walk to

remember are the villages and towns that can be accessed, from Aberfoyle in the heart of the Trossachs to Callander, Killin, Aberfeldy and Pitlochry.

This long distance walk has an official website detailing the route, history, news and interest as well as an accommodation and service provider section. There is also shortly to be published a map and guidebook providing all that is needed to successfully navigate the route.

For more information visit the website
www.robroyway.com or e-mail
info@walkingsupport.co.uk

Step Goes Rural At Killin Roadshow

Stirling Enterprise (STEP), the provider of Small Business Gateway services for the Stirling District, is to bring its Business Advice and Information Roadshow to Killin in October. The roadshow is designed to give local businesses, and those considering taking the leap into business, a rare chance to tap into STEP's extensive front-line experience and also hear how technology and E.Commerce can make all the difference. Business advisers will be on hand to help in a variety of areas at the Killin & District Sports Pavilion on Wednesday, 2 October.

Whether you are thinking about going into business, are ready to start or have already started and are looking to expand your business, you can benefit from coming along. Drop in, advisors will be on hand from 10am to 5pm, hear about the support for:

- * Thinking about being in Business
- * Getting into Business
- * Planning Business Growth
- * Business Training
- * Internet Access & E-Commerce.

With the help of funding from the European Community, STEP have recently invested in several networked laptops which use innovative wireless technology. This equipment will allow the delivery of two special sessions giving practical advice on Web Site Design and Web Marketing. Web Design will use Microsoft Front Page to cover the basics of setting up a web page, while Web Marketing will show you how to gain a prominent position on the web, ensuring your site works hard to generate interest in your business.

Web Design will take place 11am - 12.30pm and Web Marketing will be 2pm - 3.30pm.

To reserve your place on either of these sessions or for more information, please contact Mairhi Gibson on 01786 463416 or e-mail . Alternatively just drop in on the day.

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2002 Floral Awards

As each year goes by it becomes increasingly obvious that the interest in gardening, throughout the village, is growing. This year has been a difficult one for all gardeners. Some plants grew quickly and flowered early, whilst others struggled through the cold spell in July and then suddenly “blossomed” in late July/early August, only to be swamped by the torrential rain. However, the skilled (or perhaps it is just luck!) gardeners have come to the fore and managed to maintain a marvellous display throughout the village. The residents of Dochart Road, with their particularly colourful floral displays, deserve an extra commendation for the delight they give villagers and visitors alike as you enter the village. There are some splendid efforts made along the Main Street, in Ballechroisk and Ballechroisk Terrace, and indeed, on every street around the village.

The judges were looking for various criteria including:

- a good overall display of colour
- plants that are healthy and well cared for with evidence of dead heading, removal of dead leaves etc.
- planting should demonstrate that thought has been given to the plants chosen for the particular site/container and its location
- imaginative use of plants and containers or in the garden

Hanging Baskets

Winners - Mr. & Mrs. Farmer, Pathways, Manse Road

Commended: 7, Ballechroisk: Dreadnought Place (Hall side); Kilchurn, Aberfeldy Road; Craiglea, Main Street; Tayview, Main Street; Rowancroft, Main Street; 2, Dochart Road

Window Boxes/Wall Containers

Winners - Mr. & Mrs. Mudd, Falls of Dochart Cottage

Commended: Rowancroft, Main Street; 2, Dochart Road; 4, Dochart Road, Dalerb, Craignavie Road; Barnacarie, Main Street

Tubs/Containers

Winners - Mr. & Mrs. McGregor, 3 Dochart Road

Commended: Dreadnought Place (Hall side); 12, Ballechroisk; 3, Ballechroisk Terrace; Craiglea, Main Street; Machany, Main Street; Tayview, Main Street; Tigh Breagh, Craignavie Road.

Overall Display in Containers

Winners - Mr. & Mrs. Hunter, 6 Dochart Road

Commended: 3 Dochart Road; 12 Ballechroisk; Dreadnought Place (Hall side); Rowancroft, Main Street.

Garden with Summer Planting

Winners - Mr. & Mrs. Hunter, 6 Dochart Road

Commended: 2, Ballechroisk; 17, Monemore

Commercial

Floral Frontage Display in Containers Retail/Café etc

Winners - Shutters Restaurant

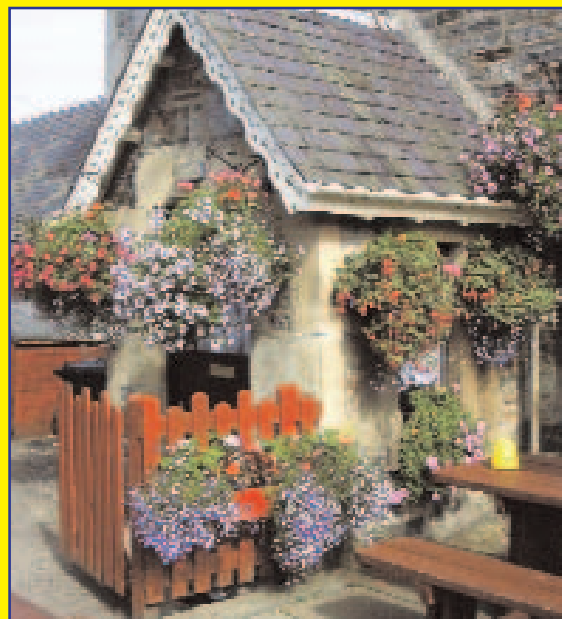
Commended: Corrie Crafts; Maureen Gauld, Antique Shop

Accommodation Provider

Winners - Invertay House

Commended: Drumfinn; Maragowan Caravan Site-

Killin Floral Awards



**Top Two
Shutters Restaurant**

**Right: Iain & Mairi Hunter,
6 Dochart Road**

**Below: Ian & May McGregor,
3 Dochart Road**

**Below Right: Invertay House
See full results on page 14**

Floral Awards Photos: Editor





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Cultural Show



See
Article
Page 19



Next Steps: The Strathfillan Trust 2003...2004...2005



Above: Strathfillan Community Development Trust and Laggan Forest Trust

The funding for the Strathfillan Community Development Trust office and staff (Sue Wyllie and Carol Kelly), comes to an end this November. Where next? Last summer we consulted the households. This summer we involved the Directors and other community members who have actively helped the Trust. Together, their ideas have been formed into a three year programme of priorities which will be the foundation for grant applications to allow the Trust to continue its work.

In thinking about the way forward, we went for an inspirational Away Day to Laggan, in June. The Laggan community have been involved in a housing project, in running the local shop, in totally upgrading their village hall; and they're especially well known for working closely with Forest Enterprise in managing over 1600 ha of woodland (we in Strathfillan have 100 ha). It was a fascinating and interesting day, with lots of laughs.

We'll be circulating the details of the Trust's Next Steps to each household, and you'll get the chance to comment at the AGM in November.

Tyndrum Firefighters



Left: Tyndrum's volunteer firefighters who came 15th in the British National Extrication Challenge, have been nominated to go to the five day world championships in Prague which start on 30 September.

The competition involves the firefighters removing a live 'casualty' from a crushed vehicle as quickly and safely as possible. The Teams are judged on command and control, casualty care and tool operators – using the correct equipment and techniques to get the 'casualty' out.

The firefighters are now fundraising for the Prague trip and are being supported by businesses in the village. Leading Firefighter Allan Brodie said they wanted to thank the brigade for sending them and added, "It just shows the commitment of the station. We are really happy and proud to get this far and for getting the chance to go to Prague."

In the photo are back row L-R: Team Assistant Medic Jim Mailer, Leading Firefighter Allan Brodie, Team Medic Iain Wilkie. Front row L-R: Team Tool Operators Willie Fraser and James MacLennan.

Rod & Reel Lounge Bar & Restaurant



Long regarded by climbers and walkers as a popular rendezvous, the Rod & Reel is a family run bar/restaurant which is now under new ownership.

You can find good food and a relaxing drink in our friendly and comfortable atmosphere.

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The Killin Agricultural Show

From its foundation, in the middle of the 19th century, the 'Show' was known as "The Breadalbane Agricultural Association" and was known thus, right up to the beginning of the Second World War, when of course it was suspended, as it had been during World War One.

In addition to the Annual Show, the Association held a yearly 'Ploughing Match' and as far as I can ascertain, it was held until the mid 1930's. At the end of the War 'The Association' was wound up, and despite name disagreements, was from then on tied in with Aberfeldy to form 'The Atholl and Breadalbane Agricultural Association'.

In 1948, 'The Killin Junior Agricultural Club' was formed, and that year a 'Sheep Shearing Competition' was held in Killin Auction Marts, along with a 'Show of Produce' which featured home baking, preserves, vegetables etc. From this grew the present 'Killin Agricultural Show'. In 1951 – 52 this annual event moved to the present venue in Breadalbane Park.

The cup in the photo is one of the oldest cups presented by the 'Show'. It is dated 1888 and was presented by Messrs. Ramsey & Co, Woolbrokers of Glasgow for the 'Best Woolled Blackfaced Sheep'. This year the cup was won by Fulton Ronald of Keilator Farm.



The photos on pages 16 & 17 are mainly self explanatory. Local firefighters demonstrated what happens when you pour water onto a smoking chip pan; the Ladies of the Killin WRI who organised the events in the hall; the 'Garden Gang' in the Parade Down Main Street; Landrover Pull; livestock judging. Some of the 1st prizes were:- the cloutie dumpling submitted by Elizabeth Woods; the pre-school model Play Doh (worms on a plate of grass) by Emma Aitken; the cabbage round was Hector Hall's; the collection of vegetables were Len Fenton's; the four mixed pansies were Ian McGregors; the exhibit of six cut flowers was entered by Gill Higgins. A superb effort by everyone. It's a shame we don't have Killin News 'scratch and sniff' - the smell from the homebaking was incredible!

Commercial Cattle Results

Champion – McDiarmid Bros., Ben Lawers
Reserve Champion – McDiarmid Bros., Ben Lawers

Autumn Born Calves

Bullock by Native Bull
1. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Heifer by Native Bull

1. F MacAskill, Tullich

Bullock by Limousin Bull

1. McDiarmid Bros., Ben Lawers
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Spring Born Calves

Bullock by Native Bull
1. McDiarmid Bros., Ben Lawers
2. J Taylor, Braes of Ardeonaig

Heifer by Native Bull

1. J Taylor, Braes of Ardeonaig

Bullock by Limousin Bull

1. F MacAskill, Tullich
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Commercial Cow with Calf at Foot

1. McDiarmid Bros., Ben Lawers
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Blackface Sheep

Champion – C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Reserve Champion – Messrs. McLarty, Ardveich

Shepherds Class, best sheep (any sex and age)

1. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon
2. R Webster, Moar Farm

Naturally Shown

Blackface Ewe and Lamb

1. F Wilson, Carie Farm
2. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich

Ram, 3 years old and upward

1. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Ram 2 years old

1. Messrs J Taylor, Braes of Ardeonaig
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Ram, Shearlin

1. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich
2. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich

Ewe 3 years old and upwards, having suckled lamb this season

1. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon
2. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich

Ewe 2 years old, having suckled lamb this season

1. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Gimmer

1. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Ram Lamb

1. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Ewe Lamb

1. Messrs McLarty, Ardveich
2. C D Ormiston, Glen Lyon

Pair Wedder Lambs

1. K Taylor & Sons, Dall Farm
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Sheep Other Than Blackface

1 Pair of Cross Lambs out of a Blackface Ewe
1. G Urquhart, Bovain Farm
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

1 Pair of Cross Lambs out of a cross ewe

1. K Taylor & Sons, Dall Farm
2. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich

Ewe

1. Mrs J Bowser, Bovain Farm
2. K Taylor & Sons, Dall Farm

Gimmer

1. Mrs J Bowser, Bovain Farm
2. Mrs J Bowser, Bovain Farm

Ewe Lamb

1. P McDiarmid, Shenlarich
2. Mrs J Bowser, Bovain Farm

Wool Show

Champion Fleece – Meggernie, Glen Lyon
Blackface Mattress – F MacAskill, Tullich
Blackface Fine – Meggernie, Glen Lyon
Cross Fleece – Meggernie, Glen Lyon

Handicrafts, Homecrafts and Horticulture

Handicraft Cup – J Mailer and E Lumsden
Homecraft Cup – Gill Higgins
Baking Cup – Buntry MacGregor
Produce Cup – May Graham
Horticulture Cup – Len Fenton
Floral Art Cup – Margaret Mantle
Girls Cup – Siobhan Anderson
Boys Cup – John McRae
WRI Silver Salver – Killin

Fancy Dress Parade

1. Playgroup and the Mother's & Toddlers – 'Things from the Garden'
2. The Drama Club – Noah's Ark

Bonnie Baby Competition

The winners were the Cameron twins – Mhari Rebecca and Carina Jo

The Landrover Pull

Won by the Auchlyne & Auchessan 'coalition'.

The Show article and photos are the combined efforts of Johnny Willison - Dalchenna, Helen Taylor – Dall Farm, Kevin FitzGerald - Dalerb & Editor.

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The Guild

The October meeting will be held in the Church Hall on Thursday 17 October at 2 pm. Mrs Joan Kerr, Bridge of Allan will speak on her experiences as a Beadle. Mrs Joan Hall will also attend in her position as Convenor of the Stirling Presbyterial Council.

The Reverend J McConnell from the Leprosy Mission will give a slide show and talk in the Church Hall on Thursday 21 November at 2 pm.

The December meeting will be held in the Church Hall on Thursday 12 December when a floral Art Demonstration by Mrs Cathie Reid will be given. There will also be an afternoon of carols and a Christmas tea.

All ladies of the district are very welcome to every meeting.



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Glow-Worms Rediscovered

Glow-worms are actually a beetle, a representative of the firefly family. The flightless female of the species is the most easily seen as she emits a green glow from her abdomen to attract flying males. Much is known about the chemistry of this beetle's phosphorescence but little is known about its ecology and conservation.

The spur for this interest in Stirling's glow-worms stems from a phone call from Mike Steward of Forest Enterprise in late June. He reported a colleague seeing them 6 years ago when out looking for nightjars, near Aberfoyle. This call was prompted by an article about glow-worms in the most recent "British Wildlife" magazine. Luckily enough I had a contact and enquired about records in our area.

The 1996 sighting was only the sixth ever for Stirling district. It seems that glow-worms are/were local but widespread in Scotland and possibly declining, but there are too few recent records in Scotland to be sure. They are under-recorded (only two records in Scotland since 1992) due to their peak activity being between 10pm and midnight in the summer, which is also peak "death by midges" time.

Female glow-worms are easy to recognise (at night) a charismatic insect that very few people have seen. They are out there.

STOP PRESS. 12.20am, 4 July. 7 glow-worms located near Aberfoyle, while out looking for nightjars! The first record in Scotland this century (and only the second record since 1992)!

Glow-worm contacts: Keith Alexander is the National glow-worm recorder E-Mail - XEAKXA@grpwse.ntrust.org.uk Or try out our web site - all you ever wanted to know about glow-worms at www.glowworms.org.uk

Jonathan Willet, Stirling Biodiversity Officer 01786 442768 or email willetj@stirling.gov.uk

The Scottish Crannog Centre



The painstaking underwater survey of Oakbank Crannog off Fearnan has been continuing over the summer months and the team of divers have recovered a number of interesting artefacts. Undoubtedly the item which created most excitement, was a swan neck bronze pin dating back to the bronze age. The pin was found by Jeni Dukes on her second day of diving with the team. Jeni is pictured below with the pin (photo by Dr Nicholas Dixon).

Our extensive programme of events for 2002 continues over the next few months and dates for your diary are:-

28 & 29 September

Celts & Romans: Discover the Past!

A 'Doors Open Day' and Scottish Archaeology Month Event

Saturday: Celebrate! Free entry to the first 100 visitors. Later, catch the Celts clash with the Romans as the Antonine Guard returns to Kenmore. And, don't miss the unique Romano-Celtic Fashion Show on the Crannog Catwalk. Times to be confirmed.



Sunday: Meet Scotland's Underwater Time Team and try out archaeology in the local pool. Then head over to the Crannog Centre to 'discover the past'. Feely box, microscopes, simulated digs, bones and stones session, drawing and more! Times and pool fees to be confirmed. Pool numbers restricted so book early.

13 October

Bracken Festival – a Treefest 2002 Event 11 am to 4.30 pm

Major bracken harvest, featuring hazel wizard wands, wicker sculptures, fairy crowns and masks for Hallow'e'en. Bring a sack full of bracken, wet or dry, for discounts on admission and free draw entry.

31 October

Celtic Samhain Festival – a Treefest 2002 Event from 5 pm

Lantern Procession and 'Ram' Burning: Help us celebrate the ancient Celtic Hallow'e'en festival 'Shamhain'. Swing a lantern to keep evil at bay in our lochside woodland walk and watch our wicker ram burn in ceremonial sacrifice.

13 November

Wild Harvest – Nettle Soup to Nuts! 11 am – 3 pm

Celebrate Autumn Gold at our Celtic Food Fair featuring hot cordials, nutty breads and spreads, 'authentic' soups, dairy produce and more. Unusual gifts and free recipes.

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Killin Golf Club

Junior Prizegiving 6 September 2002

Unfortunately the bad weather resulted in the course being closed and many disappointed children, so we brought the prizegiving and the buffet forward a few hours.

The Golf Foundation Merit Awards were presented by Allan Knox from Crieff Golf Club who has been coaching the juniors this year. The coaching has been paid for by the Golf Foundation and by the Tighnabruach Hotel. Captain Dickie Lewis then presented the club prizes for each category.



Beginners

1. Andrew Anderson 2. Jillian Laurence 3. Jack McRobbie

Category 4

1. Chris Fergusson 2. Lewis Kane 3. Fraser Kane. Eclectic - Chris Fergusson Knockout - Fraser Kane

Category 3

1. Jamie Murphy 2. Donald MacAskill 3. Adam Mitchell. Eclectic - Tristan Blumli Knockout - Donald MacAskill

Category 1 & 2

1. Colin Woods 2. Robert Brown 3. Daniel Holden. Eclectic - Robert Brown Champion - James Stewart

Adult & Junior Competition

The event on 16 August, was run as a 2 ball foursomes, with 24 pairs taking part. Prizes were supplied by the Golf Foundation. The main prizes were umbrellas, shoe bags, towels, caps and balls. All other junior competitors received a useful packet of tees, ball markers and pitch mark repairers, whilst the remaining adult competitors received a ball.

1. Tam Bolton & Jillian Laurence
2. Roger Sharp & Ross Davidson
3. Lyn Bartlett & Steven Tigwell
4. Gus Cameron & Ian Hancock
5. George Ferguson & Jock Cameron
6. Sheena Chisholm & Chris Ferguson
7. Elizabeth Ingram & Adam Mitchell
8. Audrey Weaver & Colin Woods

A big thank you to all the adults who turned up and helped to make such a successful evening.

Most Improved Junior Golfer

This is awarded to the junior who has improved in their play and their etiquette on and off the course. This year this has been won by Donald MacAskill.

Best Beginner

This new cup is awarded to a junior who has only just started playing golf and who has progressed considerably. This year this award goes to Jillian Laurence.

LS



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Mervyn's Weather

Frequently, any departure weatherwise, from what is considered by the media as the norm, is hysterically described as "freak", be it snowstorm, thunder or heavy rain and the resultant disruption to traffic, holidays or business in general is labelled "chaotic".



In every year somewhere in the UK breaks a meteorological record, possibly achieving the 17 day threshold of "absolute drought", unusually high precipitation of snow, rain, or hail, very high wind speeds and so on.

The point often missed in these agitated diatribes is that in many cases the difficulties experienced ensuing severities of weather conditions can be traced to the hand of man. Such as ill-constructed or maintained drainage systems, trees in various stages of decay in close proximity to roads, roads themselves bordered by high banks or walls encouraging drifting snow, or houses/housing estates built on land liable to flooding.

Immediately subsequent to submitting my last weather notes to the Killin News, at the end of July, a series of thunderstorms over southern Scotland curved NE over Perthshire accompanied by heavy rain. On striking the Highland line at Callander the rain and severity of the storms increased causing much scouring of forestry drains on Loch Lubnaig-side and in Balquhiddier the Calair burn overflowed on to surrounding roads. This particular storm passed right overhead at Ardtalnaig – instantaneous flash and thunderclap, incidentally rendering the telephone out of commission for a fortnight – the fourth time this has occurred in 2002. BT please note!!

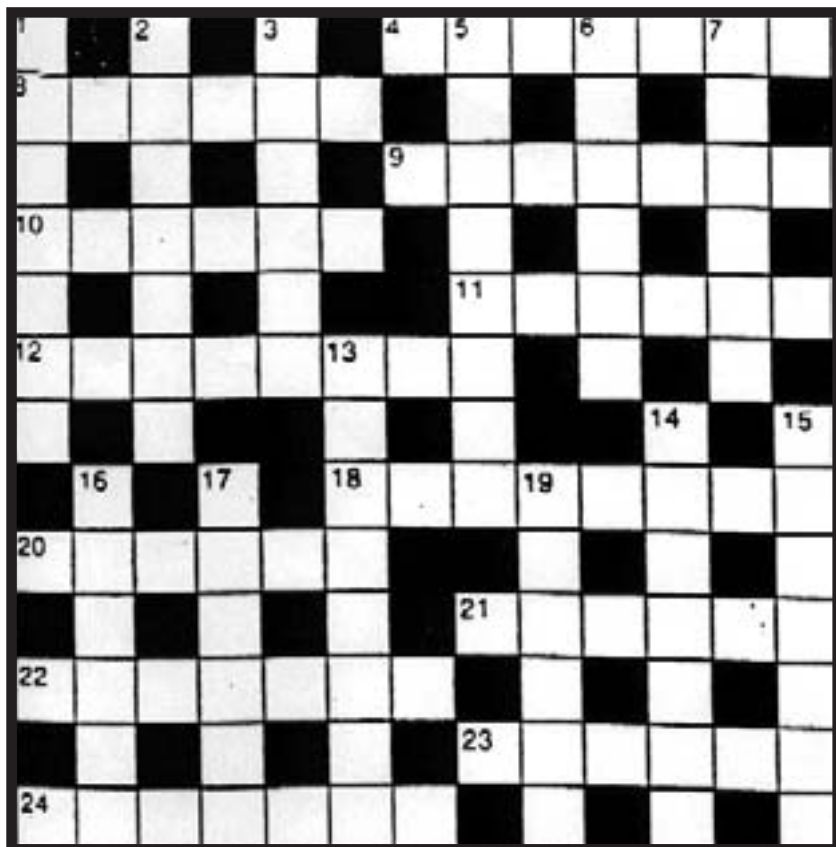
The thunderstorms then moved NE again striking high ground at Gleann Muillin, above Fortingall, bringing the burn of Allt Odhar into excessive flood. A one time wooden bridge across this burn had apparently been replaced some time ago by a fine new steel structure which of course did not give way when tree trunks and other detritus was swept down from the gorge above, resulting in a "beaver like" dam. This dam either overflowed or burst, the subsequent damage to Glen Lyon House, contents and precincts was horrendous. Another thunderstorm, or perhaps the same one, struck Pitlochry and did much damage to the supermarket there. We are told that much of the food and groceries sailed off down the Main Street, it is also reported that when the whisky and beer suffered a similar fate there were Compton Mackenzie-like scenes of recovery!

On 6 August another thundery outbreak again moved from Kenmore down Strathday to just south of Pitlochry causing further flooding to the Edradour burn and to the Perth-Inverness railway line. On this occasion Loch Tayside and west of Acharn remained dry and sunny.

Generally speaking August weatherwise was an improvement on July, with several high pressure salients pushing N and E from the "Azores High". However, these ridges turned out to be somewhat insipid and short lived and appeared not to have much resistance against invasion by Atlantic "lows". Also the air has been humid and moisture laden which, coupled with the still, damp conditions of the land, has been detrimental to saving hay and has also produced ideal conditions for blowfly maggots in sheep. Although August has produced a number of days where the daily maximum has exceeded 70F the summer of 2002 has, on Lochtayside at least, been most disappointing with much higher than average rainfall and lack of sunshine.

Mervyn K Browne
Ardalnaig

Crossword by Scorpio



Across

4. A/C (7)
8. For exploiting natural gas (3,3)
9. A country ruled by a Muslim prince (7)
10. Used for ice cream and for making music (6)
11. What you are seeking right now (6)
12. Journalists (8)
18. Ten broom bushes needed for melody making (8)
20. Concerning a change of position? – Just shift it! (6)
21. This coming has its own special calendar (6)
22. The place for those who enjoy eternal youth (3,4)
23. Physical effort and politics (6)
24. Make a fuss over a bell but did it in a loving way (7)

Down

1. Swindle mushroom with time and end up with a general idea. (7)
2. He has taken in a beginner and kissed the stone (7)
3. Wreck and pearl seekers (6)
5. Order nothing and remain a member of the forces (8)
6. She is hideously cruel (6)
7. This spice is not a crazy lady (6)
13. A large white bird (4,4)
14. Bedroom upset by creating ennui (7)
15. Go forth (7)
16. Look upon (6)
17. Barrow boy (6)
19. Curry, fabric and place (6)

Solution to Crossword Issue 70

Across: 4. Display 8. Seaman 9. Animate 10. Cracks 11. Reason 12. Aperture 18. Parallel 20. Stable 21. Frizzy 22. Trouble 23. Pigeon 24. Red Tape

Down: 1. Asocial 2. Paraded 3. Basket 5. Inner Ear 6. Pampas 7. Action 13. Upper Lip 14. Glazier 15. Playing 16. Starve 17. Abduct 19. Afraid

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Thank You

Liz Stevens would like to thank all the people who have helped with the Junior Golf this year with both time and money.

Special thanks to the Tighnabruaich Hotel, The Golf Foundation, Brendon Pyle, Allan Knox, Mark Pirie, Jimmy and Maureen Gauld, Inga and Shona and the catering crew, and of course the regular helpers who I can always depend on (Mark, Laurence, John and Tam), not forgetting all the other club members who have turned out to help.

Have a nice rest until next season!

Judge & Mrs Stroyan would like to thank all those who helped make the garden opening on 21 July such a success. A total of £917.80 was raised with £367.12 going to the Killin Branch of Cancer Research UK.

Killin News



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

Friday 8 November 2002

This will be the Christmas Issue and will be distributed around 22 November.

Notification of events occurring during mid to late November, December, January and February 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.

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on line at: www.killin.co.uk

New Website for National Park

www.justoutstanding.co.uk

To coincide with the creation of Scotland's first National Park, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, and the plans for another National Park covering the Cairngorm area, a new website www.justoutstanding.co.uk has been officially launched by VisitScotland Chairman Peter Lederer. The website provides information on all aspects of Scotland's National Parks, from how to get there to activities you can do in the parks, as well as information on the wildlife and habitats within the park.

A joint project led by Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and the Trossachs Tourist Board, with the Highlands of Scotland, Perthshire and Aberdeen and Grampian Tourist Boards and funding support from VisitScotland and the European Union, the website is intended to reinforce Scotland's strong environmental credentials with key markets and fits in well with the new approach to marketing Scotland as a must see destination.

Commenting on the development of the website, James Fraser, Chief Executive of Argyll, The Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and the Trossachs Tourist Board said, "When the plans for the National Parks were first announced it was felt steps should be taken to provide an easily accessible source of information for visitors interested in the Parks and it made sense for the Tourist Boards to work together with the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs Interim Committee and Cairngorms Partnership to address the needs of visitors".

Further information on the National Park is available from the National Park Gateway Centre at Balloch, Telephone 08700 200631.

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Short Story Competition

The Concorde

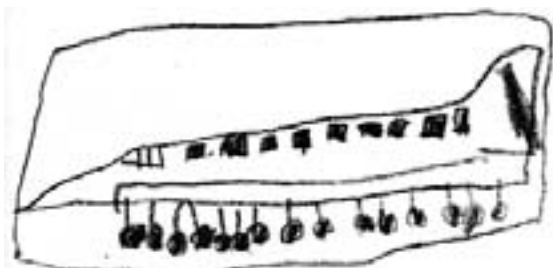
One day the concord was getting redly to fly. The captain said to the First officer Reddy for tack off. First stop Paris in France. On and on they flew.

They arrived in France at last. Next stop America. Said the control tower.

Then concorde came to a stop and had found an old Red Arrow. It had crashed a long time ago. Concorde took it to a mctc but when he got there he did not give it to them because it was being taken to Tonbridge Castle.

Peter Hart, Age 5, Tonbridge, Kent

Editor: Peter's story covered 8 pages complete with drawings (one of which is above). Unfortunately it was too big to print here, but it will be judged in its original state.



the CONCORDE

Another couple of entries in our Short Story Competition. Perhaps this will inspire more of you - adults or children to put pen to paper.

The Shadow of Darkness

Looking out across the hillside, the inhabitants of Stargazer village realised that it was now an inferno of fire, death and darkness. The farmhouses with their hanging baskets and creeping honeysuckle were becoming dungeons for their owners, afraid to go outside and see how close the slow moving shadow was to burning their houses and taking their freedom. The unknown shadow was like a gateway to the darkest darkness. It had arrived late on the Thursday night and had started devouring the happiness. They had watched in terror as the Macinises had been plucked from their houses and sucked into the darkness. The

people watching were the only ones brave enough to venture outside and get their own view of the nightmare. Every inch it went on it seemed to expand. The weather since the thing came had turned bleak and stormy. Lightning was flashing overhead and thunder roared in the near distance. Suddenly the thunder roared as loud as a lion in a tiny metal room, the shadow then expanded and sucked in the whole world. For millions of years the world was trapped in this terror and it still is today, however the darkness ceased and left only murder, war, sadness, terrorism and despair. Maybe one day the shadow will release the earth and it will be like it was before sadness, despair, war and murder arrived.

*Rosie Campbell
Age 10*

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A Vision of Killin's Future from 1922

You may be aware that a 'Book Club' is in existence in Killin. It meets once a month in members homes to discuss books, films, plays, poetry etc. You may not be so aware that in Killin's past a similar club was established, the "Killin Literary Society". We are not sure whether they could consume as much wine as the current club, of which I am a member, it sounds a lot more sophisticated, however they did seem to have our good sense of humour!

The poem below was a vision of Killin's future composed by the late Mr James McRae who died in 1951 (born probably around 1875?). He was Headmaster at Killin Public School from around 1920 - 1940, it was read at the Literary Society in February 1922. It was kindly lent to the Killin News by the late Miss Aileen Smith, but we thought it worthy of another print run.

Editor

Killin Literary Society 1922

A Vision of Killin In 1942

For I dipped into the future in the style of Sherlock Holmes,
Saw the Main Street filled with ladies with a host of little poms,
Saw a fleet of Carabancs at the City Hall drawn up,
With a team of Yankee golfers who had won the Doctor's Cup.

The I joined a car for Lawers and we sped along the road
Where the lines of massive mansions showed the profiteers' abode,
We climbed the Paracriach, and the Loch it lay below,
So I left at Drumnalarig, to the Loch I wished to go.

When I reached the Pier Station, 'Twas a miracle I saw
For the Pier, it was a busy as the Glasgow Broomielaw.

Then I came back by the railway, 'Twas electrified of course
And I'm sure I saw that rare animal - a horse,
When I reached the City streets, the flags were going up
For Killin had been to Ibrox, and had won the "Scottish Cup".

I wandered round at dusk, when it was grown dark
Saw the crowds go trooping homewards from the Killin Public Bar
Then I saw the "Killin Herald" flaunt its bills before my eyes
And the newsboys they were shouting all the village latest lies
Then I read the daily paper and as I turn the pages O'er
I learned the Scottish Premier had been born at Monemore.

At night I climbed up Sron a Chlachan, there a Hydropathic stood,
Where Twenty years before had been a scrap of scraggy wood.
From there I viewed the City, and it was a glittering sight,
For from Tyndrum up to Grey Street, all had got electric light.
A speck on the horizon to an aeroplane it grew
And it carried all the letters that came from me and you.

Then I saw The Scottish Parliament 'Twas filled with feminines galore
And a lady for Killin was shouting wisdom on it's floor,
You may scoff and you may argue such things can never be
But with Asquith I shall answer, "Just you wait and see".

**If you would like more information on the Killin Book Club,
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A View From The Park

I was recently asked "How will visitors know when they are in Scotland's first National Park?" I am pleased to say that the first welcome signs have been erected in the Dunbartonshire area of the park and those for the Stirling, Perth & Kinross and Argyll & Bute areas will follow in the next few weeks. The slight delay was in obtaining agreements with the various councils.

After our training session on August 12, the authority members visited Loch Lubnaig, Strathyre and Kings House car park, as part of our "getting to know the park". The opportunity was taken to see at first hand some of the vandalism caused by those visitors aptly named as "Buckfast Fishermen". We were also able to get some background on the planned development for the Forestry Commission at Stank Glen and the proposed living history museum and craft workshop at Kings House.

A project, in conjunction with the Community Council, to look at the recreational use of Loch Earn is underway and the project manager, Jack Bissett, is in the process of meeting with various businesses to obtain their views on a possible voluntary code. I will be particularly interested in this.

The first tranche of sub-committees has now been established and I find myself appointed to the Planning and Development Control Committee and also the audit committee where I am joined by Councillor Tony Ffinch.

The Park authority will be holding its meetings at various venues throughout the park area. The meeting on August 26 took place at Benmore Gardens, Argyll. I hope that when the meeting is held in this area as many of you as possible will come along.

Owen McKee

Thanks extended to our friends at 'The Villagers' for this article.

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Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club

What is happening on the Astroturf?

After yet another Scottish summer the astroturf which has often been flooded, unusable and the bane of the committee's life, has at last been refurbished. Stirling Council relented to pressure from Suzanne and Kay, and came up with the funding required.

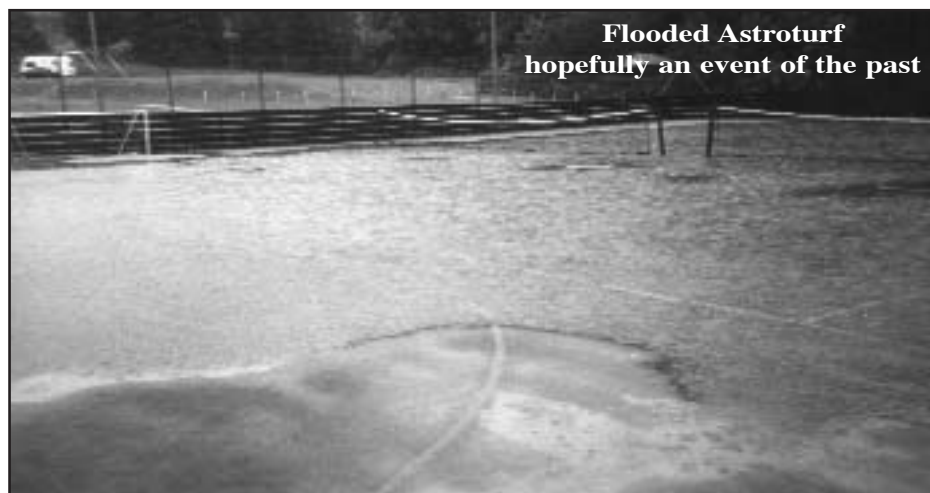
The first stage, is a complete refurbishment of the existing astroturf. This involved sucking the sand from the carpet and thoroughly cleaning it. Followed by drilling new drainage holes. The next stage in a few years time is to replace the astroturf.

It is a pity that the council cannot waiver the £2,500 we pay in rent each year, but we are extremely grateful that they are finally helping us out with the astroturf.

Another alteration to the astroturf has been the erection of a net to stop the footballs being kicked into Dall Lodge. The net was erected by some of the local Firemen (photo opposite) and has been funded by Stirling Council and a generous donation from Dall Lodge Hotel.

The wooden edging to the bowling green will also be replaced, thanks to a donation from the Co-op Community Dividend and Colin Higgins' plant sale.

We would like to thank everyone who has helped us out in these ventures.



**Flooded Astroturf
hopefully an event of the past**

LS & KR



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If you are a Carer, and need more information about any of the topics in this article, please contact: The Princess Royal Trust Stirling Carers Centre, Cameronian Street, Upper Craigs, Stirling FK8 2DX, Tel/Fax: 01786 447003, www.carers.org/stirling

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LETTERS



Dear Editor

Being back at home again, I just thought I would write a few lines to the Killin News about our recent stay in Killin, or to be exact, about the playground in Breadalbane Park and the rubbish.

But first things first. Our holiday in Schottland was as always (always means two weeks, since nearly 10 years) fantastic.

Our stay in Killin included a daily visit to the playground, because of our 20 months old son Joshua Ryan. From a distance this playground looks pretty nice, but then we found out, it's rather more dangerous than pretty. The sand and little wood pieces covering the ground are nearly gone. This means the plastic foil, covering the underground comes out in pieces - especially near to the slide and the 'go-round-thing'. That's the reason why our son fell down very often and it was only due to our permanent attention - and of course of good luck - that he wasn't hurt seriously. Just getting through this difficulty, the next challenge was waiting. Our daily question was, "How to avoid the rubbish going into the mouth of our son?". The whole playground is covered with rubbish and young children tend to bring nearly everything in to their mouth. But this isn't very tasty and certainly not healthy. So why is it not possible to throw the rubbish into the bin and empty it more often? I mean especially the younger generation, they have to learn not to throw everything away instead of putting it into the bin.

So please, all Killin inhabitants, be a shining example and keep the playground clean and in good repair and we would like to come to Killin again.

Nice greeting
Sabine Stangenberg
Hamburg

Green Bowlers v Carpet Bowlers

After the worst season on record for the Green Bowlers, they had the largest number of rinks for the bi-annual match of Green Bowlers versus Carpet Bowlers on 11 August. A wet morning cleared in time for the matches which resulted in the 'Carpets' winning on shots. Rain did not stop play, but much to the disappointment of many, the damp must have discouraged the streaker this year!

Thanks are extended for the lovely tea provided after this closely contested match. The return match on the indoor carpet tables is hoped to be held during October. Thanks are also extended to Kay and David Riddell.

Green Bowlers: new members will be most welcome next year and should get in touch with Jill Higgins on 820679.

Carpet Bowlers: new members will be most welcome now and should get in touch with Frances Gaskell on 820212.

Julia Thornton
& Frances Gaskell

The Killin Carpet Bowlers Club Annual General Meeting will be held on Monday, 30 September at 7.30pm in the McLaren Lesser Hall. Bowling starts the following Monday, 7 October at the same time and same place.

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New Primary 1 Pupils

It's hard to believe that another year has passed and that these 'babies' have now started school. When asked if they were enjoying being at school, the answer was a resounding YES!

Photos: Editor



Above from left to right the new intake at Killin Primary School under the watchful eye of Mrs Frost are Morgan McLarty, Liam Hinks (with Pebbles the puppy), Nathan Judd, Ishbel Hayes, Connor Winton, Brett McKenzie

On the left, from left to right, are Crianlarich Primary 1's, Callum Clement, Adam Kyle, Sophie Thomson and Brad Ronald.

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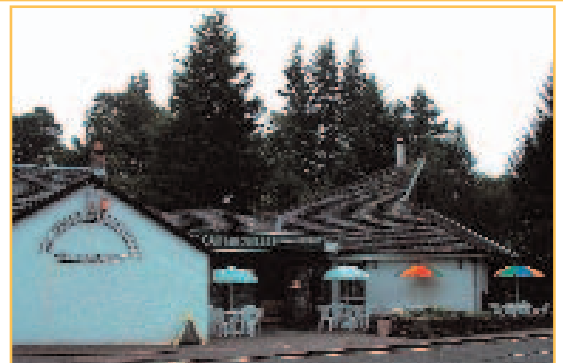
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