



ONLINE EDITION

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 73 February 2003



*A  
Hearty Welcome  
to all our readers from the new  
Editorial Team*



# Wedding Belles



On Thursday 19 December 2002 Lesley Allan and William Stitt were married on the ice of Lake Louise in Canada.



The Marriage of Elma Buchan and Peter Reilly on Friday 27th December at the Church of The Holy Rude Stirling. The reception then took place at The Huntingtower Hotel Perth.

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## THANK YOU



# New brewery in Breadalbane

Some of the beer drinking pub goers amongst us may have noticed that there's some new beer in town. Killin's Coach House Hotel is the first pub to sell the new Breadalbane Brewery's fine real ales.

The Breadalbane brewery is not actually that new, first being built last May as a shared home brew set up between the now partners Tober Brown, Andy Warwick and Pat Hayes.

The brewery was the brain child of Andy who has been brewing and drinking his own beer since he was 17 and legally since he was 18! Starting off using home brew kits, he quickly moved onto creating his own recipes with malt extract and hops, then in 1997 developed to brewing all grain beers and joined the 'Scottish Craft Brewers' a group of amateur home brewers devoted to brewing beers as good as if not better than those you buy.

The limiting factor was a place to build a small brewery. Fortunately this was overcome when 'jack of ALL trades', Pat, was employed by Tober to help restore his large and derelict byre at Tombreck farm. Once the huge roof was replaced, work started on the brewery (if ever there was an incentive) and the 'home brew' set up, a mere 350 pints per batch, was built. The first two batches were brewed and drunk almost immediately at the midsummer wedding of Andy and Georgia Crook, where party goers consumed 500 free pints on Tombreck beach in two days! The success of these and subsequent brews convinced the three brewers that it was far too selfish to keep all this beer to themselves and the process of moving the brewery into a new part of the barn, specially built to environmental

health standard, started.

The brewery now, is still the original 350 pint set up (possibly the smallest in the country) but all the profits from the beer



produced from it will go towards building a larger, more viable unit later in the year. The multi-skilled Pat is building every bit of the brewery often from re used or converted equipment, with many 'one off' parts, so there is no grant or cash injections in this venture.

The new Breadalbane Brewery is not the first brewery to be built around Loch Tay, however. In 1572 'Grey Colin' Campbell, kinsman of the Earl of Argyll and direct ancestor of the Marquesses of Breadalbane, leased the alehouse now known as the Kenmore Hotel to a Mr. Hew Hay. When he did this he closed all other alehouses for miles around Loch Tay

'except ane brouster to be on the north side and ane uther upone the south side in Eddirgoll'. These two breweries probably survived into the reign of Sir Colin's successor, 'Black Duncan of the seven castles'. He imposed a regulation that 'no man shall in any public-house drink more than a chopin of ale with his neibour's wife, in the absence of her husband, upon the penalty of £10 and sitting 24 hours in the stocks' Beer must have had the same qualities then as it does now! This story prompted the new brewery to name one of their beers 'Black Duncan', a smooth dark malty pint, after Mr. seven castles himself.

I would urge all beer drinkers to try 'micro-brewery' beers not just from Breadalbane Brewery, but from other local breweries such as those at Moulin, Bridge of Allan, Kinlochleven and Loch Fyne. Local people brewing for local people is a tradition which has been lost for a long time, the beer is a better product and offers far more variety and choice than a pint of the 'usual' from an impersonal multi national company.

If anyone knows more of the history of the Loch Tay breweries we would be very interested in hearing it. Any other enquiries about the brewery, ask Andy, Pat or Tober.

**Cheers!**

Andrew C. Warwick, Tigh-na-Fhin

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# Killin Community Council

The meeting on 14th January was attended by ten members of the public, Councillor Ffinch, Suzanne Player, Community Animator, and Gavin Skipper, Countryside Ranger.

**Gritting and Roads** BEAR have had no negotiations with Stirling Council and are not responsible for the gritting of side roads. It was felt that the roads were well gritted during the recent cold spell but Councillor Ffinch was asked to keep pushing for side road gritting. He reported that the painting of the white lines at the end of Station Road would be done when the white liners were available and the National Park signs were in hand.

**Christmas Tree** Thanks would be passed on to Stitt Bros., Douglas McRobbie, Judge Stroyan and the Episcopal Church for their help with the Christmas tree and a cheque would be sent to the Church for the electricity used. There would be no more Christmas trees from the Boreland Estate as there were no suitable trees left. The

Forestry Commission would be approached about supplying a tree for 2003 and Jock Stewart would arrange for the new bulbs and harness which are needed.

**Fireworks** These had gone very well at Hogmanay and thanks were given to Duncan Anderson, Elizabeth Woods, John Sinclair, Richard Shand and all who helped on the night. A collection raised approximately £600 and it would be decided at a later meeting whether fireworks would take place again next year.

**Other matters** Planning applications had been received from the Co-operative Society for the installation of an auto-teller machine and the erection of a new door for a goods entrance.

It was proposed that a Community Futures Forum should be held every 6 months. A date would be arranged at the next meeting.

Lomond and Trossachs Media is launching a new free newspaper to

cover the communities in the National Park. It was not expected that this would be a threat to the Killin News.

BT had written to say it wanted to remove one phone box from beside Myrtle Grove.

It was noted that once or twice recently six children had to sit in the parcel area of the school bus due to shortage of seats. Mr. Ffinch was to look into this and letters would be sent to the Bus Group, Police and School.

The Nurses Clinic should be finished in January and day care for the elderly would then begin.

The Chairman would be investigating proposed new regulations on hospital cars.

The next meeting will be in the Primary School on Tuesday, 11th March, 2003 at 7.30pm.

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# Mervyn's Weather

As we pile on the years, time increasingly seems to gallop. No sooner is the calendar turned over to a new month than a week has passed, then mid-month, and before one knows another month looms up. Likewise the years slip by. It seems no time since writing the Killin News article describing the gales and rains of autumn and winter 2001/2. Now it is the turn of autumn and early winter 2002/3 and until mid January the gales have been entirely absent. After a period of halcyon days in September and early October conditions reverted to those which we have now come to expect i.e. almost daily rain, plus in the second half of October, considerable hill snow cover, at times down to 1400 feet. November and December were, although mild, dismal in the extreme. During the period 1 November till 1 January sunshine was recorded here at Ardtalnaig on only 13 days giving a total of less than 19 hours. Granted we have here considerable "cut-off" in winter by high ground to East and South. This lack of sunshine combined with almost unrelenting winds from an Easterly direction must surely produce ideal conditions for the ailment known as S.A.D - "Seasonal Affective Disorder".

On 2 January 2003, with the new moon, suddenly the temperature fell and the skies cleared and we were subjected to 10 days clear, frosty weather, which of course was a tonic to constitutions jaded by the gloom of previous weeks. Now we are "back to normal" rain and wind. It has been noticeable this winter that any snow cover, which has been entirely absent at lower levels, was, with the exception of the October spell, even on high hills, little more than a dusting or trace and has, on the advent of milder conditions, almost entirely vanished. There has as yet, even on the highest hills, been no sign of the normal build up of established snow bed so beloved of skiers. There is however a period of 6 to 8 weeks during which heavy falls could occur.

Birdtables are popular places - with birds - he/she who contributes on a daily basis, peanuts, suet balls etc. to their feeding point must I'm sure look anxiously at their wallets as these ravenous little gourmets gobble up everything proffered. But then what price can one put on good going birdsong in spring?

*"Swans it is said sing before they die  
But it was no bad thing  
Were some people to die before they sing!"*

Watching the daily parade of finches, tits, woodpeckers, black-birds, sparrows and others, I often wonder how the different species and subspecies adhere to their separate existences and indeed how do they know how and what to sing? Blackbirds and thrushes can produce "variations on the theme" which however is still an easily recognisable repertoire. Later on in the season when general birdsong is waning, the blackbird continues gamely, though now with a slow, rather retrospective melody which seems to reflect the pathos



of summers long gone. Perhaps some ornithologist could throw some light on the aforesaid queries.

Mervyn K Browne. Ardtalnaig.

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## The 2003 Salmon Season

### The Auchmore Opening

The 15th of January dawned to usher in the new season with gale force winds, sleet, hail, thunder and lightning. At Auchmore some sixty friends and well wishers gathered along with nine boats complete with hardy anglers. Breakfast of hot sausages on rolls, washed down with a refreshing draught was enjoyed by everyone generously provided by Stephan and Heinz. The Rev John Lincoln gave the traditional blessing for a fruitful safe season, and we remembered departed friends. Fortified with a dram of Famous Grouse, courtesy of our valued sponsors, off some hardy anglers went to brave the weather, piped out by Duncan MacKinnon, with others preferring to wait until another day to wet their lines. Two boats returned early but others enjoyed some shelter on the south shoreline. No fresh

fish were caught, two were lost, and several kelts gave some excitement before being released.

### The Evening Salmon Supper

The social side of opening day concluded with supper in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel. This very popular event was over subscribed. A hearty supper was enjoyed and entertainment provided by Duncan on the Border Pipes. Alex Stewart introduced Jane Rowan, who represented the Sponsors of the West End Association and Chris White, the winner for 2001, was asked to present Stephan Schumann with the Grouse Trophy as the 2002 winner. Thanks were expressed to all involved including Group Captain Downing, Jane Rowan, The Rev. John Lincoln, Dugald and his helpers, and The Bridge of Lochay Hotel.

### The Silent Auction

On the night of the supper a silent auction was held to raise money for the Tay Ghillies Fund. Paintings, a Salmon Priest, Wading Sticks, a Fly Box, a Trout Fly Reel and a day's Fishing with boat and Ghillie on the River Tweed were among the items on offer. The sum of £325 was raised. Grateful thanks were expressed to all who donated and to the successful bidders. This will be an annual feature on the social calendar.

### West End Salmon Fishers Association

The annual meeting of the association took place in the Killin Hotel on Friday 17th January. The Chairman, Group Captain Dowling, spoke of the sudden death of the secretary Allan Walker and the great assistance he had been since the formation of the Association. A moment's silence was held. The Chairman thanked Alex Stewart for taking over the administration until the meeting. Items discussed included continuing with the agreed method of trolling with three rods and displaying right numbers clearly on boats. Group Captain Dowling retired as Chairman. Stephan Schumann was voted in as his replacement. Dr. David Summers of the Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board addressed the meeting. He outlined the work in surveys and said he was grateful for the help of the Killin Angling Club Members with this. There was a good head of fry in the Rivers Fillan and Dochart, but very few in the River Cononish. Checks on the River Lochay showed good growth rates of fry in areas seeded in Spring 2002. Very few salmon were present in the river and spawning naturally. An agreement with the electricity board was being formulated to allow more water through the lift at the Lochay

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Power Station to encourage more fish up to the upper reaches. Research was being carried out into the food chain in all rivers to ensure sufficient natural resources were available for fry. Derek Gregor, of the T.D.S.F.B., thanked the local honorary bailiffs for the help and assistance they had given during the season. Dr. Summers said the policy on catch and release would continue and reports submitted by those who released fish must include the location and tag number as well as the names of the angler and any witness. A meeting of the new board shortly would look at taking powers to alter fishing methods, particularly worming. The Chairman thanked both speakers and everyone who had attended.



Lodges served to modify the effects. The onshore wind precluded any early start and the restless boats remained in the safe haven provided by the newly constructed marina. Roger Sharp stirred the emotions and braved the, at times, very heavy rain with his pipes. The Rev. J.L.L. Fagerson provided a blessing for the occasion. He reminded us of

### **The Tay Liaison Committee**

I have been asked to clarify the situation on accessing fishing certain hill lochs. The 1998 report submitted to, and accepted by the Scottish Office, clearly states that Lochan nan Cat, which is on part of the National Trust land, and all waters on Kennock Estate, are an exclusion zone, and no fishing for any species is allowed by any angler.

Lochan nan Geadas and Lochan Breaclauch are other hill lochs, which by agreement with the riparian owner, can only be accessed by angling club members not visitors. Documentation confirming this can be obtained from the Liaison Committee.

The Tay Liaison Committee are actively pursuing arranging new agreements with various riparian owners which, when concluded, may give some access to previously excluded lochs

### **The End of Week Stovie Supper**

On Saturday evening January 18th anglers and friends gathered in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel. The sponsor's prize for the best salmon of opening week was presented to Stephan Schumann who caught an 11.5lb fish ably assisted by his ghillie Dugald. The bottle of Famous Grouse was presented to Stephan by Pat Wood.

**Alex Stewart.**

### **Milton Morenish**

The severe weather forecast was not comforting as we waited for first light. The sound of the waves whipped up by gusts on the loch did not auger well for the day's fishing. Comfort was close at hand, accommodated out of the wind, where soup, fresh rolls and whisky, provided by the sponsors Bells Whisky and Clive Booth of Highland

the antiquity and importance of fishing, the first chosen disciples were fishermen. In a few moments of silence we paid respect to those anglers who, sadly, had died during the past year, John Orr, Davy Reid, and Allan Walker. And so coloured by the seasonal Highland weather another year of salmon fishing was opened on Loch Tay. WA

and rivers but, until these are successfully signed, anglers fishing these lochs and rivers could incur criminal proceedings against them and have their equipment impounded.

The Liaison Committee will be publishing its annual report shortly and copies can be obtained from the Recorder or via the web site.

**Alex Stewart** Recorder to TLC

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## Local Community Learning Opportunities

The adult learning programme is well under way for the area with 11 classes running in 6 different communities in the North West Highland Stirling area. Nearly 90 people are learning a range of different subjects. Most students do not have too far to travel, but this term we also have people attending from Inverarnan, Fearnan, St Fillans and Gargunnoch! to take part in classes - some of which are not available in the urban areas.

If anyone is interested in taking part in the classes, which are provided by Clackmannan College in partnership with Stirling Council, but are wary of taking that first step into the world of 'adult education', please do not hesitate to contact Suzanne Player, SC Community Animator, for a chat and she will try to answer any questions.

In addition to the published programme we hope that Gaelic will once again be running in Killin from February and Aerobics in Tyndrum from the end of January. Line Dancing will also be happening in Lochearnhead and Killin and we are working on bringing a wider variety of music tuition to the area. We are also still planning to hold taster sessions in Basket Weaving, Upholstery and Interior Design in Strathfillan, so please look out for posters.

**Suzanne Player and Martin Judd**

(Stirling Council Community Animateurs)

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## Changes at Killin News

Readers will know that Linda Fitzgerald has now retired as editor of the Killin News. During the past five years she has devoted an enormous amount of time to the paper and it has gone from strength to strength. We are all very grateful to her for her hard work and dedication and wish her enjoyment in her paper-free life. What readers may not know is that Linda also used a room in her house for producing the paper. Some of you may have noticed a new sign which has appeared by the Wee Bake Shop and we are pleased to say that this marks our new office. Our official address is now Killin News, Main Street, Killin, the new telephone number is 01567 820014 and the e-mail address will remain the same. We will use our new base to continue producing the paper – with your help.

Remember we can't know everything that goes on and we do rely on information, articles and photographs coming in from readers.

The Killin News production Team have risen to the challenge of editorial change. The Killin News is designed to share the news and air the views of the community and we are making every effort in this direction. The skills required are shared between all the committee members. This requires careful

teamwork. You will see changes in this edition. We seek to develop a suitable style and format. Your views are needed to give direction to our efforts and develop your newspaper.

### Short story competition

The short story competition has now reached its conclusion. All entries will be judged before the next issue and the prize winners announced.

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## Killin Curling Club

**Outside Curling** The Killin Curling Club enjoyed a few days curling on the Killin pond during 2nd week in January. We managed to play from the Tuesday until Friday, with a match against Lochearnhead on Friday night. Hopefully there will be ice again this year and we will have more games on the pond. Everyone is very welcome to join in, so if you are interested in curling, don't wait for an invitation, just come to the pond and join in.

**Burns Supper** The Curling Club have also held their Burns Supper at Killin Golf Club in Saturday 18th January which was very successful and well-attended. The President Moira Reilly welcomed everyone. Kenny Lang piped in the Haggis and Douglas Willison ably addressed the Haggis. Colin McRae gave the Toast to the Lassies, with lots of comparisons, and Margaret Taylor gave a good reply on behalf of the Lassies. Martin Kennedy gave an excellent rendition of Tam O Shanter. Mary Masterson, Jim and Frances Cushley, Scotty Wilson, Jo Scott, Martin Kennedy and Colin McRae also entertained us with songs and sketches. All those people contributed to make the evening such a success. We are

also very grateful to all of the non-curlers who support the Burns Supper, which is our main fund raising event.

**50 Years of Curling** During the Burns Supper at the Golf Club, Johnny and Douglas Willison were presented with Medals from the RCCC (Royal Caledonian Curling Club) to mark their 50 years of curling and membership --a great achievement.

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## Killin Heritage Society

The Society was delighted to welcome Dr. Nicholas Dixon, from the Crannog Centre, as the speaker for December. Dr. Dixon gave the audience an update on survey work carried out in Loch Lomond and the discoveries made during the last two years since work began again on the excavations at Oakbank crannog. Loch Tay.

No excavations have been carried out on the Oakbank site since 1992. Work began again in 2001 and it continues to be a major source of information regarding the construction of crannogs and what life was like for those living there. Radio carbon dating of some material has given up a date of 500BC and 266 different plants have been identified from this one site alone. Large amounts of constructional remains, including hundreds of piles and other large structural timbers, as well as bracken on the floor, have been discovered as excavations continue towards the loch bed. In the 2001/2 seasons major finds include an oval canoe paddle (the one found in 1981 was more like an oar), a bronze ring and a swan's neck pin that may be made of silver or silver plate.

As part of the Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project, Dr. Dixon and his team will be carrying out a 3D transect survey and he hopes that local people will be willing to help by walking sections of the shore as well as doing some snorkelling in the shallower water. You may even be given the opportunity to go a bit deeper! Anyone interested in helping should contact the Crannog Centre.

Dr. John Atkinson, the speaker for February, is hoping that locals will become involved with his archaeological excavations for the Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project. Dr. Atkinson, principal of the Archaeological Research Division of Glasgow University, is the Project Director for the Lawers Project. He will be overseeing the work for the next three years.

The speaker for March 7 is



## W. R. I. Christmas Party

Inspector Ian Cameron, the Wildlife Liaison Officer for Central He will talk on the role the police force plays in Wildlife Protection.

On April 4 the Society will welcome Doreen Grove, Principal Inspector of Ancient Monuments, Historic Scotland, to talk about Argyll's Lodgings, Stirling. She has recently put together a new guidebook for the property, which is one of the main historic buildings in the area and well worth a visit.

Everyone is welcome to come along to the meetings but by paying a subscription of £5 you can demonstrate your support for the Society. The Society has a collection of photographs and other archive material and is always keen to add to this. The list of items held is currently being updated but the archives themselves may not at the present time be accessed directly by members of the public. However, should anyone like further information or to view a particular item they just need to contact me on 820492.

**Gillean Ford**

Killin W.R.I. was formed in 1924. The first children's treat was on 11th November 1925 in the Public Hall, now the Laundry, when 110 pupils attended. Pupils from Glen Lochay, Glen Dochart, Kiltyrie and Ardeonaig schools were included. In 1933 the children's treat was changed to December and each child received a present from the Christmas tree. By 1936 the venue was moved to the new McLaren Hall. In 1939 the party started at 2pm, before that it had been a late afternoon/early evening affair. In the early war years the bag of eatables had to cost no more than 5d with a piece of fruit if available. Over the years the entertainment has included ventriloquists, conjurers, film shows and puppet theatres. The Crieff Cinema Co. charged £5 in 1937 to give a film show. During the 1950s the Rural ladies presented different pantomimes. There were 125 chil-

dren at the 1957 party. Today the younger members of the Rural entertain the children with the help of some non Rural mothers. The guest list for the party has grown from 8 in 1932 to 30 in 2002. This includes all staff and ex-staff from the school, doctors, nurses, ministers, and registrar - all people connected with the welfare of the children. In 2002 we entertained 69 children, each received an apple, orange, satsuma, sweets and a balloon from Santa. The committee would like to thank the Stroyan family who, for over 50 years have supplied the tree and crackers, Gordon Webster who has donated a box of fruit for many years, the Masonic Lodge for decorating the Hall and all who help in any way to enable us to keep the tradition of the schoolchildren's Christmas party alive.

**Mairi Hunter.**

## Environmental Action Killin

Update on footpath work. One of EAK's main on going projects is the improvement, maintenance and signposting of Killin's footpaths for the benefit of locals and visitors. Since the clearing work on the line and the building of the boardwalk at the head of the Loch in Spring 2001, this work has been set aside while the new access legislation was being discussed and the National Park set up. We hope that the way ahead is clearer now. The next step is to complete a comprehensive survey of the network of Paths around the village. The newly appointed Rangers for our area (Gavin Skipper and Callum Ritchie) ran a training session for EAK members on a very chilly Sunday in December. We were shown how to do a detailed path

survey and how to map and record what we found. It was an interesting and enjoyable morning made more so by the cheerful company and glimpses of Goldeneye and Whooper swans as we tramped along. We are now working on the surveys and hope to submit them soon.

**Janet Somerville**

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W. R. I.

Killin W.R.I.

December

Mrs. M. Hunter, President, welcomed members to the meeting held in the McLaren Lesser Hall on Tuesday 3rd Mrs June Palmer was introduced then gave the meeting a very interesting demonstration of decorating a Christmas cake, which she later donated to the Raffle. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs. M. Aitken.

After tea, served by the hostesses,

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Mrs. M. Aitken and Mrs. C. Rew, the minutes of the last meeting were read. Boards went round for volunteers to make sandwiches and jellies for the Children's Party and also for names for our 79th Birthday Party.

Competition Results:

Decorated Victoria Sponge

- 1. Mrs. M. Graham
- 2. Mrs. C. Reid

Royal Souvenir

- 1. Mrs. B. MacGregor
- 2. Mrs. C. Hope
- 3= Mrs. E. Stewart  
Mrs. M. Graham

January

The President Mrs. M. Hunter, welcomed the twenty four members who attended the 79th Birthday Dinner held in the Killin Hotel on Thursday 9th January 2003. After a lovely dinner, the cake was cut by Mrs. Margaret MacDonald.

Competition Results

- Tiara 1. Mrs. J. Huntley  
2. Mrs. M. Naismith  
3. Mrs. M. Graham

Poem =1 Mrs. M. Graham  
Mrs. M. Hunter

Ardeonaig & District W.R.I.

Members and friends met On 11th December at Tigh-na-Linne, home of Alan and Eileen Malone. Eileen kindly gave us a glass of mulled wine, before demonstrating the art of making chocolates.

Competition Results

Christmas card  
A. Whitmore

Christmas decoration

- 1. A. Whitmore
- 2. J. Ferguson
- 3. J. MacKenzie

On 6th December members and friends enjoyed dinner at Croft-na-Caber and danced the night away to Jim Hardie's band.



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Quality Action Group  
Stirling  
FK8 1DU

Where have all  
the children gone?

Killin, unlike most villages these days, has a sense of independence and self sufficiency that has been lost from other, less remote areas. It is, in a sense, complete, having its own wide range of local skills and interests, sufficiently remote from conurbations to develop a village atmosphere and identity. It has its own unique historical connections. Visitors find here traces of their family history. The Killin News is part of that history in the making, tracing as it does the passage of time in its people and traditions. The children of the village are a part of its history.

The photographing of children and the word "internet" have, this year, taken on new and sinister meanings. Will children be denied a place in the gallery of history? Should their school days be ignored or recorded by the Killin News? Perhaps this is one for the PTA to discuss. We seek and need our readers' opinions.  
WA



# Heart of Scotland Herb Society

It has been a full and eventful season of herbs to date.

Jacqui Hazzard's informative introduction and tour of the garden at Pitnacree outlined and showed the beginnings of the Permaculture gardening and life style system. Several of the newly layered beds are now in place. Plants are on order, and we are looking forward to managing our given corner section, and also helping her with other areas of this progressive and natural system of growing.

The AGM at Fortingall was well attended and followed by a thought provoking presentation and discussion on organic foods and supplements by Garry Stagg of Treasure Island Wholefoods, Pitlochry. November saw us in Killin for a workshop on making herbal pot-pourri given by Patty Hope. This was attended by a group of twenty and produced as many original mixtures for various uses and rooms around the home.

Christmas celebrations started early with a members evening dinner at Guinach House enjoyed by all. The regular December meeting held jointly with the Scottish Wildlife Trust in Pitlochry was brilliantly illustrated and given by Sid Clarke, with slides of orchid species present in the Keltneyburn orchid meadow, and many other species of the British Isles.

We wish to extend New Year wishes and thanks to all our members and attendees for their faithful presence and support of the HSHS and look forward to further continued success in 2003. The February 19th meeting will be held in Grandtully Hall. Slough off the winter and face the new season with vigour by joining us for a preparatory lecture on 'Spring Tonics'. For further details or information phone either Patty Hope at 01567820408 or Judy Forster at 01567820298. **Patty Hope**

## Seasonal Recipe

### Meatballs with Creole Sauce. Takes 30 minutes. Serves 4

1 Large onion  
1 lb 5 oz (600g) minced beef  
1 large egg  
3 Tbs plain flour

1/4 tsp cayenne pepper  
1/4 tsp paprika  
salt & pepper  
3 Tbs olive oil

#### Sauce

1 Tbs olive oil  
1 med green pepper  
1 med red pepper  
2 cloves garlic  
2 sticks celery

14 oz (400g) tinned tomatoes  
1 bay leaf  
1 tsp cayenne pepper  
1 tsp paprika  
1 tsp treacle

#### To make meatballs.

Peel and chop onion. Put half into large bowl with beef, egg, flour, cayenne, paprika, salt and pepper. Mix together. Set aside.

#### To make sauce.

Heat oil in large pan over moderate heat. Fry remaining onion until soft. Chop peppers stir them into the onion. Peel garlic, crush into pan. Chop celery and add to pan. Cook for 2 minutes. Add canned tomatoes, bay leaf, cayenne, paprika, treacle and 100 ml (3 1/2 fl ozs) water and bring to boil. Simmer uncovered for 15 minutes or until the sauce is thick. With wet hands shape the meat mixture into 16 balls (about the size of golf balls) Fry in large frying pan in olive oil, for about 10 minutes on high heat, until they are browned all over. Season Creole Sauce to taste and serve with meatballs.

(Could be served with rice)

#### Starter

Smoked Mackerel with Grapefruit Salsa

1 fillet of mackerel per person, skin and cut diagonally into strips. For four people peel and segment a large pink grapefruit over a bowl (to catch the juices) Dice the flesh of a large ripe avocado and add to the bowl. Snip a few chives and add along with the smoked mackerel and salt and pepper to taste. JF

## Wine of the Month

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# Frost Report

*The Taste of Scotland.*

Although visitors come to Scotland looking for shortbread, whisky and haggis to add extra tastes to their diets, some of our residents also seem to be looking for good Scottish fare. At the moment many poultry keepers in this area have a little extra time on their hands as cleaning the hen house and morning feeding are lighter tasks - due to so many hens, ducks and geese being eaten or killed recently. Just before Christmas it seemed that there was a vendetta against our domestic feathered friends. Near Tyndrum ducks were demolished by a stoat, on the loch side a pine marten gradually took almost all of a flock of hens - despite them being moved closer to the back door, another henhouse on the south shore has only a few residents left after Brer Fox has paid a few visits. In Glen Lochay the thief was identified as a buzzard when he tried to make a slow getaway with a cockerel. Even the village Main Street is not safe since a cheeky daylight vandal is threatening pet bunnies. Our own hens were disappearing one by one then one morning seven were lying dead in the shut-up hen-house. After a further detailed search for forensic evidence – small droppings in the house, hens dead on both sides of a 4 foot high division and nibble marks on the edge of the window made as it was pushed open wide enough for a small, slim body – it was decided that it was probably a stoat – as indeed it did prove to be. This is, of course, normal. Just like the eagle stealing a quick take-away from a shot stag before it is taken off the hill. This could be classed as successful opportunism. Of course the fox is the master of opportunism and has colonised the cities successfully. Some may be taking it a bit far in Epsom, Surrey where they have acquired a taste for brake fluid. Apparently 22 cars have been vandalised – now even the foxes are saboteurs! I’ve not heard whether Lix Toll have set on a night watchman yet. Less pleasantly, a fox was seen cannibalising a dead compatriot recently in Glen Falloch. At Boreland the gardener was having problems with his mouse-traps. The mice were being caught but were disappearing. Then one day the culprit stoat was seen stealing the dead mice. How about that for the stoat equivalent of a happy meal? I’m now told that he is taking the traps as well - good news for trade - at The Eureka shop!

But let’s end on a note of retribution with a story of a farmer who had a surprise when he went to let his geese out. During the night a fox had broken into the shed but the several plucky birds had ganged up and killed the fox. (I’m not sure whether that is legal in Scotland.). **Tim Frost**

## Croft-na-Caber



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# *Killin Primary School Playground Development Group*

You may have noticed that the area at the front of the primary school has undergone an amazing transformation recently. Perhaps influenced by the current trend in TV gardening programs, the Playground Development Group got the confidence to give it a go for ourselves. We wanted to change the garden at the front of school into a more child and wildlife friendly area whilst also improving the entrance to the school. The transformation took two Sunday mornings and was only manageable because of the great help we

received from the volunteering (only gentle persuasion applied) parents, staff and pupils. There are still things we want to add in the spring ; some seating around the Rowan tree, stepping stones made by the older children during art classes, there are seeds to be sown

and more plants planted, lastly, we would like a few large tubs for along the front wall of the school building. Keep watching !!

This work has been made possible by money we have received from various sources; a grant from

Klondyke Garden Centre in Stirling and Gordon Webster have very kindly donated some gardening tools for the kids to use when actually doing some gardening. We have also received funding from Lottery Awards for All,

Grounds For Learning - Stirling Council, Perth & Kinross Common Good Fund and The Landfill Tax Fund.

The Playground Development Group was formed to try to improve the playground for both the staff and the children. The children themselves have said they would like the playground to be more fun and give them more

opportunity for different types of play. There is nowhere for the children to sit to have their lunch or chat with friends; no area for organised outdoor teaching; no areas of interest for children to learn about nature or their environment and no opportunity to plant or watch things grow.

We still have plans for changing some of the tarmac area at the back of the school building. If we ever get a dry day during a weekend, the parents and staff are ready to paint some designs and games, such as hopscotch, on the tarmac. During next year we hope to raise enough money to build a climbing frame type play area and/or a decked area for quiet games during play times, eating lunch on and to facilitate outdoor teaching.

We would like to thank Stitt Bros for their help and advice, Bear for donating rocks and paint, and the staff and Killin Primary School for working with us to achieve a better playground. **Julie Rhys**



Grounds For Learning Scotland, money raised through the PTA sponsored cycle & School Jubilee Party, donations from the Safari Supper, Ardeonaig WRI and various local individuals. We are extremely grateful for all the support we have received. The

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The McLaren  
formed into Aladdin  
perhaps by rubbing a  
the Drama Club entertained  
different corners of the world  
scenery. This year they seemed  
the technical effects being so  
costumes reflected the amazing  
these performances. The  
beating with costumes  
EVERYONE, it was







Hall was trans-  
 ave as if by magic – or  
 istic lamp! For three nights  
 ed us and transported us to  
 l by means of music, song and  
 have pulled all the stops out with  
 erb, and the scenery and all the  
 nt of hard work that goes into  
 glyBug Ball scene takes some  
 and dance. Well done  
 orth all the hard graft.  
 OG





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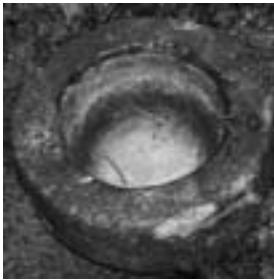


# Mystery Prize

Does anyone recognise this picture? It is a brass inkwell given as a prize for Wool at the Killin Show in 1922 and was offered to Jimmy Gauld by a fellow antique dealer from Lexington, Kentucky, who had found the Killin Gallery via the Killin website. Mr. Shaw, the American dealer, did not know how the inkwell had made its way to the USA. Jimmy made some enquires here but was unable to find the winner of the Wool Prize in 1922 on record in Killin. He did find that the donors of the prize, F.H. MacLeod & Sons, were wool merchants in Glasgow until they were taken over in the 1960s. If anyone has any other information on this unusual find, both Jimmy and the Killin News would be interested to know. The cost of import duty, carriage and VAT meant it was not worthwhile for Jimmy to buy but he will pass on the contact to anyone else who might be interested. MM.



# Lochearnhead Find



This is a photograph of a stone bowl recently found in a burn in Lochearnhead. It measures some 12” across and approx 10” deep and has been hewn out of white rock, like a quern stone. There is the remains of a chain attached to the top which may have been for a drinking cup and the bottom is flat with a small hole which could have been for a peg to locate it on a pedestal or similar. On the side, carved in relief is a beetle of some description. If anyone can throw any light on this object, please contact either the Killin News or Jimmy Gauld.

## A Christmas Cracker

Two different Christmas stories in one memorable evening. On a cold, dry winter's evening parents, friends and families were transported back to the future as Killin Primary School pupils took two traditional tales to the stage.

Classes P4, 5, 6 and 7 invited us to share a Dickensian Christmas past, present and future in their version of Scrooge "A Ghost of a Chance". From Scrooge to the Cratchits to the mourners, the children really showed how important it is to be generous of heart, particularly at this time of year. For the second half of the bill the action moved back some 2,000 years to relive the original Christmas story. The school's younger pupils, from classes P1, 2 and 3, showed enormous enthusiasm and commitment to create a truly memorable experience. Egyptian dancing will never quite look the same again!

In a thoroughly entertaining evening the children were undoubtedly the stars of the show, but the support, coaching and organisation behind the scenes by teachers, parents, PTA and the drama group also deserve our heartfelt thanks.

Martin Judd

## New Newspaper The Press & Post

A new free newspaper, The Press & Post is due to be launched in mid February. The Proprietor, James E.B.B. MacLean, presents this as a local community newspaper covering the new National Park area. He intends to involve pupils from the McLaren High School and possibly Balfon High School to report on local events.

The paper, which he hopes will be produced fortnightly or even weekly in tabloid format, will be delivered free to the community.

### Senior Citizens Burns Supper

On 24 th January, 47 guests sat down to a traditional Burns Supper. Killin Initiative funded the evening. The Drama Club ladies and helpers served the supper. Grateful thanks to The Bridge of Lochay Hotel, The Coach House Hotel, The Tighnabruach Hotel and The Falls of Dochart Inn for their assistance in providing and cooking the meal and to the following who helped to make the evening such a success; the 2 Jims, Tam, Douglas, Alex, Gordon, Ann, Mairi, Richard, Fiona, Mary, Siobhan, Becky and the Kane family.

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## 100 Pinta Girl!

In June 2002, I was amongst a dozen people recognised at a special awards ceremony at the Scottish National Blood Transfusion Service in Edinburgh for donors of 100 or more pints of blood. We all received a certificate of thanks and an inscribed silver friendship Quaich.

I began donating blood around 1982 at regular 3 monthly intervals until I was later asked instead to

donate Plasma (white cells) and Platelets, which takes a little longer and can be done more often. Each donation takes around one hour for a series of withdrawals and then the return of red cells and is done at monthly appointments.

Plasma is no longer collected in the UK due to the possible risk of blood being infected by CJD (Creutzfeldt Jakob's Disease), so all plasma used in the UK is now imported from the USA.

I still regularly donate whole blood and occasionally platelets and am currently on the 104 pints mark, so it's unlikely I will reach the 200 pints milestone unless I continue for 25 years!

**Marion Hall**



give blood which is in constant urgent demand also for operations and births. Just three teaspoons of blood can save the life of a premature baby. Platelets, which Marion has also been giving, are a vital part of chemotherapy and the treatment of cancer.

**MM**

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### KILLIN BOYS BRIGADE

Service of celebration  
for 25 years

Killin Parish Church  
Sunday 16th March 3pm

All ex BB and friends most welcome  
Thereafter to McLaren Hall  
for refreshments

Marion is the daughter of Hector and Irene Hall and is remembered in Killin as a keen football fan and supporter of Aberdeen.

With the high rate of accidents on our local roads, we should all be keen to keep up blood supplies, which this winter in Scotland have been at their lowest level for three years. The Scottish Blood Transfusion Service is urging all Scots between the ages of 17-60 to

### Blood Donation

Anyone in this area who would like to give blood can do so in Callander, where collections are made three times a year.

The next opportunity is on.....

Tuesday, 25th February from  
2.30-3.45 and 5.15-8.00 in  
Callander Kirk Hall.

### What's on Offer at Killin Library

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### Pickup dates of newspapers for Killin Primary School

**Feb 21  
March 7 & 21  
April 4 & 25  
May 9 & 23  
June 6 & 20**



# Police Reports

## Vehicle Thefts

There was a spate of thefts from vehicles along Loch Earn side and several vehicles parked in driveways of isolated dwellings were entered and items of property were stolen. In most cases this was because they were insecure. Don't give the thief an easy opportunity. Lock your car! If you have an alarms, switch it on.

## Property Thefts

Isolated dwellings are targets for thieves so ensure that your property is secure. Do not give the thief an opportunity. Quad bikes and trailers are a particular temptation for certain criminals. Last September to November bike trailers, boat trailers and quad bikes were stolen from rural locations throughout the area. Keep your property safe and record full descriptions of possessions including serial numbers, model numbers, colours and other distinctive features. If you see anyone behaving suspiciously, do not approach but note as much detail as possible of the person, the clothing worn, vehicle colour and registration number and anything else you notice.

## Road Accidents

These continue to be a problem in the area. Before Christmas some motorists may have encountered a "fishy" tailback on the A85 in Glen Dochart. A lorry, laden with salmon, failed to negotiate the bends at Coire Chaorach, left the roadway and toppled on to its side. It was a major operation to unload the boxes and right the lorry. Thankfully no injury was caused. Two of the local constabulary were involved at the scene all day in heavy rain and were thoroughly drenched.

## Speeding

Motorists travelling on the A84 through Lochearnhead may or may not have noticed the reduction in the speed limit. It is now 30mph – you have been warned!

## Bogus Callers

Recently bogus callers have been targeting vulnerable and elderly people in this area. Sometimes large quantities of cash and other valuables have been stolen. There are several types of bogus caller.

**Bogus Official** – may be smartly dressed and claim to be from a Council Department (e.g. social work or health authority) or may claim to be from the water board/gas/electricity company. Their aim is to talk their way into your home to see what they can steal.

**Bogus Workman** – never believe a casual or speculative caller at your door. Bogus workmen really want to gain access to your home to steal property on the pretence of offering to make urgent repairs to a water or building fault or tar your drive. They often work in pairs or more – one tries to distract you whilst the other gains free access to your home to search for valuables. Sometimes they ask for cash in advance and may even offer to drive you to your bank or cash dispenser to withdraw money so that they can purchase materials. Do not agree! Once paid, they often simply disappear. Bogus workmen normally inflate prices for poor quality work. If you need building work done, get several quotes from reputable firms. Talk it through with a neighbour, friend or relative.

**Bogus dealers** – may offer to buy antiques, furniture or jewellery. It's possible that they are trying to trick you into selling something for a lot less than it is worth. Never sell to a doorstep dealer. If considering selling something, choose one or two genuine dealers to value any items. Remember a genuine caller will normally make an appointment first and will carry identification including photographs and details of the company or business. Examine the ID, don't merely glance at it.

**Uniformed Callers** – don't assume that all uniformed are genuine. Look at their clothing. Does it bear the organisation's name or symbol? If possible look to see if they have a vehicle. Does it carry the organisation's name or logo? Some utilities – water, gas or electricity – operate a password system. Contact your supplier to find out more. For more help with any of the above pick up leaflets from any police station.

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If anybody knows  
the whereabouts of  
the badminton club's  
racquets could you  
please let Kay know.

Thanks

# Proposed New Hospital for Forth Valley

It is very disappointing to hear the news that the proposed new hospital for Forth Valley is to be situated at Larbert. It seems ironic that Stirling's north west area is almost the same distance from Larbert as from Oban, which would be the next nearest acute hospital. Larbert is around 50 miles from the Tyndrum area, which means that considerable time could be lost in an emergency, getting an ambulance to and from the area. Only one ambulance is stationed in this area, and if it is already on a call, the next nearest is stationed at Callander, it does not take much skill in mathematics to work out the time from call out to getting to hospital. Furthermore, public transport to a site in Larbert is once daily and takes around two or three hours to get there, a round trip of approximately six hours, not what one could say convenient for day patients, particularly the elderly and those with young children.

It appears to me that the Pirnhall/Corbiehill area would be an eminently more suitable site. Hospitals in the Central Belt area, e.g. Livingston, Edinburgh are closer to Larbert than Larbert is to the rural areas which it will serve. The decision to site the new hospital at Larbert should continue to be challenged at the highest level, and I am not convinced that it will be much more costly to develop than Larbert, bearing in mind that need to upgrade road access to the Larbert site.

Killin Community Council Chairman John MacPherson

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# LETTERS

## Allan Walker

To all of you who both gave and offered professional and practical support to Allan, myself, Allan's family and indeed Drum, during these last terrible months, I thank you all from the bottom of my heart. Thank you also for your flowers, cards and letters of sympathy which have been a source of comfort during this sudden devastating loss.

Allan was many things to me in ways too precious to mention. Much has been written to me, about him, in words far more eloquent than I could hope to emulate. He could be maddening in the extreme, but he was always engaging, loving, lovable, funny, gentle and utterly selfless. Those of us who were close to him will know that he was an exceptional man of great character. He was passionate about Killin, its history, its environment and above all, its people, and deeply admired the strength of its community life in which he played his own part. Without him Killin will be a poorer and sadder place.

**Julia Thornton**

## Fireworks Display

We would like to thank all those people who organised and ran the firework display on Hogmanay. It is a great event for the whole community as you meet people of all ages and from all over the country. We feel it brings everyone together and is a great way to begin a New Year. Our families travelled from Fintry and Grantown on Spey to watch the fireworks, the latter travelling 200 miles in less than 12 hours. We hope that all you people who put in a lot of your time and effort, will be able to keep the fireworks going for many years to come.

**The Macaskill Family, Tullich**

## Thanks

*Jan Willison*, Dalchenna, wishes to thank all family friends who were kind enough to enquire regarding her well-being after her recent hip replacement operation. Many thanks indeed for the many 'phone calls cards and gifts at that time, whilst in hospital, and on her return home. She is glad to say that she is recovering well and is now pain free which makes life much easier. Thank you all again.

**Jan Willison**

*The Board of Directors Of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home*, would like to take this opportunity at the beginning of a New Year to express publicly, their thanks to all those who have, and continue to support the Home since its takeover by Killin Care Trust.

This support has been shown in many ways, and from a wide range of people both from within and out with the immediate local community. Where the donors are known they have been given written acknowledgement of their generosity. However several anonymous donations have also been received, some of considerable amounts, and it is only proper that the community is aware of such generosity towards the care of our residents.

The Board are also extremely grateful to those who at times of bereavement for a loved one, have nevertheless remembered the Killin

Care Trust and have had collections taken up at funeral services to support the Home.

Finally the Directors would like to record their thanks to the many local organisations and businesses who support us, either by gifts or carrying out repair work in the Home at the keenest possible rates.

The Directors, Manager and Staff will continue to work towards maintaining a safe comfortable and happy Home for the residents.

**Sheona Macaskill**  
**Secretary**  
**Killin Care Trust.**

## Well Done

After attending Aladdin on three successive evenings I can only say how much I and many of my friends realise the hard work and commitment required to produce a show of this quality - the television provides nothing like it!! To Gordon, Lesley, Sheena and all of the cast and workers, I send my warm congratulations.

**Jean Henderson**

## Congratulations

To Lindsay Stewart for passing her driving test first time.

To Sarah Murphy and Linda Somerville from Killin who passed the First Aid at Work Course at McLaren High.

Invertay House has been listed in the latest version of "Holiday Which" as one of "The Good Places to Stay". Well done Bruce and Gilleen.



## Killin Medical Practice Hospital Cars

The hospital transport system is a part of the Scottish Ambulance Service which provides transport for people whose medical condition makes them unable to use public transport. In this area, the service is mostly provided by volunteer car drivers. There is increasing pressure on the system which, in the past, has operated on a fairly relaxed basis. The criteria for cars are being tightened up and patients will be entitled to a hospital car on **MEDICAL GROUNDS ONLY**. This means that you will only be allowed this free transport service if your medical condition warrants it. The following are not valid reasons to request transport:

*You do not hold a current driving licence/have your own transport*

*You are a senior citizen*

*There is not a scheduled bus available to fit in with the appointment times*

*You live a long distance from the hospital*

*You are worried about driving to Stirling, Glasgow, Perth etc.*

If you are on Income Support/Family Credit you will be able to claim travelling costs by asking for a Patient Travel Expenses Form from your clinic Receptionist. The clinic will complete one section of the form which you should then

take to the Cashier's Office at Stirling Royal Infirmary, which is located in the main foyer, to the left of 'Crackers Coffee Shop'. (If you are travelling by public transport your receipts need to be shown to the Receptionist and Cashier). The Cashier will then reimburse any travelling costs. If you travel by car the following claims can be made:

Locheearnhead	£ 8.29 return
Killin	£ 8.74 return
Crianlarich	£10.75 return
Tyndrum	£12.10 return

We fully appreciate that these changes will greatly affect a number of our patients but we have to follow Scottish Ambulance Service Policy.

**If you have any queries regarding this, contact Mr Harry Falconer (Area Service Manager Non Emergency Services – Forth Valley) on (01786) 446183.**

We are aware that in the Highland Health Board area geographical factors can be taken into account. Unfortunately, this is not the case in this area. We can only administer the system, not change it.

**The people who CAN change the system are your MP who is Anne McGuire and your MSP who is Sylvia Jackson. They can both be contacted by telephoning (01786) 446515.**

If you feel disadvantaged by this system you may want to get contact them.

## WRVS Community Transport/Good Neighbours Scheme

The aim of this scheme is to help people who for any reason are housebound or cannot use public transport to have access

to facilities which they cannot reach without transportation. This could be to Day Centres, hospital, health centres, social, non-social or shopping destinations, to name but a few. The cost of this transport must be met by the clients and is currently 35p per mile. All our volunteers are WRVS members and are trained and insured. Other tasks might be to collect shopping, do simple DIY tasks, help with writing letters, provide respite for carers, and others as appropriate.

The telephone helpline is in operation from 9am until 5pm, Monday to Friday. A volunteer will take your call and pass your details to a local volunteer who will be able to help you. The number to call is 01360 44 90 40.

Our project would also welcome more volunteers, especially drivers, in all the rural communities of southwest and north Stirling and District. If you are interested and would like more information, please phone me and I will be pleased to tell you more about the scheme. My number is 01259 722177

**Senga Awlson Manager**

## The Capercaillie Restaurant

**Main Street, Killin. Tel (01567) 820355**

**Enjoy the splendour of the Scottish winter overlooking beautiful gardens and the River Dochart.**

**The panoramic views only add to the relaxed and friendly atmosphere at The Capercaillie Restaurant.**

**With breakfast, lunch, pasta and vegetarian menus you'll be spoilt for choice.**

**Serving food all day everyday.**

**Don't forget to treat Mum on Mother's Day - Sunday March 30th. Bookings now being taken.**



**Call Dennis or Pauline  
on 01567 820355.**



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7 days a week

April - October 8.30am to 5.30pm  
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**Filling Station**

May - September 7am - 10pm  
October - April 8am - 9pm

*The perfect spot  
for a halfway stop!*

**The Outdoor Store:** We have everything for the walker: Blister kits, Thor-Lo socks, quality waterproofs, trekking poles, a wide range of accessories and footwear is our specialty.

**Restaurant:** Our self-service restaurant has won national acclaim over the years. We offer an excellent range of freshly cooked food, both hot and cold, served in generous portions at reasonable prices.

**The Snack Stop:** If you are short of time, a selection of takeaway items are available which include drinks, sandwiches, snacks, home made butter fudge and Nardini's ice cream.

**Filling Station:** Camping accessories, groceries, chemist items, beers, wines, spirits, phone cards, batteries and other essential supplies are available.

**Whisky Galore:** A superb range of single malt whisky. We also carry wine, spirits, scottish ales and liqueurs.

**The Perfect Present:** Beautifully displayed gifts to suit all tastes and pockets. Highland Stoneware - an example of handmade Scottish pottery, cashmere capes, Stuart Crystal and a selection of gifts in the style of Charles Rennie MacIntosh.

**Goodies and Gifts:** Food from Scotland's larder includes locally smoked salmon, cheese, venison, haggis and other Scottish preserves. Gifts include cards, toys, t-shirts, Scottish videos, CD's, tapes and books.

**All major Credit and Debit Cards accepted.**  
**Tax free shopping for overseas visitors.**  
**Bureau De Change and cash machine services.**

We are recruiting now for the coming 2003 season, and have vacancies for the following positions.

### Restaurant

**Catering Assistants :** Full time seasonal

**Cook :** Full time

**Baker :** Full time

### Snack Shop

**Catering supervisor :** full time seasonal

**Catering Assistant :** Full time seasonal

Within our retail departments we also have vacancies for the following positions:

**Assistant Managers :** Full time

**Retail Assistants :** Full time seasonal

**Evening Retail Assistants :** Part time

There is limited accommodation available.  
We do provide transport from Dalnally and Crianlarich.  
Competitive rates of pay.

For further details and an application form please contact 01838 400271

## DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S ANNUAL REPORT 2001 –2002

Malcolm McWhirter, Director of Public Health at NHS Forth Valley, published his annual report which charts the health of the population of Forth Valley from April 2001 to March 2002. The report shows a welcome reduction in the gap in health between the most deprived and most affluent communities in Forth Valley over the past 10 years. A clear pattern of poorer health in the more deprived communities in Forth Valley still exists. Some key improvements are: fewer people in Forth Valley are dying from cancer than in Scotland as a whole, suicides at their lowest rate for over 25 years and people in Forth Valley are living longer. However there is a steadily increasing level of alcohol related ill-health and disease and a need for better services for people with traumatic brain injury.

**Press release**

### Hair done at Home.

example prices:

Gents Cut £4

Ladies Blow Dry £5

Perms, Colours and Sets

**Call Bruce on  
01877 331212**

*Monday and Thursday Visits*

## What's on in Killin and district

**Community Council Meeting** - Tues 11th March at 7.30pm. in Killin Primary School.

**Herb Society Meeting** - Wed 19th February at Grandtully.

**Blood Donation** - Tues 25th February at 2.30 to 3.45 and 5.15 to 8.00pm at Callander Kirk Hall.

**Killin Boys Brigade** - Sun 16th March at 3.00pm in Kirk Hall.

**Killin News AGM** - Tues 18th March at 7.30pm in Killin News Office.

**EAK** - Thurs 6th March and Thurs 3rd April at 8.00pm in Killin Hotel.

We welcome non commercial items for this column, see page 28.

The Killin News does not accept responsibility for these dates which you should check with the organisers.

### Killin Drama Club Scottish Community Drama Association Festival of One Act Plays Stirling District Round

Friday 28th Feb, Saturday 1st March  
7.30pm McLaren Hall.

Killin Drama Club are putting on 2 plays  
- one on each of the nights.

Each night 3 one act plays will be performed by clubs throughout the Stirling District area, at the end of the evening the adjudicator will give his opinions on the performances. On the Saturday night the adjudicator will announce who has made it to the Eastern Division Final to be held in Livingston 27th - 29th March. Tickets are £4/£6 per evening.

The next event after the one act play festival will hopefully be a spring production around the 11th and 12th April - watch the usual notice boards for more information nearer the time. **LS**

### Molly Dibley

Molly Dibley passed away peacefully on 29th November at home. She had been suffering with Motor Neurone Disease for 18 months.

Molly first discovered Killin after a holiday with her husband, Tony, and soon fell in love with the place. After Tony died, Molly decided it felt like home and bought a house here. She was very much an outdoor person and loved gardening and walks with her two dogs. She loved the countryside and the history of Scotland and Burns was a favourite of hers.

Once her illness progressed she was unable to get out as much but still enjoyed her music and videos and visits from her family and friends.

She found the care from Dr. DeLaat and the nurses very comforting. She will be very sadly missed by all family and friends.

**Lisa Semple**

## TYNDRUM TAXIS

**Adam Cunningham**

**Any Distance**

**Airport Runs**

**4 x 8 Seater Taxis**

**16 Seater Minibuses**

**Day Tours Arranged**

**Luggage Pick Up Service**



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# ALLAN WALKER

1931 to 22nd December 2002

*Those of you who attended Allan's funeral will recognise the following as his eulogy. Written by his family it is an affectionate snapshot of a beloved partner and family man. Thank you all for your support and making such a sad day such an uplifting and comforting experience.*

Allan Iain Cameron Walker was born in Glasgow in 1931 to Allan, who came from an old Killin family, and Mima Horn, who also had Killin connections.

He and his brother Cameron were evacuated to Killin during the war, where they were distinguished for their prowess in desk leaping at the local school. Other great events included the rescue of John Forster from the Dochart using the "No Bathing" sign, and Allan losing his shoe and not his life whilst attempting to run across the sewage works.

In 1944 he went to a Quaker boarding school in Cumberland where he acquired the social awareness which led to his future life caring for and about people. He went from school to the Retreat in York where he trained as a psychiatric nurse. Here he met and married Janet and had two children, Alison and Iain, who perhaps account for his grey beard and the many idiosyncrasies that he developed in later life.

His career took him into social work in Leeds and Paisley with the family service units. During this time he and his family were frequent visitors to the many Walkers who lived in Killin in those days.

In 1976 Allan inherited Barnacarie, an old family house with 180 years of family residency, 17 layers of wallpaper and latterly far too many knick-knacks from many places in the world, reflecting both Allan and Julia's past lives. The house has been referred to by a family friend as "a blasted museum" - or words to that effect!

In 1980 Allan met his match and in 1990 two red-headed females, Julia and Rosie the Red Setter, finally moved into Barnacarie. Julia has loved, cared for and been exasperated by Allan over the past 13 years.

Meanwhile Allan continued in social services, culminating in his work for the

## To Allan Walker

*I have been trying to find words which would capture the essence of Allan Walker, my Dad. As his friends know, he was a man of many parts. To me he was not only Dad, but friend, adviser, protector, confidante and many, many other things I can not put into words. However this poem, originally written for another Allan Walker, Dads Dad and my grandfather, does, as I think those who knew him will agree, fit both father and son perfectly. It was written by Betty McAteer, who was a close family friend.*

Remembering his delight in all things highland  
Let him have Scottish rivers still,  
Beloved as the Dochart he had known from childhood.  
Let him have woods of bluebell and pine,  
The elderberry mellowed and ripened.  
Let him have highland hills to climb,  
And on the byways, let him see blossom on the other side,  
The little white rose of Scotland.  
Remembering his delight in all things highland,  
Let him see in the morning, the great deer on the mountains,  
And within the sound of the pibroch,  
Let him have the singing of Gaelic songs,  
And the telling of the legends.  
He who had the seeing mind of the Gael,  
And a warm hospitable heart,  
Let him be always young in Tirnanog,  
Loved always, ever remembered,  
Let him rest in the company of Kings at the days end,  
Respected, beloved.  
Oichdhe mhath, beanachd leibh (Good night and Farewell)

## From Iain Walker



Central Council for the Education and Training of Social Workers from which, encouraged by his staunch friends, he took early retirement in 1989. And came home to Killin. This enabled him to spend more time with Julia and Rosie's successor Drum, his children and his grandchildren.

To his grandchildren he was an exciting, fire raising, dam building, boat sailing pirate. To his nieces and nephews of two generations he was "Wicked Uncle Allan" - who shouted "Bum!" at passing strangers from the safety of a moving car! His retirement also gave him time to take his place in the heart of village life - he

was a co-founder of the Killin News with his great friend Sinclair Aitken, he supported the Heritage Society, the Bowling Club, Moirlanich Longhouse and the Fingal Stone Project. He was a fisherman, a practical joker (as Dougie Allan will testify) and a member of the Shutters Coffee Morning Group - also known as the Killin Society for Higher Thought! After Allan's serious illness in 1993 and his subsequent good recovery, we were all grateful for many more years of love, happiness, nonsense and good times. He saw the advent

of the Scottish Parliament, a cause which he vigorously promoted, and this year he also saw both his children graduate (eventually)!

We wish to thank this community, who helped Allan to flourish, and who cared for him, and us, in good times and bad. Like you we are devastated by his loss but celebrate his life.

Julia Thornton  
Cameron Walker  
Iain Walker  
Alison Wright (nee Walker)



# Killin News

The deadline for copy and advertising for the next Killin News is 24<sup>th</sup> March

## Editorial Policy Statement

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed about every two months by volunteers to households and businesses 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 they reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any item. Contributions will be attributed to the author. Vested interests will be declared where applicable. Items for publication can be submitted as e-mail, disc, typed or legibly handwritten copy. Where possible, save electronic copies as rich text format. When we receive several accounts of the same event, only one account of these will appear in the paper. Articles should be between 200 and 600 words and the content should be original work and relevant to Killin and environs. Minutes will not necessarily be printed in full. We are pleased to receive good quality photographs.

## Production Committee

Gina Angus  
Willie Angus  
Jim Beattie  
Iain Campbell  
Allan Chisholm  
Judy Forster  
Dani Grant  
Angus Inglis  
Margaret MacIver  
Kay Riddell  
Liz Stevens

## What's on

If you would like to advertise public events such as AGMs, car boot sales, art shows, opening days, meetings or competitions, we would be pleased to consider this for publication in our What's on column. If you or your organisation are likely to be a regular contributor we will be able to remind you prior to deadline date by email. Contact the office for details. Tel. 01567 820014

## To advertise in the Killin News

### Examples

1. A single BW advert 2.5" x 2.5" £12.
2. 10% reduction for 5 consecutive unaltered insertions
3. Classified Ads, Lonely hearts, Congratulations etc. £3 for up to 15 words.

Full Rates on application.

killin.news@virgin.net or telephone 01567 820014

Postal Address: Main Street, Killin FK21 8UW

Telephone: 01567 820014

E-Mail: killin.news@virgin.net

On line at: www.killin.co.uk

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## Annual General Meeting of the Killin News.

The AGM of the Killin News will be held on Tuesday 18th March 2003 at 7.30 pm in the Killin News office, Main Street, Killin. Amendments to the constitution will be proposed.  
All are welcome.



## Strathfillan - "By The Way"

### Hogmanay Dance in Crianlarich

Many thanks to all who made the first Crianlarich Hogmanay Dance in many years such a success. Most of the hard work in planning and running the night was done by Cameron Taylor of Portnellan. Thanks also to the staff of the Rod and Reel, the Killin Community Bus drivers and of course Box 0' Bananas; a fantastic band. We got some funds from the Crianlarich and Tyndrum Tourist Association and the Strathfillan Community Development Trust to pay for the bus, and were successful in an application to Stirling Council's Festive Grants Scheme. Roll on December 31st 2003!!!

Sue Wyllie

### Message from the Minister

The recent cold spell left some homes frozen solid. I know of one family that had no running water for two weeks. The lightning storm on Wednesday, 15 January blew some transformers leaving a number of homes with no power. It also managed to damage phone lines, TV sets and computers. We are reminded of how good it is to live in a time when advances in technology have made life so much easier and more enjoyable. What would we do without them?

I was struck by a much bigger question as I listened to all the great disaster stories. It was this: "what would we do without our friends and neighbours?" Every story ended in the same way and with more or less the same words. "I don't know what I'd have done without my neighbours. Do you know what they did for us!"

Why do we help each other? I believe there is a part of us that was built in by our maker. The Bible describes it in picture story. When God created man from the dust of the ground, he breathed into his nostrils the breath of life so the he became a living spirit. It is that spiritual part of us that relates us to God and to each other. We are all one family, children of God. Practising our faith, our religious belief, is just a way of making our spirit grow. God help us if we ever lose it altogether! Have you seen yours lately?

Reverend John Shedden

Minister for Glenorchy - Innisheil & Strathfillan

### Strathfillan County Council

Jock Henderson, Theresa Robertson and Kate Winton are now elected members of the CC. Sylvia Jackson MSP has arranged a site visit between CC and Railtrack.

The Scottish Executive offer a grant that provides free central heating or insulation for older people living in private sector housing - Warm Deal Guide and Central Heating Programme Guide from EAGA Partnership 24 Commercial Quay, Edinburgh EH6 6LX, tel. 0131 7772501.

Discounted home composters are available to SC residents at reduced prices from Mackinnon's Garden Shop Lochearnhead, and Greenyards Garden Centre, Bannockburn.

Wheelie-bins have been removed from lay-bys. Signage asking visitors to "take their litter home" has been erected.

After receiving a letter from Scottish Water with a list of other areas in Stirling district that are experiencing problems, John Riley will now send a letter to Sylvia Jackson MSP about the Building Moratorium.

Police Constable Ian Carnegie had met with BEAR Scotland at Killin about the Glengarry bends. Because the mild weather

has saved money, the classifications of roads for gritting have now been reinstated.

Taxis can now make a soiling charge of £40, when customers are sick etc.

The Housing Panel has approved the report on the grading of medical points for housing application. Funds have been found for a feasibility study for the Killin/Tyndrum cycle/walkway.

The drainage work in Tyndrum was done by the Rural Skills Volunteers programme.

### DOUGLAS McROBBIE Electrical Contractors

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## DOCHART CRAFT CENTRE & COSTCUTTERS IS NOW UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT



Fiona, Anne and all the staff  
extend a warm welcome to all  
our customers.

**Costcutter**



Our Costcutter convenience store provides:  
Telephone ordering and delivery service.  
Telephone swipe card facility.  
Three weekly special offers.



**Coffee Shop**

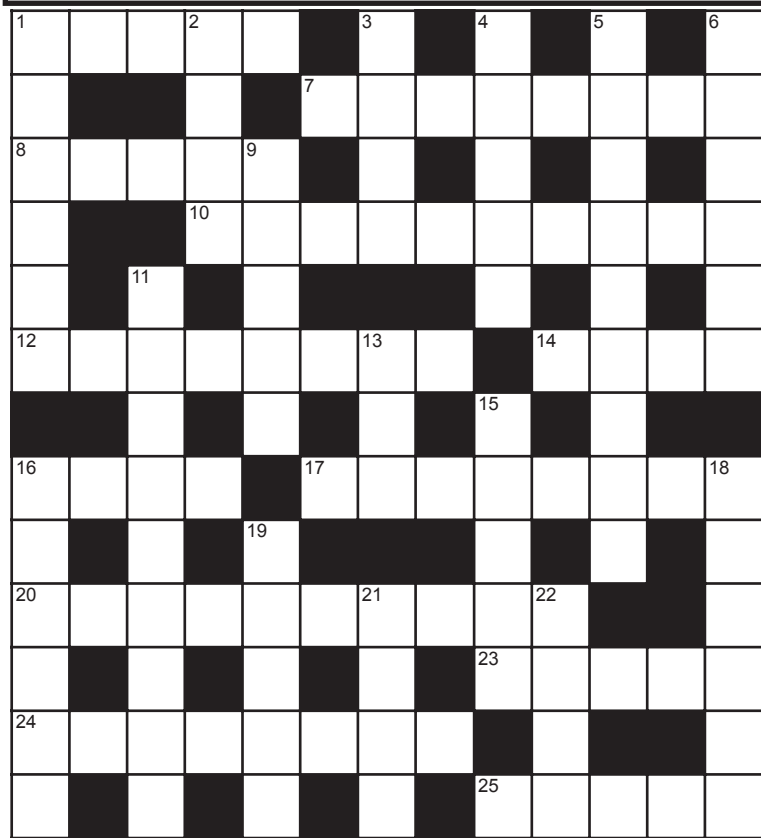


Our coffee shop menu caters for all tastes  
and includes a full take away service.

**We look forward to seeing you.**  
**Telephone; 01567 820510 / 01567 820511**



# Crossword by Scorpio



Across

- 1. A team remark (5)
- 7. Four in staid surroundings for a calming effect (8)
- 8. Animal hiding in African tribe as tourist (5)
- 10. A curse can't help to trace this sea creature(10)
- 12. Prefixes island hunt and trove (8)
- 14. Irritate and tempt (4)
- 16. These extremities each consist of 12" (4)
- 17. Exposed by tender young meat in a rush (8)
- 20. I am fabric of little consequence (10)
- 23. There's only one of these in Scotland (5)
- 24. Use this to give your pet extra freedom when out walking (4,4)
- 25. Where to find flowers at night?-no, all day also (2,3)

Down

- 1. Consort of a long reign (6)
- 2. Dance without love to a record (4)
- 3. Their lives begin in the Sargasso Sea (4)
- 4. Equipment used in detection (5)
- 5. Skinflint can also be unhappy (9)
- 6. Hire two points to produce a substance for making cheese and curds. (6)
- 9. Have faith in (5)
- 11. Postponement (9)
- 13. Regret (3)

**Answers to Crossword Issue 72**  
**Across:** 4)Selects 8)Exceed 9)Special 10)Eroded 11)Nestor 12)Allotted 18)Enduring 20)Sector 21)Shelve 22)Display 22)Pliant 24) Tea Rose.  
**Down:**1) Several 2) Schools 3) Defect 5) Expanded 6)Encase 7)Teapot 13)Thermals 14)Mislead 15)Agree to 16) Device 17)Stupor 19)Upheld

- 15. Chemical element results from a liason with a gangster. (5)
- 16. Unnecessary but they can be pretty trappings. (6)
- 18. Plunged into water.(6)
- 19. Confused the last oriental became no longer fresh. (5)
- 21. Harvest in spirea plants. (4)
- 22. Grassy fabric? (4)

The winner of the Christmas Prize Crossword was Mrs B. McAusland of Lochearnhead.

## Advertisers in this issue

A.A. Cars	6	Invervey Hotel	32
A.B.S.	8	Jasmine Beauty	11
Andrew Anderson & Sons	4	Kate's Cake	5
Back Pain & Sports Therapy	21	Killin Hotel	5
Bank of Scotland	22	Killin Library	20
Capercaillie Restaurant	24	Listen Up	12
Care Dental	18	Lix Toll	2
Corrie Crafts	18	Loch Tay Pottery	5
Craig Ard Hotel	9	Lynfern Developments Ltd	15
Croft na Caber	14	Eric McAllister	24
The Delicatessen Comrie	12	Gus Macdonald	18
Dochart Craft Centre	29	MacFarlane Gray	10
Eureka Hardware	7	Messrs John McRae	13
The Falls of Dochart Inn	31	Douglas McRobbie	29
Stuart Forster	20	Mobile Hairstyling	30
A.C. Fraser & Sons	3	News First	10
Gaulds Funeral Directors	11	Rob Roy Homes	22
Maureen Gauld	18	The Royal Bank of Scotland	19
Charles Grant	8	Scot Electrical Services	28
Grant & Welsh	24	Step (Rural Business)	4
The Green Welly Shop	25	Stitt Brothers	8
Hair done at Home	26	Tyndrum Taxis	26

Q: Why did the elephant put on his brakes?  
A. Because he saw the zebra crossing.

## MOBILE HAIRSTYLING by Sue Turner

Why not have your hair styled by a professional with 25 years experience in the convenience of your own home?  
► All styles and age groups catered for  
► Competitive prices  
please telephone for a consultation and appointment  
**Telephone: 01764 670596**  
**Mobile: 07788 812998**



This is the photo that did not make the last Killin News. Smiles all round at the graduation of **Camilla Bates** with Laura, Gordon, Julia and David. We spent a fabulous day with her and the other physiotherapy graduates of Teeside University, celebrating successes all round. This was the first time we had managed to get together since Camilla returned from America so it was a really special occasion. Camilla is off to Honduras for 3 months to work as a voluntary Physiotherapist with the charity 1 to 1.



**Paul Ramsay** son of Allan and Karen Ferguson graduated from the University of Abertay in Dundee with the degree of Bachelor of Science. He is now working as a full time staff nurse in orthopaedics at Ninewells Hospital.



## Wendy Grant

**W**endy Grant of Greenbank graduated from Glasgow Caledonian University with a DIP.H.E. in Adult Nursing and is now working in the Cardio Thoracic High Dependency Unit at the Western General Hospital in Glasgow.

## Grant Fraser

**G**rant Fraser, grandson of Mrs Campbell, Machany, Killin, is seen here, with his Killin News on holiday at Angkok Wat, in Cambodia

## KILLIN NEWS across the globe



# The Falls of Dochart Inn

*Our Winter Special Season Nights are just the thing to shake off the winter blues.*

### February 14th/15th Valentines Weekend

Tempt your tastebuds with our menu for lovers: Oysters, Steaks, Salmon, with sauces and wines to compliment



### March 1st - 16th March Madness

Any Starter/Main or Main/Sweet for the price of a main course  
Week 1 is Scottish fare,  
Week 2 is international



### April 5th/6th Spring Season Specials

A lighter look at the menu to shake off the winter.  
Fresh Scottish produce cooked to perfection.  
With spring Lamb, new season vegetables, Fresh light sauces...mmmmmm!!

To reserve your table or request full menu details simply call:

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Fax: 01567 820159

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ALL  
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Conveniently located in the heart of Tyndrum,  
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to stop for refreshments, a snack or a meal.

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**OPEN DAILY  
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**NEXT TO THE  
INVERVEY**

**NOW OPEN**

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LOUNGE BAR**

Open Daily From 11 am

Serving Hot & Cold Drinks, Snacks &  
Meals in a Relaxed & Friendly Atmosphere.

No-Smoking Area

Games Room With Pool Table  
& Dart Board

Regular Live Music



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