



PRICE 75P

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 75 July 2003



New Killin Link Perth to Oban Page 24



Festival photographs
on pages 20 & 21



First Salmon for Calum



Calum McLarty's first season fishing the Club's Salmon water was made truly memorable when he hooked, played and landed

his first salmon. A fine clean run 9lb fish was safely netted after a fine battle, ably supervised by his dad Donald. Well done, Calum. You will remember this fish for the rest of your angling days

John MacPherson, a man of many parts, our multi talented Chairman of Killin Community Council demonstrates his ploughing skills at Auchmore



Killin Primary Pupils at Archaeological
excavation, Bridge of Balgie Page 16



Ploughing match see page 13



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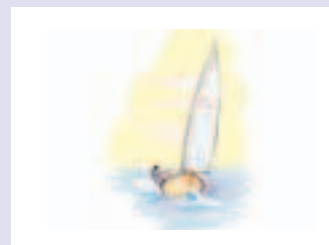
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Over a hundred children had a great day out in Breadalbane Park when the Schools Football Initiative held a coaching session for would be footballers from P1-P7 in Killin, Crianlarich, Strathyre, Lochearnhead and Trossachs Primary Schools. Trainers were on the scene at 6 a.m. preparing various exercise courses for the children who enthusiastically had a go at developing their skills in running, throwing and kicking. The weather was kind and at the end there was a cheer for milk drinks all round from one of the sponsors.

School Activities

I am sure most, if not all of the Community will join with me in expressing our thanks to all those, who on the 19th June, in whatever way worked so hard, to give the primary children of the community, along with primary children from other neighbouring schools such a memorable day.

Around midday after hearing a lot of happy laughter etc from Breadalbane Park, I went to see what was taking place. I was amazed to see what I estimated in excess of 100 primary school children, and probably twice that number of footballs. Apparently the youngsters were getting football tuition from those who can play the game.

At the end of the programme it was really good to see how the

leaders of the programme marshalled all these children for prizes and a photocall. Everyone was on their best behaviour and made it a pleasure to be there.

However the day did not end there, in the evening we were treated to a concert by the pupils of primary six and seven of Killin School. This in my opinion was an excellent performance by all who took part, both on and off stage, and our thanks is due to them all.

It is a credit to all that this concert was organised to raise funds for Yorkhill Children's Hospital in Glasgow, which does so much for the care of children who are unwell.

Well done children, teachers, parents and others.

John A MacPherson.

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Are you in the new Telephone Directory?

Please check that your name is on the enclosed list and, if not, get your entry and **any advertisement** in **NOW** before the FINAL

FINAL date 18th July

Forms available in Killin Library and News First, the Post Offices in Killin, Lochearnhead and Crianlarich.

This is your last opportunity to be included.

Fingal Stone Preservation Trust

After establishing legal rights to the Fingal site and erecting a boundary fence, the trustees planned a walkway to the Stone, a circular paved area round the Stone, seating and information boards. There have been ongoing fund-raising events and various local groups have given us donations. From late 2000, we became involved with plans to link the new housing development to the Main Street via the Park. Discussions about

planning etc. have gone on for so long that our very small part in the overall development has been delayed since 2000. The most recent potential date for the path connecting the housing to the Main Street seems to be 2004. We have now decided to return to our original plans. A path along the fence will make a right angle over a small bridge and lead to the area of the Stone. Already, the Green Team is looking at the various plants within the fence and the children hope to record changes from time to time. Eventually. We hope to display some of their work.

Moiria Meek

Drama Club News

Have you ever wondered what happens to the Drama Club in the summer? Well we're as busy as ever and to prove it here's an update.

Firstly I'd like to say a big thank you for the recent report in the Killin News on the One Act Play Festival at the McLaren Hall in February this year. To bring the event to the village took lots of hard work from a small team and the facilities the McLaren Hall has to offer should not be under-estimated. Thanks also to Lesley Kettle for providing an experienced insight into the benefits the village should enjoy when next year we bring the Divisional Final to the village. This really was the big prize for our club and work has already started on the project, but to get the best out of the Festival make sure that you try to attend for each of the three nights. Another first for the Club is the Drama Summer School project. We're pleased to be partly sponsoring Siobhan Anderson and Jamie Hunt to attend the Drama Summer School in Edinburgh at the end of July. The course covers all areas of drama including back-stage work and to conclude Siobhan and Jamie will be involved in the Festival Float Parade in Edinburgh, watched by 250,000 people! Now that's an audience!

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Fund raising is an ongoing process and by the time most of you are reading this we will have held our annual Night at the Races in the Village Pub at the Killin Hotel on July 4. These nights are good fun and we will hopefully raise a tidy sum to help us through the next winter season. A car boot sale is planned for the McLaren Hall car park on 9 August and work has started towards holding an Auction in the Autumn to finance the upkeep of our technical kit which will no doubt be fully utilised in our next Panto! Add to this list our Summer BBQ for club members, an entry in the Parade for the Killin Show, and meeting to plan our future shows.

Yes, we might not be on stage but the Summer is quite a busy time.

Gordon Hibbert

Hysterical History

Such was the draw of the pre-performance hype surrounding the Killin Drama Club's performance

of Hysterical History that the reviewers were attracted from as far afield as Dunkeld and Lochgoilhead. And they were not disappointed! The tone was set by a relaxed café-style arrangement, candles on tables, and decent wine available at fair prices! So how much history (and wine) can you cram into a couple of hours and was it hysterical?

Trampling liberally on historical fact and extending myth and legend, the cast launched off from Adam and Eve with a tastefully suggestive show of nudity and a stack of double-entendres that Graham Norton would be proud of. Working rapidly through pre-history to Egypt where a distinctly Glaswegian Caesar managed to avoid the clutches of a lascivious Cleopatra, the audience chortled and guffawed at the quick fire one-liners. The amusement continued through the ages and across continents to include the courts of Henry VIII and Napoleon

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Bonaparte, and rushed through to the industrial age.

It was here that the first pause was put on the levity of the evening by a moving performance by Jamie Hunt of an urchin in cruel poverty. Moving on to the 20th Century, a second pause was made to pay a respectful homage to those who gave their lives during the 1st and 2nd World Wars. But the pace was quickly returned with a visit to the houses of the toffs; a slick play on many of the Beatles hits; and a conversation between 'yoofs' which had many in the audience chuckling - was it in sudden recognition of their own offspring? Solid performances by all members of the cast made it impossible to pick out an Oscar winner - the backstage and technical team certainly deserved recognition for the quantity and quality of the sets, costumes and technical 'tricks'. Wrapping up with a futuristic flight to Mars the audience went home, chuckling and reliving scenes - a sure sign of an enjoyable and memorable evening.

**Mark Rivers and
Marlene Lightbody**

Heart of Scotland Herb Society

Were we cold and grey in January? Not hardly, the night of our meeting on "Fresh Beauty Products"! Beryl Pointer and Cath McGregor gave a colourful and fascinating demonstration of toners, tonics and treatments to titillate from head to toe. All preparations were free of frank and hidden carcinogens and artificial dyes. In fact, most of the twenty recipes used were a combination of organically grown fruits and vegetables, dairy products and natural waxes and oils.

February saw us cleaning up our act from the inside out, with detoxing spring tonics. This was presented by Herbalist Jacqui Hazzard who outlined eight commonly grown spring plants, their various actions and uses and particular beneficial effects at this time of year. Herbs have so many varied uses. Most of us can at least admit to cooking with them. But can any of us match Eileen Malone's creative ability with "Herbs and Desserts"? This was the subject for our March meeting and in her usual style, we were treated to delicacies for the eye and palate in truly unusual and complimentary combinations of herbs, spices, fruits, sponge, ice cream, sorbet and jellies. None of us went home without plenty of new ideas or hungry!

In the next few months we hope to be planting out our section of the herb garden at Pitnacree, and will also have a herbal identification session at the Scottish Crannog Centre before beginning our summer of garden visits and the annual outing.

For more information on future events please contact either Patty Hope on 01567 820408 or Judy Forster 01567 820298

Killin Carpet Bowling Club



Prize Winners

Rink Trophy 2002 C. McLarty, F. Gaskell, E. Holmes, A. Stewart
Knockout Trophy J. Gauld, S. Aitken
Points Cup C. McLarty
Handicap Shield N. Forsyth, C. Grant, J. Guild
League Trophy 2003 J. Guild, T. Bolton, V. Blunt, W. Rew
Pairs Championship J. Willison, C. Higgins
Singles Champion L. Mitchell
Fun Night J. Willison, A. McHenry, T. Bolton
The prizes were presented by Frances Gaskell.

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Killin Golf Club Results

Mixed Open 2003

Saturday 24th May

Scratch

1. G.Smith & M.McQueen
(Killin/Routin Burn) 77 BIH
2. C.Dunbar & W.Henderson (Aberfeldy) 77

3. R.Sinclair & K.Young (Lochgilphead) 78

Handicap

1. P. Lambie & C.Lambie (Dunkeld & Birnam) 68.5
2. G. Marshall & A. Marshall (Taynuilt) 69

3. I.Donaldson & A.Weaver (Killin) 70

Best Killin: I.Donaldson & A.Weaver

Longest Drive

Ladies - L.Fertacz (Dunkeld)

Gents - Ian Ferrier (Blairgowrie)

Nearest Pin: R.Brown & K.Brown

Magic Twos

K.Hay & A.Hay

R.Sinclair & K.Young

J.R.Guild & M.Gauld

P.Lambie & C.Lambie

Ladies Open 2003

Saturday 7th June

Silver Scratch

1. Morag McQueen (Kelburn) 77
2. Judith Clowe (Pitlochry) 84
3. Wilma Frew (Oban) 87

Silver Handicap

1. Rachel Hunter (Schaw Park) 74 (BI6)
2. Sylvia Mitchell (Murrayshall) 74
3. W. Plevy (Portlethen) 74 **Bronze**

Scratch

1. Linda Kittle (Romford) 89
2. Annette MacFarlane Barrow (Dalmally) 92
3. Norma Thornton (Callander) 94

Bronze Handicap

1. Ann Hay (Dalmally) 70
2. Lisa Byrne (Helensburgh) 71
3. Audrey Weaver (Killin) 72

Killin Cup: Linda Kittle

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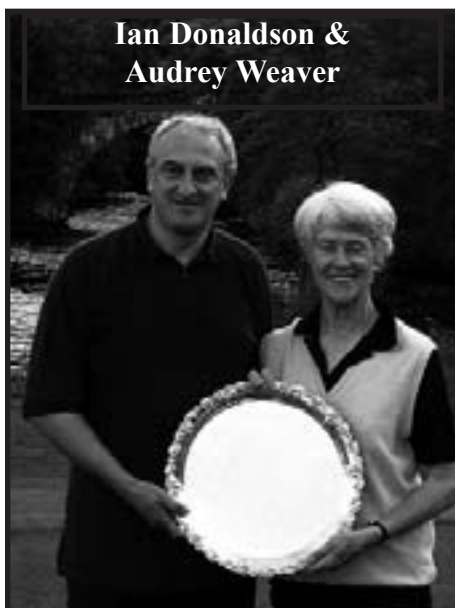
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Ian Donaldson & Audrey Weaver



Dochart Trophy: Morag McQueen

Bridge of Lochay Salver:

Audrey Weaver

Longest Drive

Silver - Ibbly Russells (Kelburn)

Bronze - Lisa Byrne (Helensburgh)

Nearest Pin: Liz Stevens (Killin)

Magic Twos

C.Fenton, L.Stevens, M.McQueen

CSS: 70

Senior Gents Open

Wednesday 7th May 2003

Scratch winner:

J Lang, Dumbarton (74)

Age groups

55 - 63:

1. JR Guild, Killin - 60
2. P Gallately, Alloa - 62
3. A Frost, Bridge of Allan - 64

64 - 68:

1. T Dow, Kingknowe - 67 BIH
2. W Small, Cragie Hill - 67
3. J Greaves, Whitemoss - 69

69+:

1. A Green, Comrie - 67
2. J Keilt, Bonnybridge - 68 BIH
3. W Ralston, Whickham - 68

Nearest the pin

15 - 28: J Keilt, Bonnybridge

0 - 14: J Lang, Dumbarton

Mactaggart Trophy : JR Guild

Lix Toll Trophy: T Taylor

Kiltyre Trophy: JR Guild

CSS: 65

Killin Mixed Open Competition

24th May 2003

The Mixed Open attracted some fifty couples this year and despite frequent heavy rain we had a very successful and enjoyable day. The best Scratch prize went again to George Smith and Morag McQueen and the best Handicap prize and Cup went to P. Lambie and C. Lambie from Dunkeld and Birnam. Audrey Weaver and Ian Donaldson won the Bill Mitchell Salver for the best Killin score. Killin Golf Club would like to thank all those who worked hard to make this day so successful for the Club, and in particular we would like to thank the sponsors: Ben Lawers Hotel, Gauld Antiques, Lix Toll Garage and Stitt Brothers Limited whose generous support was much appreciated.

Lyn Bartlett

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Highland Dancing

I am happy to say that plenty of fun and the use of lots of energy is still to be had on a Tuesday at the Highland Dancing class. It has been great to welcome some new children, Anna and Katie Holden, Ishbel Hayes, Megan Pease, Lois-Anne Townsley and Adelle Melia. Lucie Ronald and Camilla Tigwell have started dancing at the hotels in Crianlarich and Tyndrum with Emma Christie making her debut in May. It is good to see them along with Gillian, Siobhan, Kirsty, Seona and Becky entertaining the tourists. The Highland Games will soon be starting and we wish Siobhan lots of luck in her first summer in the Premier section. Gillian was successful at the Grandtully Competition last month. On Saturday 8th March eighteen pupils took part in the Medal tests.

Intro One Iona Pritchard (Highly Commended)

Intro Two Roisin Owen (Highly Commended)

Intro Three Lauren Third, Ailsa Taylor, Lynsey Armstrong (Highly Commended)

Intro Four Amy Armstrong, Emma Christie, Adelle MacLean (Highly Commended)

Beginners Fling Emily MacMillan, Nicole Robertson (Highly Commended)

Beginners Sword Ishbel Taylor, Siobhan Riddell (Highly Commended)

Bronze Lucie Ronald (Highly Commended)

Silver Bar Seona Christie, Camilla Tigwell (Commended)

Gold Becky Holliday (Highly Commended)

Gold Bar one Kirsty Somerville (Highly Commended)

Gold Bar two Gillian Ross (Highly Commended)

Aileen Fisher

Overnight on Wednesday 17th June a lot of rubbish and several domestic appliances were dumped beside the skip fence at the Station road car park. Surely it would have been easier for whoever dumped this if it was taken down on Saturday when the skip was open or to have had it uplifted by the council for a few pounds.

The skip in the village of Aberfoyle is on the verge of being removed because of locals misusing it in this way. The village fought long and hard to get the skip, lets use it properly or we will end up losing it. IC

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Angling News

Catches Salmon have been running hard up stream, with some being caught both on the River Dochart and Loch Iubhair. The best off the Killin water was a 17lb

fish caught by Ian Downie. Loch Tay has not produced the same numbers as anticipated from the spawning activity witnessed over the last seven years. Overall, to date the numbers grassed are about the same as last year. Brown Trout are in much better condition than in recent years. Anglers are in the main abiding by the limit rules and methods permitted, indeed some are releasing all the fish caught. On the coarse fishing front, some really large Pike have been tempted by this branch of the angling fraternity. Increasing numbers of visitors from the south are enjoying good sport on the loch margins and estuary.

Fry Survey Once again there will be a Summer Electro Fishing survey carried out by Dr. Summers of the Tay District Salmon Fisheries Board. The purpose of this is to find out the numbers of salmon fry and parr which are found in sections of the Rivers Fillan, Dochart and Lochay. There are specific areas where mature salmon spawn, and it is there and the adjoining burns where these juveniles grow. The data collected over the years indicates how the rivers are sustaining the natural populations, and where perhaps nature requires a helping hand. The survey also indicates the population of trout fry and sometimes turns up other species, which inhabit the waters. Anyone who wishes to be involved should contact myself.

Renovations The Killin Club, as many will have seen, are refurbishing the moorings on the River Lochay. This is to replace decayed and unsafe staging, some of which has been in place longer than present members can remember. This will create safe secure moorings, steps will be repaired and new ones incorporated to allow the more mature anglers easier access, some scrub has also been cut down. When finished, the area will be levelled and grassed to give a pleasant tidy banking. Other owners, hopefully, will follow the club's example.

Alex Stewart

The Emerald Crown

Congratulations to P6/P7 on their excellent performance of the Emerald Crown. The story was about the disappearing rainforest seen through the eyes of the animals and the stage and hall scenery plus the childrens' costumes made you feel as though you were really in the forest. Michael Farquharson as the Toucan was superb – a future rapper, I think! The scene with the bats flying was something totally different and unexpected. Well done, boys – you're braver than I am. An entertaining night which also raised the amazing total of £710 for the Schiehallion Ward of Yorkhill Hospital. Well done to all involved.

KR

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School visit to BEAR depot



BEAR Scotland, with 24 employees one of the largest employers in the area, held an open day in June for 23 children in P6 & P7 from Killin Primary School. Jim Stewart, the Area Manager, explained the work done on roads and bridges and why it was necessary for roads to be kept open at all times. After talks on road safety and the hazards in the depot, the children had a tour of the plant and machinery and to their delight were allowed to climb inside the gritters. BEAR presented the school with a cheque for £300 and, following a buffet lunch, the children left with goodie bags and the challenge to write a prize-winning poem on the theme of "Be safe, be seen". All involved considered it an enjoyable and successful day.

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Frost Report

Ptarmigans and Tarmachans

Some time ago, stories about red squirrels were very popular in the Frost report. We used to get quite a few excited phone calls from people who had been watching them. So the following should delight a few people. A wee while ago I was going up Glen Lochay, just before reaching Tullich, a red squirrel ran across the road in front of me and appeared to pick up the body of another squirrel off the road. Of course I assumed that this was another unfortunate road casualty. It seemed to look rather strange, was it sporting a new look in squirrel fashion? It appeared to have a tail growing from either end. It climbed into a tree and I was able to watch it through binoculars. As the head peeped round the tree trunk it appeared as though the squirrel was carrying the dead body of another squirrel. Every time I tried to get a look it, it scuttled round to the other side of the tree. Eventually the tail seemingly attached to the head moved, and I was able to see that it

was female squirrel with a young one clinging on to her teat suckling in transit. The baby's tail was more or less wrapped round the mother's neck. During all of this time she was chattering, doubtless swearing in squirrel, so I went off and left her in peace.

During the winter months when spotlighting for foxes at night and into the small hours and also, more recently, out at the dens, you get a chance to see some nocturnal wildlife. We were amazed at the large numbers of pine martens that we picked up in the light. They really seem to have increased tremendously in the last couple of years. Hopefully they will not cause too great a demise in the red squirrels!

The last few years it has been noticeable that there have been fewer mountain blackbirds (ring ouzels.) But this year they seem to back. The terriers put up a family with three youngsters when we were going the higher holes, about two and a half thousand feet up on The Tarmachans.

On that same day we stopped to spy as we approached a favourite cairn (a fox den amongst rocks, either bare or covered. Some cairns are as small as a few yards wide and others up to over a hundred yards wide and long made of anything from small scree to huge boulders.) Sure enough there was a fox approaching the cairn. It seemed to be limping and, after disappearing into a dip, it re-appeared about five feet away from a ewe and lamb. After eyeing the lamb for a moment or two, it moved nearer to the cairn, dived behind a boulder and re-appeared on the other side carrying a large lamb by the neck. It had difficulty carrying the lamb, not being able to get it fully off the ground, the fox was having to partly drag it. The earlier limp had quite disappeared! My son stalked and shot the fox, which proved to be a yeld vixen (female without milk so no cubs this year.) Moving into the cairn we found a den with lamb carcasses scattered about like the boxes from a pizza party. We returned at night (hillwalkers only usually do it once a day) not seeing anything till after dark. As we lay there banks of mist kept swirling past and, at times, we could see nothing. The eerie silence was broken only by the grating, crackling alarm call of ptarmigan. During a brief break in the mist a fox appeared and was shot – a vixen in milk. A few minutes later another appeared and was shot – another vixen in milk. A wee while later another fox appeared and was shot – a dog (male). What happened to the idea of territory? Was this a new-age fox with several mates? In many years on the hill I have not witnessed this before.

One of the real rewards of being out on the hill at night is being able to watch the hinds with their newly born calves tottering about on long, unsteady legs. And as dawn comes in the birds burst into a multitude of different song to herald the start of another busy day on the hills.

Tim Frost



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Strathfillan Community Development Trust



In May we bid a fond farewell to Linda and John Champion. Both have made a big difference to what the Trust has achieved. John was the inspiration behind the Crianlarich Community Woodland, and an important member of the team that made it happen. Linda was our Housing Officer for over a year, and was invaluable in that role. In addition, they started and ran the Strathfillan Lunch Club; a monthly gourmet extravaganza for the older members of our community. John did the cooking, and Linda the mothering. We will miss them. Haste ye back, John and Linda. Change brings new faces, and we are happy to welcome Sheona MacLennan as our new Housing Officer.

We also have a fit, new band of 'Fence Checkers' in Tyndrum Community Woodland. Jim Mailer, Bill Scott and Caroline Carnegie are sharing the monthly walk around the perimeter fence, looking for bird strike, breakages and anything of interest. If you see anything of interest in either of the woodlands, do let the Trust Office, John Holland or one of the Fence Checkers know. The Tyndrum Kickaround is still a wet, weedy wasteland. Plans are now finalised, and we are starting to raise the funds. Fingers crossed that we are successful, quickly. Still in Mansefield, the Trust has done some homework to see if we can put together a viable way of ensuring that the unfinished house foundations could be finished by local people. Even with professional help, we could not come up with a project that we felt we could promote and lead, as something to help local people to buy

their own home at an affordable price. We've agreed with Stirling Council that the plots and foundations should now be advertised on the open market. **Sue Wyllie** SCDT Office, Tel: 01838 400 545

Head Teacher retires

The pupils and staff of Crianlarich Primary School said a fond goodbye to a much loved and respected teacher and colleague at their Easter celebrations when Mrs Joan Mann retired as head teacher. Following the Easter service in the church, everyone joined the children at the village hall for lunch. After lunch the children sang a song of farewell for Mrs Mann and she was presented with a bouquet of flowers and a framed print of the Peoples Palace in Glasgow. Joan Mann leaves on a high note following the excellent report from the HM Inspectorate of Education and everyone wishes her a happy and fulfilled retirement. **Sheona MacLennan**



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By The Way''

Strathfillan Community Council

A meeting and AGM was held on Wednesday 7th May in the Crianlarich Village Hall. PC Ian Carnegie warned that as summer approaches, thieves will be looking out for gardening equipment such as lawnmowers, strimmers etc. and that members of the Strathfillan community can get from the police a simple shed alarm, which should be an affordable [£5] deterrent. He said that the straps across the roads in several areas are to count the numbers and speed of cars and he will try to get a copy of the analysis of the information, which could prove very useful.

Mansefield tenants had been canvassed but there was no interest in a formally constituted tenants association. Mure Smith has agreed to act as a spokesman between tenants and RSHA. A sub-group will be formed to set up a Registered Tenants Organisation to provide information to tenants, and get their opinions.

Joyce Russell is the new Community Futures Support Worker for the Breadalbane area and will work closely with Suzanne Player in the new Community Development Team.

Councillor Tony Ffinch said the site for the new hospital is still under discussion at the Scottish Executive. The costings of the two sites were not done on the same basis as the Larbert site did not include the cost of upgrading the road network, whilst the Pirnhall site did. A developer has offered the land at the Pirnhall site for free.

National Park Ranger Gavin Skipper has been working with Crianlarich School and an activities weekend was held in May for all to go and help with building and planting. The new office for the NP Rangers will be in Lochearnhead at the old Tweed Shop. Strathfillan CC was one of 11 winners of the Rural Voices competition, and has been granted £5223 to

conduct a survey into Health, Education and Leisure facilities in the area, and how to improve them. Strathyre Learning Centre has now closed and Killin Library offers computer facilities on a Wednesday and Thursday when the library is closed. Alan Smith has arranged a pick-up of litter from laybys and regular inspections.

Sheona MacLennan

New housing - work starts!

After much delay in the planning stage, work on the long-awaited new housing in Fingal Road finally started on 23rd June. This was welcome news for Community Council Chairman, John MacPherson, and Jim Milne, Chairman of Stirling Rural Housing, and also for those hoping to live in the new houses. Phase 1 of the project is for 24 homes, due for completion at the beginning of June next year. There will eventually be 32 homes on the site, comprising 22 cottage flats (16x2-person, 6x3-person) and 10 semi-detached houses (6x4-person and 4x5 person). Progress will be followed with interest.



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Mervyn's Weather

No two years are the same, historically, politically or meteorologically. Although the spring of 2003 has toppled many records of long and short standing, regarding abnormally high maximum temperatures, duration of sunshine and spells of official drought, ie 17 days without measurable rainfall, as well as scarcity or absence of air frosts or snowfall, there have been instances in the past when in some places figures achieved in 2003 have been equalled or exceeded. As long ago as 1893 April was on a par with that just past. While March and April 2003 are fresh in the memory, those of us who were around in such years as 1938, 1949, 1974, 1984 and 1987 may remember equally acceptable spring weather. Indeed, apart from the early war years of 1940 to 1942, and of course the notorious 1947, we enjoyed seasons when those involved say in the sowing of oats, then done by hand and requiring calm dry conditions, or in heather burning (controlled), could rely almost inevitably

on spells of suitable weather. Those springs of the 40's continued into many of the 50's. Latterly however seasons have become less reliable. Since 21 April 2003, when a brief thunderstorm yet again put telephone lines out of commission for almost a week, conditions have reverted more or less to what we have come to expect – "showers or longer periods of rain". Although it has to be said that over the past fortnight the TV forecast for central Perthshire has been much gloomier than what has transpired. The "pump-priming" of early and mid spring has ensured that trees and flowers have been precocious in leaf and blossom, often being three weeks to one month earlier than normal. Swallows, swifts, martins and cuckoos arrived on cue, although the latter bird is not nearly so numerous as of yore when around here one could record up to five birds calling simultaneously. Oyster catchers once



so plentiful on the stony Lochside "Cladich" are now scarce due to predations of mink and hoodie crows. Grass which hardly ceased to grow during the winter months has been plentiful and ewes were in tremendous condition at lambing time which passed with little difficulty. On the highest peaks, where in some years old snowdrifts may be observed till July or even later, only "The Cuidhe Crom" or "The Crooked Wreath" of Ben More and the fragmented remains of the cornice above Coir' Ladhar of Ben Lawers remain at the end of May. In the world of flora some years seem to favour one colour or another. At one time it may be the yellow of whins, broom, dandelions, ragwort or celandine that is in dominance. Other years blue or red prevails, even the white gowan or the hawthorn can be outstanding. In 2003 a noticeable fact is that the bronze of burgeoning oak leaves is unusually conspicuous. The other interest point is that oak and ash came into leaf simultaneously this year. "Soak or Splash?" !

Mervyn K. Browne, Ardtalnaig

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Farming Matters

We are now into the month of June and another lambing and calving season is past. Even though the good weather of early spring did not last for the hill lambing, the ewes were in good order and seemed to have done quite well. Grass is growing well in the current warm spell, so different from this time last year. Let's hope it lasts into the summer.

It is sign of the times that over the next few weeks farmers will be more concerned about the latest news from Brussels than the weather forecast. Negotiations are taking place at present about the way agriculture is supported throughout the EEC. The outcome could have a big effect on Scottish agriculture. At present payments are made on the number of cattle and sheep you agree to keep on your farm for a certain length of time. This system involves a mountain of paperwork and requires an army of inspectors to police it. What is being proposed is that the farmer would receive the same amount of money as last year but would be able to keep what stock he chooses and sell them when he wanted. It would be easier to alter the type of stock to suit the market. He could also choose to keep less animals but would still have to keep some stock to graze the grass. The main concern is that cattle would leave the hills to be replaced by sheep. Cattle are more expensive to buy, need to be fed all winter, often require expensive buildings and need more labour throughout the year. They do, however, keep rough grass under control. The other concern is that the number of people working in agriculture is likely to fall still further. Surely the last thing we need is less people living and working in the glens. **Stewart Christie** Auchlyne Farm



Kay Dowling presents the ploughing cup to champion Hamish McDairmid



Killin and District Agricultural Society

The Annual Ploughing Match was held at Kinnell by kind permission of the Dowling family. Eleven ploughs took part and despite the very heavy rain, they all ploughed very well. It was good to see so many spectators, and the children had a great time playing in the mud.

Results

Overall Hamish McDiarmid

Reversible Plough

- 1 Hamish McDiarmid
- 2 Fraser Wilson
- 3 Robet Waugh

Coventional Plough

- 1 Stewart Christie
- 2 Neil Campbell
- 3 Finlay MacAskill

Hardest Lot Hector Hall

Learners Prize

David Noble
Steve Morgan

Forthcoming Events

The Annual Sheep Shearing Competition will be held on Friday 27th June at Kenknock Farm, Glen Lochay from 6.00pm, where competitors and spectators are all welcome. The Killin Show will be held on Saturday 16th Aug 2003, in Breadalbane Park, and the Marquee Dance will be held on the evening of the Show from 9/00pm in the Marquee.

Helen Taylor

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Police News

Fraudster:- A middle aged gentleman with a South African accent, registering his name as Guisepppe, has recently defrauded several hoteliers in this area and elsewhere in Scotland. He appears very plausible and enjoys telling people about his homeland. He tends to stay for a day or so and partakes in an evening meal but manages to disappear without paying the outstanding bill. He is very similar in description to an individual who frequented the North East of Scotland and Aberdeenshire in August last year, also purporting to being South African and usually providing a Capetown address. He has also given his surname as James or Freeman.



Caravan Theft Sometime between February and March 2003, a Bailey Senator 5 berth caravan valued about £ 3000 was stolen from the Pine Trees Caravan Site, Tyndrum. During the weeks leading up to 3rd May 2003 an Eldis tourer caravan valued about £ 500 was also stolen from the same site which is currently unoccupied and for sale.

Zebra Crossing The recent addition to the Killin Main Street of a Zebra Crossing has provided an additional safety mechanism for pedestrians and Primary School children. It has, however, been suggested that some motorists are not complying with the requirements of the crossing and failing to stop as necessary. This is obviously very dangerous and punishable by law.

Vandalism In relation to vandalism to Killin Sports & Leisure Pavilion overnight on 12/13 April, 2003, a successful DNA sample was found during a scene of crime analysis. This was forwarded to the Police Forensic Science Laboratory based at Dundee where the DNA extracted shall be, as a matter of routine, crosschecked against the vast UK wide DNA database. A positive match shall result in the apprehension of the offender.



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Community Futures Programme

The first meeting of the Killin Area Groups Forum was well attended. Four areas were chosen for discussion: **Group 1 Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park / Heritage** discussed the setting up of the Heritage Trail and its relationship to other village developments.

Group 2 Transport & Housing discussed the Hospital car service, the difficulties of attending appointments, housing, and the need for support facilities for residents.

Group 3 'Spirit of the Tay' / Floral Association / Drama club discussed accommodation during the Drama Finals in March 2004, and the use of 'The Spirit of the Tay' as a venue for future productions by the Drama club and as an additional tourist attraction. It was agreed that the Floral Association would have input to aspects of the Spirit of The Tay project.

Group 4 Children / Youth Groups discussed the Killin Playgroup, Killin Nursery, the Sunday School, the PTA, the Brownies, the Green Team, and a joint venture by the school and the National Trust. There was some concern that the Boys Brigade numbers are going down. It has to pay to use the school as it is not classed as an educational group. Help with this would be welcome. The dangerous state of the Ardeonaig road and the lack of snow and ice clearing in Glen Lochay were also discussed. No firm conclusions were reached at the meeting on how to take specific projects forward. This was a very successful first meeting. The next meeting will be in six months time, and representatives from all groups will report on progress.

Sheona MacLennan

Stirling Council Support to Communities – Improvement to Service

Community Support within Stirling Council has recently undergone changes, which will improve the way in which we offer support to communities. We are now called Community Learning and Development and, instead of three teams covering geographical areas, there will be three specialist teams – for Youth, Adult Learning and Communities - with main bases in Stirling and satellite bases in Callander, Balfron and Killin. This will give a more focused approach from the community workers involved and provide an improved level of support.

As the Community Animator based in this area, my remit has now changed to being focused mainly on support to community groups including village hall committees, community councils and the many other groups working within the community. In addition, I am working in close partnership with the National Park and will have the lead responsibility for working with Killin to help the community progress its Community Action Plan within the Community Futures Programme. Joyce Russell is the National Park Community Agent with lead responsibility for working with Strathfillan to help progress its Community Action Plan. I will no longer be responsible for co-ordinating local adult learning opportunities but will continue to act as a local link into the adult learning team and the youth team as well as other council services.

One of the good things is that I will no longer be called a Community Animator but a Rural Development Worker which I am hoping will not cause so much confusion (or hilarity)! If you would like further information on the changes, please contact me on 01567 820154 or Stirling Council Community Resource Centre 01786 432311.

Suzanne Player



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Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project for Primary Schools

The children of Killin, Kenmore and Glenlyon primary schools are being given a privileged glimpse of the history of their area through a project run by the Archaeology and Education Departments



series of activities which showed the pupils the work processes of archaeology, from desk-based research to excavation to building a picture from the discoveries made during excavation work. This year, the schools were offered a list of options from a visit to Moirlanich Longhouse and The Crannog Centre to taking part in a real excavation at Meggernie Scout Centre, at the Bridge of Balgie. Here they had the opportunity to try out a number of archaeological techniques with Glasgow University Archaeological Research Division, while at Moirlanich, they were able to see inside a

of The National Trust for Scotland and funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This is part of a 5-year Historic Landscape research project funded by the HLF, Historic Scotland and the NTS, and led by the Trust's Archaeology Department. The area covered includes both Trust and privately owned land – and it is thanks to the local land-owners that such a large, in-depth survey can take place.

Last year, each pupil at the three primary schools took part in an archaeology day called Would You Make a Good Archaeologist? This was based around a

real longhouse and familiarise themselves with some Victorian and early 20th century artefacts. At the Crannog Centre the pupils will see the other end of the historical spectrum, visiting the crannog and attempting some ancient skills. Later, Killin Primary School is visiting one of the many shieling sites in this area and, with two education officers from the National Trust for Scotland, will re-enact part of the lives of the people who lived there in days gone by. The whole educational programme is aimed at introducing young pupils to a wide range of



scientific and sociological skills, and using practical participation to enhance the experience, forging memorable links between our past and our future. Well done, the National Trust for Scotland. This is how history should be taught. Thank you also to the Crannog Centre, Glasgow University Archeological Research Division and the land owners involved. For further information contact Debbie Jackson, Regional Education Officer West NTS Tel. 0141 616 5117 WA

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Life on Ben Lawers

On Sunday 1st June, Killin PTA brought a group of 19 children and 9 parents to the nature trail at Ben Lawers. Helen & Harry from the National Trust for Scotland led our walk around the trail. On the way they had organised a series of fun activities all relating to the wild life on the mountain. The kids enthusiastically searched for life in the stream, under rocks and amongst the moss and grass. We were blessed with beautiful sunshine which of course meant the kids just had to go paddling in the stream. We all thoroughly enjoyed our day and can recommend it to everyone. Each Tuesday, during the summer, there are planned walks around the nature trail with one of the NTS rangers. We would like to thank Helen and Harry for their good fun and continuous patience. Lets hope we can come back next year.

Killin PTA

Killin Medical Practice

There have been a number of requests for a tea/coffee-making machine in our waiting-room. However our medico-legal advisers have advised us that this would be inappropriate for health and safety reasons. We do have a water dispenser in the reception area that is available to all patients. Feel free to ask.

Recently we have had a problem contacting a patient by telephone because we had the wrong number. Although we try to keep up to date with patients, we don't always know when people move house – especially within the practice area. If you change address or phone number, please let us know.

If you would like us to have your mobile number or e-mail address, then please let us know what they are, although you should know that there are one or two problems about confidentiality with e-mail which would limit its use at present.

Fiona Buchanan

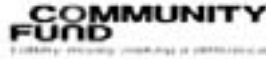
Apology

Apology to John Riley of Tyndrum. We gave an incorrect e-mail address in the last issue. Those who wish to contact him regarding his article "Getting Heard Locally & nationally" should e-mail him at john.riley108@virgin.net

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Killin Care Trust

The Killin Care Trust AGM was held on 30th May. In his report the Chairman, John MacPherson commented on the steep learning curve the Trust members had undergone during the successful takeover of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and restated the Trust's purpose of providing a happy and safe environment for the residents of the Home, whilst charging a realistic rate. Any profit made will be reinvested in the Home. He expressed his thanks to all those who had made donations which the Trust intended to use, not for normal day to day running and maintenance, but for such things as outings for the residents and improving the garden. If individuals or organisations wished to make donations for a specific purpose in connection with the Home, the Board would be pleased to discuss proposals with them. He thanked his fellow Trust members for their support and said how very grateful the Board were to Sheena McColl and her dedicated staff. The Board voted their Chairman a 'huge vote of thanks' for all his hard work on this community project.

Bric-a-Brac Sale

A bric-a-brac sale will be held in the McLaren Hall on Mon 4th Aug from 10 am to 4pm. Entry fee will be £1 per adult and 50p per child (under 12 yrs of age) and will include coffee and tea. All contributions will be most gratefully accepted and all proceeds will go to needy village enterprises. You may not find a priceless antique there, but you will certainly find a warm welcome. Contributions to May Aitken Glebe Cottage 01567 820 358 or to Margaret McDonald Garden Cottage 01567 820534. The McLaren Hall will be open on Sun 3rd Aug from 2pm – 4pm for receiving goods for sale.

PTA Ben Lawers Trip



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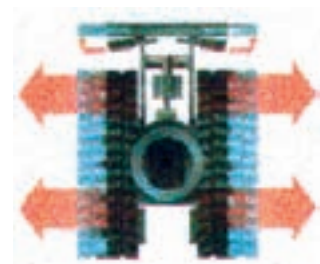
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1st Killin Brownies



On Monday 2nd June, eleven Brownies were formally enrolled in front of a packed audience of family & friends. It was a very special night and we all felt very proud of the girls. We welcomed Jessica Menzies to our pack and happily, she renewed her Brownie Promise with us. Jessie and her family have recently moved to the village from Tunbridge Wells. A big thanks must go to all those parents who provided such wonderful baking for our celebratory tea party afterwards. This is an important event for every Brownie and we would hope to make it an annual event.

This term the Brownies have been very busy with different activities; setting up treasure hunts, making miniature gardens, birdwatching, cooking over real fires and of course having lots of fun. Any girls between 7 and 11 are very welcome to join our pack in September.

Please contact **Fiona Mitchell** or **Julie Rhys** for information.

Killin Playgroup

Killin Playgroup meets every Friday morning in Killin Nursery during school term time. This has been an eventful year for us with some uncertainty over the group's sustainability. We were twice without a Playleader, but following an open meeting we were overwhelmed by the positive responses from parents and now feel confident that Killin Playgroup will continue for many years to come. We are delighted to have Martin Judd as Playleader and a full quota of eighteen children (some of whom can be seen in our photograph!). The committee has had to work exceptionally hard to keep the group running and meet all the requirements set by the Care Commission. We hope to have all our new policies and paperwork in place by August 2003 for the start of term. We would like to thank Lucy and Elizabeth from the nursery for their continued and invaluable support. Alice MacPherson our volunteer helper has recently taken some time off to look after her granddaughter, but hopes to return to Playgroup next term. We would like to thank her for her contribution to the group and her kindness to the children.

We are a registered charity and are financed by fees, fundraising and grants. To help with our funds we held a coffee morning and 40/60 sale of children's clothing, toys and books in the McLaren Hall on 24th May. This raised a fantastic £400 for Playgroup. A big thank you to all those who supported us donated baking and helped out on the day. We would like to thank Chris at the Co-Op for generously providing our coffee, tea, sugar and milk and for donating a steam iron for the Toddlers Tombola. We are sending all remaining clothes and toys to Bosnia.

The group is going to Noah's Ark in Perth with Tiddlers & Toddlers on the 20th June for our summer outing, which will mark the last session for this term. This year we say goodbye to Lara Hitchins, Anna Holden, Garry Nicol, Douglas Petrie, Ryan Riddell, Bryony Semple and Robbie Taylor who are all progressing on to primary school. We would like to wish them all the very best. If you would like any more information about Killin Playgroup then please contact **Sheila Aitken** (secretary) on 820249.



Killin Keepfitters



Killin Keepfitters receiving a cheque for £200 from the Co-op Community Fund.



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TIDDLERS AND TODDLERS

Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers Fund Raising Events. Sponsored Toddle. This year the sponsored toddle took place on Friday 16th May 2003. The weather was not as kind as previous years, but we all braced ourselves for the arduous task ahead and managed to toddle our way round the usual route from the Church Hall to Breadalbane Play Park. As the sun was expected, strawberries and juice for the children was provided, unfortunately this was hurriedly taken and everyone headed for home due to the rain. We would like to thank all the mums who participated and also those who so kindly sponsored Killin's youngest on their toddle. Tombola & Baking Stall at the Playgroup 40/60 sale. On Saturday 24th May 2003, Killin Playgroup held a 40/60 Sale in the McLaren Hall. Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers ran the Home Baking and Tombola Stall, raising approx £122.00. A big thank you to all the mums who turned out to help on the stalls, the Playgroup for all their organisation and also those who donated baking and tombola prizes. If any parents or carers of children between the ages of 0 and 3 are interested in participating in Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers, we meet every Friday morning between 9.30 and 11.30 in the Church Hall, Ballechroisk, Killin. If you would like further information, please contact the Secretary - Sammy Hibbert on 01567 820 739. Everyone is welcome. **Norma Lang** Chairperson



NURSES CLINIC



The scheme to extend and upgrade the Nurses Clinic at Killin is almost complete with only a few cosmetic jobs still to be done. We now have a wonderful community resource and a much improved nurses' clinic. In the new extension there is a large multipurpose room and a consulting room, which are available to be used by local groups and organisations that have the health and wellbeing of the community as their aim. The extension has been named the Weaver Suite after our retired District Nurse Audrey Weaver who first had the idea to upgrade the nurses clinic and spent many years pursuing this vision of a better and more modern nurses clinic for the people of Killin. After she retired the community nurses continued to push for this development and we are now able to say we have exceeded even Audrey's dreams with the facilities we now have. A number of services have already started to use the Weaver Suite. The Rural Day Care service are running a day centre on a Thursday and plan to increase this service as demand develops. The podiatry service is also going to use this area instead of the mobile unit that has become a familiar sight parked in the McLaren Hall car park. The child health clinic run by the Health Visitor is now located in this area and the Community Mental Health Team has used it as a place for people to meet. In addition the Community nurses, GPs and various support groups are using the rooms for meetings and training sessions. As a result of the upgrading work we now also have a wonderful new modern treatment room, waiting room and office area. The nurses run a treatment room from 9am to 10am Monday to Friday by appointment. This is a resource for the people of Killin and District and if anyone needs information about booking the multipurpose room in the

Weaver Suite or you want information about community nursing services please call 01567 820262 9am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday.

Katherine Novosel, Corporate Services Manager, Forth Valley Primary Care NHS Trust. Tel 01324 404018



The Missing Link

"We've been waiting for this for years" said John MacPherson, Killin Community Council Chairman, welcoming the new bus service linking Tyndrum, Crianlarich, Killin and Lochearnhead with Oban, Crieff and Perth. "For the first time, it will mean a public transport link between St Fillans and Lochearnhead." The new service between Perth and Oban runs twice a day on Fridays to Mondays from May 26 until October 5 and is operated by Scottish Citylink Coaches supported by three local councils. A trip there and back on the same day allows passengers to spend two and a half hours in Perth or an hour and a quarter in Oban and also makes possible travel to and from Dundee and Aberdeen via Perth instead of Glasgow.

A regular visitor to Killin was delighted to discover during her stay here that she could travel back to Dundee via Perth using the new bus but thought she'd better book a seat. She rang the bus company. "You can only book a seat if you have a ticket" she was told. Where could she get a ticket? "From the office in either Perth or Oban. No, you can't get one in Killin but you can get a ticket by writing in a week before you travel and when you get it, you can then book a seat." Happily the visitor was persuaded by her hosts that it was unlikely she would need to book and indeed when she boarded the bus in Killin, there were only two other travellers - perhaps because it was then less than a week old so not many people knew about it. It is hoped that the service will be well used so that it will continue to run and perhaps extend throughout the year. Timetables for the new route and all other local bus services are available in Killin Library.



And talking of linking our area to other places, we wonder how many people know that, if you buy a Highland Rail Card for £7.50 and you live in FK21 (Killin) or in FK 20 (Crianlarich and Tyndrum), you can get 50% off "most rail fares" when you travel on the West Highland, North Highland or Kyle Lines and up to 2 children with you travel for £2 each. Just a few ideas for summer holiday outings. For railcard enquiries Tele 01463 239026 **MM**

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Killin Highland Games

The 10th Games will be held on Wednesday 30th July. The day will begin at 10.30am, drawing to a close about 5.30pm. The committee are pleased that the new Chief of Clan Gregor, Sir Malcolm, will be carrying on the tradition of his late father as Games Chieftain.

The leading World Strongmen and a strong Scottish involvement will attempt the traditional Highland Games events and feats of strength. Piping and Highland Dancing competitions are again attracting many overseas entries. The Hill Race and amateur trials of strength will hopefully be well supported.

In addition this year there will be a gathering of sporting personalities from the treble winning Rangers Football Club. Members of the Clan Gregor Society of North America will be in Scotland during the games week and some of their number will be attending

to support their new Clan Chief. The fairground, stalls and other attractions will make the day enjoyable for all the family. The field opens at 10.30am with the Chieftain's Parade leaving the Dochart Bridge at 1.30pm. Come along, give the new committee your support and help keep the Killin Games one of the main mid-week events on the Highland Games circuit.

Fiona Stewart Secretary

Community Rooms News

By now everyone must be familiar with the proposed new community rooms planned to replace the old session house adjoining the Church of Scotland. The old building is to be demolished and replaced by a comfortable modern suite of rooms with kitchen, toilet and full disabled access available to community groups. Unless you have visited the website recently you may well be thinking that it is all taking a

very long time and it will never happen. The first we cannot blame you for, there have been so many steps to take with many organisations such as Historic Scotland etc. The second we can now argue against as we now have the green light for GO. Already the bank balance stands at over £58,000 but we need to raise a further £30,000. If the money is pledged it will count and can be paid up later. We would like to reach our 'bulldozer target' as soon as possible. If you would like to donate you can pay into Bank of Scotland – Special Building Fund – Account No. 1938940 or pledge money on forms available from the library or the church porch. Thanks to all who have promised to help. If you have pledged in the past (e.g. the person who offered a dishwasher) please contact any of the Church elders or board. Many thanks.

Linda Frost

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Obituaries

David McNicoll

On 26th March 2003 David Henry McNicoll passed away at Stirling Royal Infirmary at the age of 89. Dave, as he was known, was born in 1913 and brought up in Strathhtay with his four brothers and two sisters. He was educated at Breadalbane Academy, then served his apprenticeship at the Royal Botanical Gardens in Edinburgh, and from there he travelled to Malaya as a rubber planter, later becoming manager of the Karmen Rubber Plantation. He joined the army and rose to the rank of Major before becoming prisoner of war with the Japanese for four years, which he endured with great courage. On returning home he took over the family farm of Balnasuim at Lawers

and in 1953 married Muriel MacDonald, who lived on the farm next door. His great interest was Aberdeen Angus Cattle and Black Faced Sheep and he won many prizes for them at the local shows and sales. He and Muriel moved to Killin in 1981 and enjoyed a well-earned retirement. He took great pride in his garden and greenhouse and took pleasure in displaying his flowers and plants at Killin Show. Dave was an elder of Kenmore and Lawers Church for many years and a member of the Killin and District Agricultural Society. He was a loyal friend to many and was a favourite uncle to his fifteen nephews and nieces. He will be greatly missed by his wife, Muriel, his extended family and his friends.

Sir Peter Fawcus



lives have been blessed with colour and fun, from the "craic" with Willy Allan at the Paper Shop to the glory of winning a prize in the Killin Agricultural Show. They

After a long illness, Sir Peter died peacefully in the early hours of 22nd April at the Perth Royal Infirmary. The following Saturday the family members gathered respectfully to give him a good send off. The beautiful blossom of the trees and soft springtime colours combined to make a sad occasion peaceful and happy, reflecting his great love of his garden at Dochart House. The family had often returned to holiday in Scotland during the years after the 2nd World War spent in South Africa (when latterly he was Governor of Botswana, one of the few success stories of Africa). In 1965 Pete and Isabel moved to Killin just as the Old Railway closed down here, and their

took an interest in everybody and remembered the names of all the children coming to swim. Mum's sudden death 2 years ago left Dad battling on, one of the "old warriors". Bravely and stoically he overcame each crisis and, in the words of his carers, forged through the "rough seas" of Old Age - just as he once did in the Royal Navy. He was knowledgeable and aware of World Affairs till the end. Now the rough seas have calmed down we remember with gratitude his life in Killin where he felt so at home, with the kindness of everyone all around him, and are happy that now he will be reunited with his wife.

Jane Mallalieu (Fawcus)

Stewart Gillies



Stewart and Rhona enjoying a night out

Stewart Gillies

We were shocked and saddened at the sudden death of Stewart on 18th May 2003. Stewart operated the snack van at Glen Dochart which he very much enjoyed and he will be much missed by the many people who called when passing by. Stewart had a passion for lorry driving and his favourite hobbies were playing the accordion and fishing on Loch Tay and Loch Lomond. The whole family is overwhelmed by the support and kind thoughts extended from everybody.

Rhona and family

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Arthur Livesley

Tribute to 'Old Arthur'

Arthur first came to the area on holiday with his late mother. They stayed at Highland Lodges, and as Clive recalls, Arthur wanted to go salmon fishing and, although that first day did not go too well, he was hooked. He came back for his holidays on other occasions, and it was inevitable that when he retired he and his mother moved to Killin, buying Alpine Cottage.

Arthur spent his working life as a hospital administrator in Bradford, rising to a senior position. He organised events for hospital charities and from all accounts was respected for his all round administration skills.

His recreational passion was cycle racing, taking part in many road races and winning several team events with the local club. A keen follower of the Sport of Kings, Arthur liked horse racing and was very knowledgeable in the ways of the racing world. He joined the Killin Angling Club and was introduced to the art of fly-fishing and salmon trolling with some modest success.

Arthur enjoyed a pint, his pipe and a good gossip, and could be seen chatting about his cycling days and horse racing with both locals and visitors.. It was with sadness we learned of Arthur's passing and we wish his family fond memories of a real character. His familiar figure and distinctive voice will be sadly missed.

Inserted by his Friends



“Bob” MacDonald

Bob MacDonald who lived at “Rahoy” for many years, died 25th May at Preston Infirmary aged 78. He left Killin reluctantly a few years ago to live in Lancashire so his wife Marion could be nearer her daughter and grandchildren. Bob was a familiar and convivial member of the village, always in a kilt - he claimed not to own any trousers. He was sometime employed to look after the village cemetery and in the winter of 80/81 he painted the railings - the last time they were painted. He also worked on the gardens of 3 and 4. Pier Road, Kinnell House and Westerlix.

Bob's childhood was spent in Wiltshire although his father's family was from the West coast of Scotland. At sixteen he joined the Royal Navy as a boy sailor and served in a number of ships, notably H.M.S. Prince of Wales, which was sunk by the Japanese off the coast of Malaya in December 1941. Bob was in the water for some hours before being rescued and landed at Singapore from where he escaped to Ceylon before the surrender. After a period of recuperation he joined H.M.S Cornwall which was also sunk in the Indian Ocean. In all Bob reckoned to have been sunk five times during his service. Bob was a keen and accomplished angler, a member of the Killin Angling Club and for 2/3 years a member of the Killin Mountain Rescue Team. He was involved in a very large search for a Jaguar pilot who had crashed in the Ben Lui area. Bob loved Scotland, the country and its people, and was very proud of his Scottish ancestry. Sadly Marion is now in care in a nursing home.

Peter George

Honor Leighton

Honor Margaret Fraser was born on 29 March 1917 in Arbroath. She was educated at boarding school in Edinburgh where she enjoyed art, literature and history. At the age of 17 she joined the W.V.S. and met her future husband – Hume (Chick) Leighton. They married on 7 October 1939. Their first child – Jack – was born in 1943 and 2 years later Honor and Chick moved to Liangarsten farm in Glen Dochart. The following year Honor gave birth to a daughter – Jean. Tragically she died at the age of 3 months from Cot Death Syndrome. Two more daughters followed soon after – Diana and Rosie – and the family all grew up at Liangarsten. The first of 8 Grand children was born in 1968 and Honor's life centred around them. As one of those Grand children I'll always remember the happy days spent and Liangarsten Farm. Gan, as we all affectionately called her, was a great cook and loved nothing more than having us and all of our friends to stay. Honor and Chick retired to Killin in 1979 and continued to spend the majority of their time looking after us Grand children. Their final move was in 1986 to Kirk Care where they spent many happy days. Sadly, Chick passed away in February 1997 but with 8 Grand children and 7 Great Grand children Gan's life was always busy. She was an extremely generous Gran and always willing to give her time to help us. Nothing was ever too much bother. After a short illness, Honor passed away very peacefully on 24 April 2003. She was a fantastic Mum, Gran and Great Gran and will be very sorely missed by all her family and friends alike. The family would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who sent cards and flowers whilst Honor was in Stirling Royal Infirmary and after she passed on. The family would like to thank everyone for the donations - £300 was raised at the church for Killin Care Trust, and £160 was collected at the crematorium for ward 27 at Stirling Royal Infirmary.

Sally MacDonald

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Abernethy Trust Host Food Hygiene and Safety Courses

The management and staff at the Abernethy Trust Outdoor Centre at Ardeonaig recently played host to Hospitality Safety Services (HSS) during a two-day training programme. The main participants on the courses were members of staff. However, they kindly opened the courses to other local businesses and the staff were joined by Fiona Higginbotham of Cruachan Restaurant (Killin), Amy Arnold of Croft-Na-Caber (Kenmore) and

Elsbeth McNaughton of County Catering (Ardalnaig). The Royal Environmental Health Institute of Scotland (REHIS) Elementary Certificate in Food Hygiene, which was presented by Alistair McCourt of HSS, introduced participants to important issues such as Prevention of Food Poisoning, Personal Hygiene, Cleaning Practices and Food Safety Legislation. The REHIS Health and Safety Elementary Certificate, presented by John Morris of HSS, provided participants with an outline of Health and Safety Law, Risk Assessment, Hazards and Precautions associated with Hazardous Substances, Electricity, Work Equipment and Fire. Both courses were followed by a thirty question multi-choice examination, which everyone passed with flying colours. For further information about courses, or any other health and safety issues, contact John Morris or Jacqueline Rice, HSS. Tel: 01877 331284. Fax: 01877 339007 or visit our website at www.hsscotland.co.uk

Stirling Council Potholes

Mr James Lindsay, a local business man from Stirlingshire, is up in arms against Stirling District Council regarding the state of the roads. In pure frustration he has formed his own group called the Association of Road Surface Experts (ARSE) and is aiming to challenge the Roads Department into doing something about the mass of potholes that exist on their roads. Mr Lindsay says "Our top surveyors are currently in Moldova but have found nothing to compare with the spine jarring potholes in our area" He says that in the past two or three years rural roads in Stirlingshire have fallen into a shocking state. Even Stirling Council Roads Department admits to some roads being on the verge of being closed. It would appear that they are one of the few councils that do not spend its full grant as awarded by the Scottish Executive on its roads. It admits to spending only 65% but will not say where the other 35% goes! Mr Lindsay says that the A821 Trossachs Trail through the National Park and the roads around Fintry were possibly the worst in Stirling or Europe. I wonder if it can be anything like the Ardeonaig road. Somebody is worse than us! Or are they? AC

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Drama Club

Car Boot SALE

Saturday 9th August
McLaren Hall
10 am - 2 pm
£5 per Table

The day the policeman's wife met Mario and Paulo, the Great Italian Cyclists

Any non-cycling fans out there (of which there will be quite a lot) may well be totally oblivious to this, but by the time you come to read this little tale, the Giro D'Italia one of the greatest, 3 weeklong, races of the cycling calendar, will be over. Anyway picture your village bobby (no, not Donaldson - the other one) enjoying a glass of Chianti vino and olive oil soaked bruschetta, with backside fixed firmly to the settee in Killin (off duty), watching, gleefully, as the drama develops in the live coverage on Eurosport.

It fair took me back to that fateful visit to the 2002 Giro, where we sampled it live and in the flesh. Imagine, if you will, a long and wide by-pass road. This was where we chose to position ourselves, eagerly anticipating the arrival of the 180 strong peloton of top cycling athletes and their mile long entourage of cavalcade, colour and hangers on. To get prime spot in this free carnival you have to be in position early and at least an hour beforehand. Camcorder in one hand, camera in the other - we waited. Our position was gradually infiltrated by locals warbling away in their foreign tongue. But it was we who were the foreigners. This was their race. Slowly the wide carriageway narrowed and then narrowed again, as more and more people thronged about us, all eagerly waiting for their heroes. The elbows were out and we jockeyed with these cycling fanatics for position.

A sure sign that the mass of racing cyclists were nearing, was the unmistakeable whirring of the rotor blades overhead. The hovering TV helicopters were above and the police motorcycle outriders were whizzing past us with their sirens wailing. The excitement was building. "Debs you take the camcorder. I'll take the pictures." I didn't normally take the snaps. Suddenly they were upon us. "Here they come!"

The long sleek line of colour, 10 riders deep, was sweeping elegantly towards us. The air blasted forward as they neared and funnelled into the now small gap in the road where I waited with my left eye fixed through the view finder, Debs, behind me, happily recording the spectacle on the camcorder. They get closer, the snapping begins and the yells from the crowd envelop the peloton as they glide effortlessly past. Suddenly they were slowing in front of us and I was getting great pictures of Europe's finest cycling talent. "Debs!" I shout "Are you getting this on camera?"

I turn to see, to my horror, that there was now a human roundabout, that was my wife, where there once was a straight and empty section of road. My good lady, totally oblivious to the mayhem that is beginning to unfold about her, dutifully carries on filming. The angry yells from the cycling masters, warning their colleagues of the sudden appearance of this human roundabout and the squealing, sharp appliance of rubber to rim, was to no avail. The sudden slowing of riders in front of the close moving cycling talent, causes wheels to clash and handlebars to entangle and the tumbling begins.

Despite my best efforts to pull my beloved out of their path I could hardly believe my fortune as the great Mario Cipollini and Paulo Bettini tumbled to the ground, their magnificent, expensive, shiny, light weight steeds grinding together, before me. Oops. With Bettini and Cipollini staring angrily about them, seeking those responsible, for their untimely grapple with tarmac, we quickly slipped anonymously into the mass throng of spectators and made good our escape.

To explain why this drama unfolded. The people in front of us, had moved further out into the road to get a better view point, as the peloton neared, as did the people in front of them. As our view was obscured Debs and I did likewise. As the elite, millionaire, cyclists came upon us, the people in front, including me, jumped back into the main body of the crowd (fairly experienced in such matters), leaving my poor wife (who isn't) isolated in no mans land.

I was shunned for a solid five hours afterwards Oh well, the joys of following the tour. That's why this year I'm rooted to the settee.

Andy Fleming

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Loch Tay Steamer



I enclose a couple of 1938 photographs, which probably have a bit of history attached to them. One shows the captain on the bridge. Someone may recall his name. The other is a view astern. The woman and child shown are Mrs Allan and her elder son Gordon. The family used to holiday regularly at Kenmore. Her husband Mr Allan played the piano in the Taymouth Hotel Orchestra, whilst on holiday. The brochure for the hotel at that time shows that it was in Mr G. A. Wehrle's managership and states "A regular service of well-equipped saloon passenger steamers is maintained between Kenmore and Killin, a distance of 16 miles".

Stuart A. Guild
Ardeonaig



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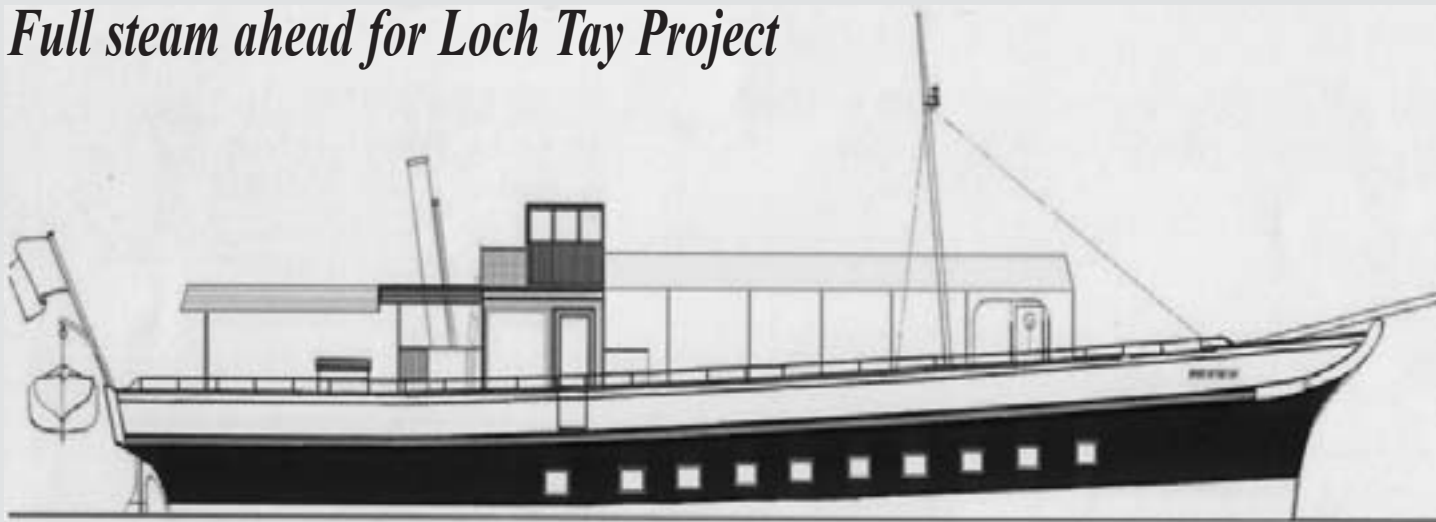
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Full steam ahead for Loch Tay Project



Construction of the 111ft passenger steamer 'Spirit of the Tay' is on schedule at the Clyde shipyard where she has been designed. The cutting, shaping and construction of her mid sections and stem are complete and transport of all the sections to Loch Tay are planned for late July, early August.

The 'Crabtree' steam engine, which is presently being refurbished, is likewise nearing completion and once installed will be an excellent historic example of Victorian engineering at its best.

Community support for the project has been tremendous with the majority of people seeing the wider benefits that the "Spirit" will bring to the area.

The Loch Tay Steam Packet Co, the project operators, acknowledge that a minority of the community, most of whom have little or no dependence on the local tourist economy, have voiced their concerns. This was not unexpected, given the size and scope of the project. The operators can give an assurance, however, that any issues, environmental or otherwise, have, and will be, answered by them. Should anyone wish to contact the operators for any reason, they can e-mail or phone 01567 820111.

The long awaited feasibility study on the narrow gauge railway and East end car park project should be published at the end of June when more detailed discussions can take place.

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What's on in Killin and District

July

3 Green Team School Pond 6pm Looking at the past
 3 EAK meet Coach House Hotel 8pm
 9 Illustrated Talk NTS Lyndoch 8pm Ben Lawers Historic Landscape
 10 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm
 13 Open 50 DTL Killin Gun Club Entries close 1pm LuibStance
 17 Green Team School Pond 6pm Tools of the Trade
 17 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm
 23 Talk by Gavin Skipper National park NTS Lyndoch 8pm
 24 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm
 30 Coffee Morning (Guild Craft Group) McLaren Hall 10 - 12 noon
 31 Green Team School pond 6pm Wonderful Worms

Aug

1 EAK meet Coach House Hotel 8pm
 4 Bricabrac Sale McLaren Hall 10am - 4pm
 6 Illustrated Talk NTS Lyndoch 8pm Mountain Ranger
 7 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm
 9 Car Boot Sale McLaren Hall 10am to 3pm
 10 Open 50 Shorting Meet. Killin Gun Club Entries close 1.30pm Luib Stance
 14 Green Team School pond 6pm Nature detectives
 14 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm
 15/16 Killin Show Breadalbane Park
 20 Illustrated Talk NTS Lyndoch 8pm Nature in Trust
 21 Concert Crannog Centre 7.45pm

Sept

3 Illustrated Talk NTS Lyndoch A close look at nature.
 4 EAK meet Coach House Hotel 8pm
 7 Club Shoot. Visitors welcome Luib Stance
 11 Green Team School pond 6pm Fruit and Nut Cases
 27 Jazz Super in the McLaren Hall 7.30pm

Bowls Sports Pavilion
 Mon & Fri 2.15pm
 Tues 6.30pm

Highland Dancing
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Childrens Walk Ben Lawers
 Tuesdays 10.30am - 12.30pm
 July and August

Ben Lawers Flowers
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Killin Youth Group
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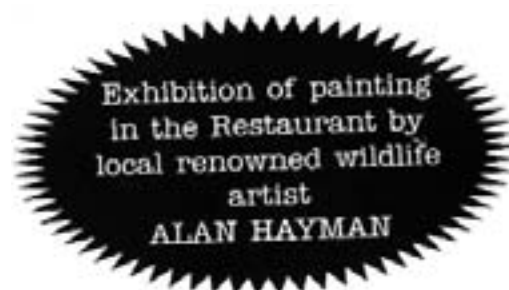
Shinty
 Wed 6.30pm-8pm
 Sports Pavilion

Line Dancing
 Thursday 7.30pm
 Bridge of Lochay Hotel

Tiddlers & Toddlers
 Friday Church Hall
 10am - 12pm

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Killin News

Deadlines for the next issue: advertising 18th August, copy 25th August

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 may appear in the paper.

Articles should be between 200 and 500 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.

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Editorial Comment

Killin links

The prospect of a steamer on Loch Tay with a rail link continues to excite a majority of the residents of Killin. It provides an historic and romantic link with the past. It gives an opportunity for the involvement of local contractors and the possibility of local jobs. It would provide an attraction for tourists with the likely increase in business opportunities for local traders. Information has been slow in coming and some questions remain to be answered.

The new bus service is a welcome addition to local services providing a rare link between the East and the West. Public transport now enables us to reach Perth and Oban once a day. This adds to the existing Post Bus service, School Bus service, and City Link from Lix Toll. Reduced fares on the West Highland Line are available to local residents. I don't think many of us will be tempted to give up our cars yet.

The National Trust has provided opportunities for Killin and Kenmore Primary Schools to explore links with their past at Morlanich and Bridge of Baglie in an exciting and interactive project. Broadband would be a welcome addition to reduce our isolation and enable our electronic links with the rest of the world. Let's keep on linking.WA

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SELECT



Killin Community Council

A meeting was held on Tuesday, 13th May. The Nurses Clinic is now in full operation. It was decided that D. Anderson and R. Shand would make arrangements for the 2004 **New Year fireworks**.

A. Noble, J. Stewart and K. Riddell are to look into the issues arising from the **Spirit of Loch Tay** proposals. During the height of the season the boat will make 4-5 trips per day. It is capable of carrying 200 to 250 passengers on the one and a half hour round trip. All the community councillors were in favour of the proposed railway and boat. A feasibility study including all the options is to be carried out by Tourism Development International. The majority present agreed to the feasibility study. One objection raised concerns about the quietness of the village being disturbed. The National Park will help only if the community of Killin support

the railway and boat. Mr. Shand was questioned about the project. The boat is to be berthed overnight at the Killin end of the loch and no waste discharge will enter the loch.

Community Safety Partnership Constable Donaldson informed those present about money available for personal alarms for homes and cars. These were demonstrated. The Community Council will put in an application and hopes to distribute 100 to 150 free alarms in Killin and surrounding villages. **Cemetery car park.** Mr. Howe, of Finlarig is willing to let the car park be extended in an easterly direction, into the aspen grove, subject to planning permission. The community would be responsible for fencing off the area. The removal of the railings by the school next to the **pedestrian crossing** was questioned. This was because motorists would be unable to see children at the crossing due to the railings. Those present considered that there should be some form of barrier at

this corner. The next meeting will take place on 8th July 2003.

The Killin Community Council AGM was held following the Council meeting. Achievements for the year included the purchase of the Retirement Home and the installation of the pedestrian crossing at the school. Mr. MacPherson reported that Radio 4 were proposing to do a programme on Killin and the Retirement Home. The National Park are to be approached for more money to cover the cost of the Community Futures programme.



News from the Crannog

The Celtic Food and Drink Festival proved to be a most popular weekend. For forthcoming

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events please see the Killin News "What's on" page.

Considerable local interest has obviously been raised following the fairly recent exciting news of the proposal to launch a new steamship on Loch Tay to serve both the tourist and corporate markets. This is perhaps a good opportunity for us to join in the debate and to, hopefully, quash some ill informed rumours which have been put about in the area, suggesting that The Scottish Trust for Underwater Archaeology and the Crannog Centre are against this splendid plan. We simply asked for and have since have been reassured that important historical artifacts in and around the Loch would not be damaged in anyway by the steamship operation. We welcome the resurrection of part of the Loch's social history with the reintroduction of a steamship service and can only wish this ambitious project well in the years to come and which can only be of longterm benefit to the area as a whole. Bon voyage would perhaps be the appropriate phrase.

Colin Scott

Letters

The Steamer, The Environment & The People

It was, and I can only use the word, with dismay, that I read Elaine Turner's letter in the April edition. How can the proposed development at the head of Loch Tay affect the environment to such an extent that it takes precedence over the needs of our community? I now see Killin on a downward spiral. If we are to survive we must make every effort to secure the steamer and railway. I feel the miniature railway will do much to encourage tourists, and with 30 houses to be built in Killin the occupants will require employment. Should we ignore the opportunity of employment that the Loch Tay project would provide? As yet cycles and walkways have not sent the cash registers into overdrive. The time has come for us to waken up. Are we of less importance than some birds, moths and plants? People of Killin, we are in no position to miss the Boat.

John Stewart

details of the event. I had met Allan in 2000 on a visit to the Killin Games. He walked up to me and commented that "it was good to see that old plaid back in Killin again", meaning our Macnab Tartan. After only a brief conversation I felt I had known him for years. He was just that easy to get to know. His willingness to assist and his knowledge of the place he loved was invaluable to us. He even took two afternoons of his time to be our tour guide to several sites we as Macnabs hold dear. It was such a warm and friendly man that we all had the privilege to know that he became near and dear to us all in a very short time. That was Allan. My most fervent prayer is that his family and friends will be comforted by the affection we all had for him. With deepest respect we remain, Yours aye,

W Lanny McNabb, CAI

I want to thank all the townspeople for the warm and friendly reception you gave the 45 members at our clan gathering last August. Everyone had a great time there and were so impressed with the beauty of the town and the friendliness of the people. I have been getting the Killin News for many years and look forward to getting it more than any other of the many publications I get, and I most always include parts of the Killin News in the quarterly newsletter of the Clan McNab Society of N.A., The Dread Nought. The next issue will include the excellent article on John Dewar (Dewar is a sept of MacNab), and the page on the passing of Allan Walker, which I was so sad to see. I know his passing will be a great loss to the community and I send my condolences to all his loved ones. Our Clan Society plans to hold clan gatherings in Killin every four years and many MacNabs will visit between times seeking their roots. For me there is no place in the world that I would rather live than in Killin and if I could support my family there, we would move to Killin in a heartbeat. I am a high school history teacher registered with the GTC for Scotland for the last 5 years but have not been suc-

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Macnab Clan

My dear friends; News seems to travel slowly here in the colonies, but the recent news of the death of Allan Walker is news I had rather never have heard. When David McNabb, our current president called me last evening, I was to say the least, quite astonished. When I decided we should have an International "Gathering of Macnabs", I needed a contact person to advise and to assist me on who to see and what to do about various

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Letters continued

cessful in landing a job there. My wife is from Dingwall and I still hope to move there someday and meet many of you, but for now let me just say congratulations on producing such a fine publication and keep up the good work! Slainte, **David W McNabb**, Arizona

G'day from sunny Australia, I looked after the Killin youth hostel in 1998. I loved the place. I can remember writing to my Mum back in Oz and telling her "I'm in a really special place now"; it reminded me of what I'd perceived Brigadoon to be like. Mum phoned me back and said "Oh it's funny you are in Killin, that's where your Granny and Granda are from". Granny was Gracie Campbell and Granda was Wally Barnes. Synchronicity / fate / miracle? It really made me feel like I was home. I spent so many days around in 'the faerie glen' just wandering around, and sitting by Finlarig Castle and letting my thoughts run loose. There was something about the castle that felt like it was very close to home. I searched and contemplated where the battlements would be and weird things like how

to defend it. I am interested in seeing what the castle looked like in it's hey day, and who owns the ruins now. If possible could you please email me any info? It just feels like I've left something undone. I would also like to say G'day to the two lovely and entertaining elderly chaps I used to chat with at the soccer, my friends of Bill W. I hope you are all fit and well, and to the man who has to have the biggest hands / shovels in the world, Bill Stitt the builder. I did some steelfixing for him, good man. I am glad I found your newspaper on the web and look forward to having another good read soon and any information you have to offer. Yours in a dangerous place, **John Campbell- Searle**, Australia

G'day! Found your page while 'cruisin' and it brought back beautiful memories. My brother and I were your way last October but only for one night, unfortunately. For the short time we managed, you all smiled at us, opened up your circles of conversation at the pub and made me feel most reluctant to leave. I never did get to see a standing stone tho'. Maybe next

time. I was wondering if someone over your way might like to begin an e.mail correspondence with me? I'm a grandmother, live in Tasmania [Australia] and love meeting new folks. We don't have a computer at home, so only answer my mail weekly. Till then, **Gabbi**. www.tasmail.com

Woof Woof

I would like to say a big woof woof thank you to Johnny & Jan Willison, Kay Riddell, John & Jennifer Morris, Ellen Stewart and all my friends in Killin - especially my Auntie Frances Gaskell - who walked, fed, pampered and looked after me whilst my Mum & Dad were away on holiday. I also enjoyed my nights out with the Killin Carpet Bowlers (still can't understand why they wouldn't let me fetch the ball!) and my visits to the Killin Library (so many great doggy books). Not so many walks now Mum & Dad are back, so if any of you feel like a stroll - I'm YOUR doggy! **Nico** (FitzGerald). Dalerb.



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Monday and Thursday Visits



Thank you

I would like to thank everybody that phoned, sent cards, presents and visited after my recent hip operation. I would like to thank the folk that visited me in Newcastle and also a big thank you to Jimmy for taking Jock to Newcastle.

Hazel Guild

Thank you

A very big thank you to all my family and friends for their kindness and support given to me since Dave's death. Many thanks for all the visits, flowers, cards and letters and to all who paid their respects in the Church and at Perth Crematorium and Rev. Kenneth McVicar who conducted the service. Special thanks also to our local doctors and nurses for the care given to Dave over the last few years.

Muriel McNicoll

New Hospital Petition?

My husband and I attended the so-called "Consultative Meeting" about the new hospital in Callander several weeks ago. We can't remember anyone there who supported the suggested site at Larbert. Indeed, many people at this fairly well attended and representative meeting offered several points against it. As a member of Stirling Council's "Sounding Voices" scheme I have spoken to doctors, ambulance men, and local people, all of whom expressed disquiet at the thought of having to travel even further to hospital in an emergency. I also spent 24hrs in the Stirling Royal recently and one of the nurses there was quizzing me about the distance we had to travel to get there and she was horrified at how far we have to go at the moment. There were mutterings at the meeting that this was going to be a "Political Decision", and it seems that is indeed the case. (More people near Larbert than in the more sparsely populated rural areas, and so more votes) I do feel that we should fight this decision. Could we, to start with have a petition locally, with forms to sign in the local shops? And people write to our local M.S.P. please.

Helen Hughes (Mrs)
Crianlarich

Jim Taylor

I am glad to see the Killin News continuing so strongly and always look forward to this contact with home. By the way I remember Jim Taylor well and have a school photo with another daughter in it, not Brenda, I think her name may have been Isobel.

Davie Osler

School Play

I must say that my friends and myself very much enjoyed the Emerald Crown.

For Primary 6 and 7 to give such a grand performance, scenery and costumes and music for young children the "diction" was excellent - I heard every word.

Well done.

Jean Henderson

Thanks to my sponsors

Just a short note to express my thanks to the many people who generously sponsored me and helped me raise a total of



£400 for the "Daisy's Dream" charity which I represented in the recent London Marathon.

Running in a team, we completed the course in 5 hours in very sunny conditions. The atmosphere of the whole days was terrific and we're already looking forward to next year.

Robert Ireland



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The Guild Craft Group are holding a coffee morning in the McLaren Hall on Wed 30 July from 10am to 12 noon. There will be craft, baking, childrens and plants stalls. Donations for these stalls will be gratefully received.

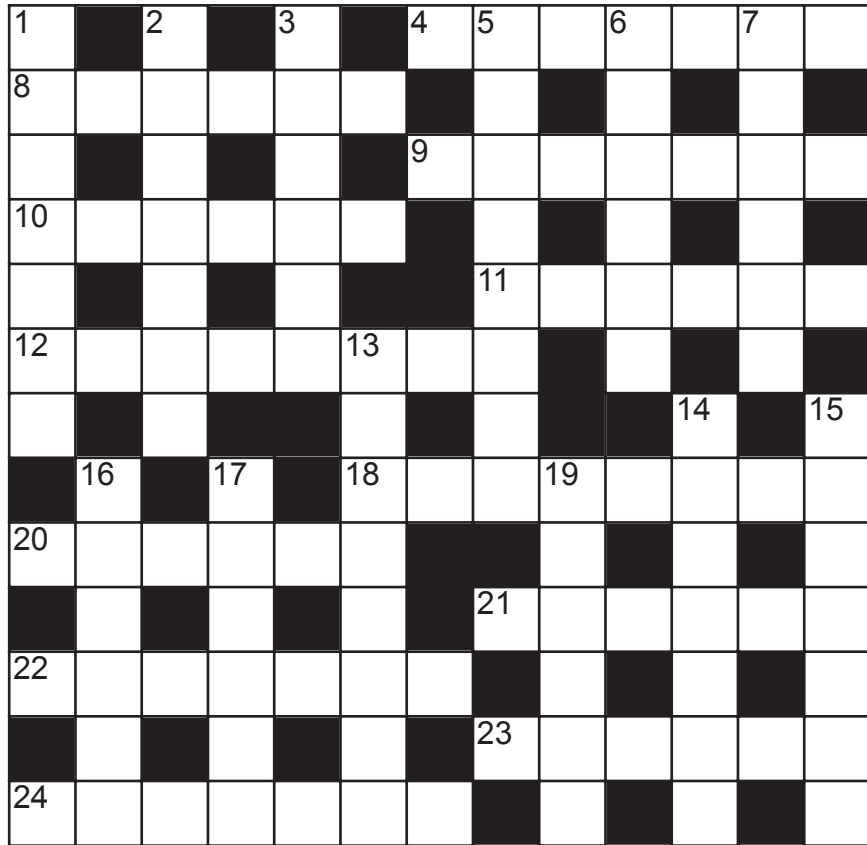
Crossword by Corgi

Across

4. Frank, Sammy, Dean & Co (3,4)
 8. We follow record in flight (6)
 9. Darn gap in sock for an elderly relative(7)
 10. Glass filled but not quite overflowing (6)
 11. OT book from South African mule (6)
 12. It sounds as if a double helping of fruit can cause disease (8)
 18. Good position from which to watch Rhona Martin and her team in action (4,4)
 20. Emotional problem with stockings at Christmas (4,2)
 21. Rustic fruit? (6)
 22. Little Edward returned worth even less(7)
 23. Australia's fine wool - or mine (6)
 24. Stinted - hopefully with the drilling (7)

Down

1. Strange tasks that also need doing (3,4)
 2. Employer painting (4,3)
 3. It borders the city (6)
 5. A sticking plaster may be needed by Asia born upset (8)
 6. Sun hat suitable for wearing on the canal (6)
 7. Cu bobby (6)
 13. Protects listeners underwater (8)
 14. Attack from above (3,4)
 15. Benefit of government generosity (7)
 16. Flower head with several flower stems (6)
 17. Left speechless (6)
 19. Are ski upsets caused by German emperor? (6)



Solution to Issue No 74

Across

1&7. Happy Families 8. Teach 10. Taxonomist 12. God Speed 14. Styer 16. Salt 17. Backdrop 20. In the dumps 23. Sepia 24. Isomeric 25. Glass.

Down

1. Hotdog 2. Pact 3. Sago 4. Minor 5. Miniature 6. Tsetse 9. Harpy 11. Adulation 13. Eva 15. Skips 16&19 Spirit Level 18. Petals 21. Unit 22. Seal.

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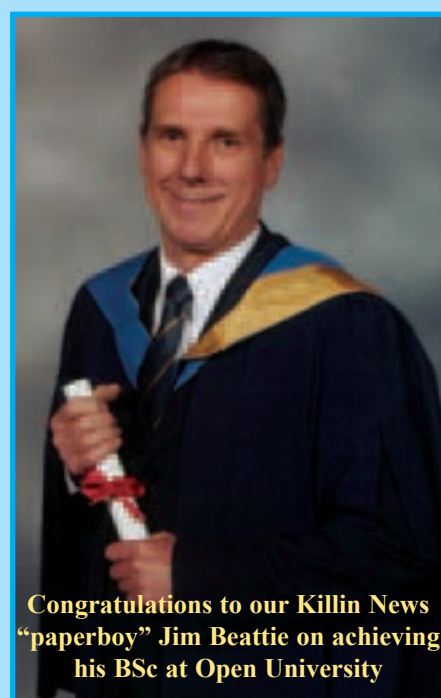
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Mrs Isabel Robertson celebrates her 100th birthday with daughter Margaret, grandchildren Susan and William, great grandchildren Adam, Blair and Fraser. The Deputy Lieutenant of Ayrshire and Arran presents her with the Queen's congratulations.

100th Birthday Celebrations

There was a family party at Fairknowe nursing home in Maybole for Mrs Isabel Robertson's 100th Birthday on 9th May 2003. Royal congratulations were delivered by Deputy Lord Lieutenant Jonathan Cardale on behalf of the Queen, and Mrs Robertson was delighted that so many of her friends from Killin made the trip to Maybole for her special day. She has lived at Fairknowe for nearly a year, moving there from Killin to be closer to her daughter Margaret Fyfe and the rest of the family. Born in Forfar and brought up in Glasgow, Mrs. Robertson became a pharmacist after leaving school, and met her husband Jim while working in Largs. They married in 1937, and moved to Killin where she took a keen interest in village activities, serving for 17 years as Presbyterial Council secretary for Dunkeld Presbytery Woman's Guild. Isabel and Jim, who sadly died in 1973, also shared an interest in gardening.



Congratulations to our Killin News "paperboy" Jim Beattie on achieving his BSc at Open University



Amy McKinnon Blake was born on 5th January 2003 to Kirsty Pearson and Drew Blake of Ardshean.



Richard Paterson and Christina Veggerby Hansen. Married on 12th April 2003 in Yeovil Somerset.



Kimberly Anne Nicoll was born on 8th April 2003. A daughter for Dolly and Kenny and a wee sister for Garry.

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