



PRICE 75P

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 77 November 2003



Ghoulies  
and  
Ghosties  
and  
Halloween  
Beasties



A Merry Christmas to All Our Readers



# Christmas and New Year Festivities at The Kenmore Hotel

Set in the heart of Scotland, we are well worth a visit, so join us  
for a Traditional Christmas Lunch or Hogmanay Dinner



## Christmas Day Lunch

Served at 12.30 pm or 3.00 pm

Half an Ogen Melon  
filled with Atlantic Prawns and draped in Marie Rose Sauce

Highland Vegetable Broth and served with a Bread Roll

Poached Fillet of Scottish Salmon with Chive Hollandaise Sauce  
or

Roast Free Range Turkey with Chestnut Stuffing,  
Bacon Scroll, Cranberry Sauce and Natural pan Juices

(Vegetarian option available - please advise in advance)

Chef's Selection of Vegetables and Potatoes

Traditional Homemade Christmas Pudding served with Brandy Sauce

or

Fresh Fruit Salad with Rocher of Vanilla Ice Cream

Coffee with Handmade Mince Pies

## Hogmanay Dinner

Served at 7.30 pm

Terrine of Scottish Duckling  
with Pistachio Nut and Apple Thyme Jelly

Plum Tomato and Roasted Red Pepper Soup served with a Bread Roll

A Tower of Arbroath Smokies' Mousse studded with Smoked Salmon,  
set on a Pool of Dill and Arran Mustard Vinaigrette

Roasted Fillet of Highland Beef  
wrapped in Streaky Bacon, presented on Champ Potatoes,  
surrounded with Red Wine and Forest Mushroom Sauce.

(Vegetarian option available - please advise in advance)

Chef's Selection of Market Vegetables and Potatoes

A Timbale of Bitter Chocolate filled with Black Cherries,  
topped with Orange and Cointreau surrounded by fruit Coulis

Coffee with Homemade Chocolates

## Christmas and New Year Accommodation Packages available at The Kenmore Hotel

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I took part in a sponsored walk in China this September to raise money for The Scottish Society for Autism having reached the target of £2,500. The walk was 60 miles averaging 12 miles a day for 5 days, though the terrain and the heat averaging 100degrees F made it feel more. We walked in Beijing province staying in lodges along the route, where to say the accommodation is basic would be very generous. Plumbing is not a strong point in China but the scenery is spectacular and the Chinese people are really humble and kind. We had two Chinese guides who walked with us every day and gave cultural talks at night. It is a fascinating country. Nine days was just long enough to give us a small taste of this wonderful place. The first two days we spent hiking through hillsides from watchtower to watchtower on the unrestored section of the wall, hard walking starting about half seven in the morning and finishing about seven at night. The third day in the Dragon Paw Park alongside water falls and rocks was like

something out of a dinosaur film with Bonsai trees and huge water falls. The last two days along the restored section of the wall at Simatai and Jinshangling, were the best, as you could see the wall stretching along the top of mountains. The scenery was breathtaking and, at the finish, the sense of achievement was wonderful. The walk was definitely the most challenging but the most rewarding thing I have ever done and I would recommend it to anyone. Many thanks to everyone who sponsored me or helped in any way and good luck to Lynn who is going to do a similar thing in Nepal this year.

**Julie Mitchell**

## Safari Supper

The next Safari Supper will be held on Saturday 28 February, 2004. The proceeds will this time be given to the Curling pond project and the Junior Golf. Anyone interested in being a host for the evening please contact Elizabeth Woods or Marion McRae. Tickets will be on sale from the beginning of February from Elizabeth Woods or McRae the Butchers. Come along, meet new people and have a great night out.

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# Killin Heritage Society

## Old Maps of Killin and Beyond

Killin Heritage Society was delighted when about twenty members of the Breadalbane Heritage Society, Aberfeldy, joined a large turnout from Killin to welcome Christopher Fleet, Deputy Curator of Maps, National Library of Scotland, as their November speaker. Apart from being an expert on old maps Christopher has been heavily involved in setting up the NLS web sites that display images of early and modern maps of Scotland. He used the most up to date technology to display images of the maps on to our screen. Much of the talk centred on the life of Timothy Pont and the maps he drew of Scotland in the 1580s -90s. Reference was also made to the manuscript maps of Robert and James Gordon made in the 1630s - 40s, to Blaeu's Atlas Novus 1654 and to John Adair's maps of the 1680 - 90s and 1730s. Some details, such as place names, recorded on these old maps remain unidentified and the meeting concluded with an interesting discussion on the possible ways in which the cartographer had initially interpreted these. A most enjoyable and informative evening with many of those present no doubt dashing home to switch on their

computer and log on to the following web sites.

**www.nls.uk/maps** - free access to 3000 high resolution maps: Maps of Scotland 1560 - 1900 Military Maps of Scotland, 18th Century Ordnance Survey Town Plans 1847 - 1895

**www.nls.uk/pont** - images of Scotland's first maps, drawn by Timothy Pont  
**www.chartingthenation.lib.ed.ac.uk** - with images of over 3500 maps of Scotland and associated texts, 1550 - 1740.

**www.scran.ac.uk** - the Scottish Cultural Resources Access network is a general site with images of all kinds of material, including maps, from museums, libraries and archives.

**www.drawn-evidence.dundee.ac.uk** - images of several thousand architectural drawings and building plans 1780 - 2000.  
**www.old-maps.co.uk** - free access from Landmark Old Maps to the whole UK, 6 inches to the mile, first edition 1850s - 1880s old Ordnance Survey maps.

**Gillian Ford**

## Mary Rose Excavation

On Friday 3 October Barry Andrian, well known locally from her work on the Oakbank Crannog near Fearnan and

through her involvement in the Scottish Crannog Centre, gave a talk about the Mary Rose Project at the first Heritage Society meeting of the new season. With her infectious enthusiasm we were taken on a virtual tour of the Mary Rose, on the deck with the gunners, on the gangway in ship while she sank, and as divers who became involved with the history and emotions surrounding the wreck and the circumstances of her sinking. The vivid picture of an archer caught by a falling cannon as he attempted to escape the sinking ship fired our imagination. Barry demonstrated her skills of communication translating complex archaeology into a fascinating tale for the layman.

**WA**

## Killin WRI

Mrs. M. Hunter, President, welcomed members to the first meeting of the season on 2nd October. Mrs. Gill Hunt, who is a member of the Association of Reflexologists was introduced and gave a very interesting talk and a demonstration of Reflexology explaining the various pressure points in their relation to parts of the anatomy.

Mrs. C. Reid gave the vote of thanks. Tea was served by the Hostesses, Mrs. C. Reid and Mrs. E. Stewart.

## Competitions:

A Jar of Raspberry Jam  
1 Mrs. C. Reid  
2 Mrs. M. Hunter

Photo of Relaxation  
1 Mrs. C. Reid

## THE OLD FLAX MILL

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# Duck Race



- 1st - 442 Dave Hunt £100
- 2nd - 297 Katie Holden £50
- 3rd = 625 Dougie Baird £25
- 265 Allan Grant £25
- 4th - 445 Jamie Hunt £15
- 5th - 268 Mhari Bourne £10

An honest mistake was made by our dyslexic umpire for 3rd place, but we have honoured both ducks!

The Drama Club & the Sports Club would like to thank all the helpers who went into the water and retrieved ducks, and to everyone who bought ducks and supported us on the day. L S and K R



## Sunflowers



### Results

Tallest Sunflower 305cms

Anna Holden

Largest bloom 24cms

Dale Pritchard



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## Christmas Party Menu

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Tomato and Basil Soup

Game Pate and Toast

Melon and Prawn Cocktail

Deep-Fried Brie

~~

Roast Turkey with Chipolata Sausage,  
Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce

Pan-fried Venison, Sautéed in Whisky  
with Wild Mushrooms and Cream

Beef Chasseur - Slices of Beef in a Mushroom,  
Onion and Wine Sauce

Grilled Plaice in an Lemon and Parsley Sauce

Roasted Corn on the Cob with Mozzarella  
Cheese and Roast Vegetables

Rump or Sirloin Steak - £2.50 extra

~~

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce

Banoffee Pie

Cheese and Biscuits

Mint Parfait

~~

Also Tea or Coffee

Mints & Mince Pies

## Christmas Day Menu

**£22.50 per person (Children Under 14 £11.25)**

Hot Punch on arrival

~~

Leek and Potato Soup

Thai Prawn Cakes

Smoked Chicken and Duck Salad

~~

Roast Turkey served with Chipolata Sausage,  
Stuffing & Cranberry Sauce

Grilled Goat Cheese - topped with Honey and  
Roasted Pine Nuts

Chicken Capercaillie - Chicken Breast stuffed  
with Spinach, Mushroom and Feta Cheese,  
topped with a White Wine and Cream Sauce

Roasted Salmon Steak  
with Lobster and Cream sauce  
Roasted Goose in a light Cherry  
and Tia Maria Sauce

(All dishes served with Seasonal Vegetables  
& Roast Potatoes)

~~

Christmas Pudding with Brandy Sauce

Manscoco - Chocolate Mousse in  
Coconut ice-cream

Cassis Royale - Blackcurrant Sorbet  
filled with Vanilla ice-cream

~~

Cheese & Biscuits

~~

Tea or Coffee

Mints and Mince Pies

Crackers, Nuts and Novelties

Open New Years Eve with full a la carte menu. Please phone for bookings or more information.  
A Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all our customers, past, present and future.





## Mervyn's Weather

Before indulging in "weather blethers" I must first apologise for an error in the last edition of Killin News. In the article about the pre 1939 Loch Tay Steamer and one of its Captains I stated that Captain Dougie McNiven hailed from the West Highlands or Islands. In fact he was, I am told, born at Morenish on Loch Tayside. This goes to show how repeated telling of the stories and anecdotes can lead to distortions and factual inaccuracies.

My thanks to Chief Superintendent Jack MacDougall M.B.E., late of Glasgow Police, and to Mona McRae, at one time of Kenmore and Fearnan and now in Killin, for putting me right on this issue.

"In times of drought any forecast of rain is usually false" so the saying has it. Likewise in prolonged periods of disturbed and unsettled weather

how often have we had our hopes of better conditions dashed when a big spell of calm intervenes? With the exception of the period from late April till late May, which was unsettled with frequent heavy downpours and cool temperatures, the year 2003, until the time of writing, has produced successive spells of pleasant dry conditions punctuated with mainly weak and short-lived periods of less settled weather. The latter gave just enough precipitation to keep the grass growing, perhaps not luxuriantly, but sufficiently.

While records of high maximum temperatures were broken in many places in Southern England and indeed in S.E. Scotland, central Perthshire did not clock up any noticeable statistics, although a maximum of 14C (57F) on 26 January was comparable to 18C (64F) at Aboyne on this date. On 38 days maxima reached 21.5C (70F) at Ardtalnaig, which is in line with some of the warmer summers of the 70's, 80's and 90's. As indeed was the highest maximum for 2003, of 29.3C (85F), recorded here on 7 August. Rainfall at this station stands at 644mm leaving 787mm or 31 inches still to come to equal the 10 year average – approximately half the years precipitation!

Although markedly cooler than the days of high summer the highly acceptable conditions have tenaciously hung on giving us an Indian Summer in September and what is known as Saint Luke's little summer

in October.

Now we have Martinmas in late November and could Saint Martin follow suit?

Here on Loch Tayside we seem to have held on to the fair weather longer than in other areas. We frequently hear and see on television, in the parlance of some of the weather reporters, that, "If you are out and about there are likely to be rime and gales in England and Wales". While here we bask in Autumnal sunshine! **Mervyn K Browne, Ardtalnaig.**



### Killin Medical Practice

Our recent Flu Clinics held in the MacLaren Hall on Friday, 10 October, and in Crianlarich Hall on Thursday, 16 October, raised £191.40 and £44 respectively. Crianlarich also had a coffee morning on 26 September which raised £1221, making a grand total of £1456.40 which will be donated to the MacMillan Nurses. The Medical Practice would like to thank everyone involved with our Flu Clinics. They are a great success enabling us to vaccinate a lot of our most vulnerable patients in a short space of time and raise money for a charitable cause. Plus - the tea and cakes were nice too!



**Killin Drama Club**

**Panto Tickets**  
on sale now  
book your **Reserved Seats**  
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**Babes in the Wood**

**15, 16, & 17**  
**January 2004**

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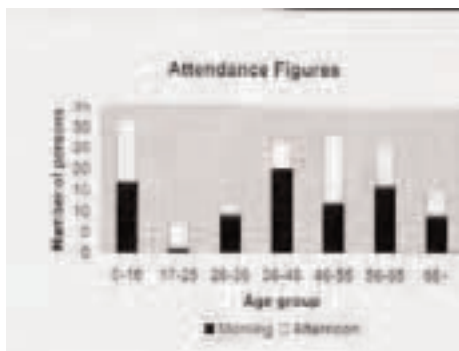
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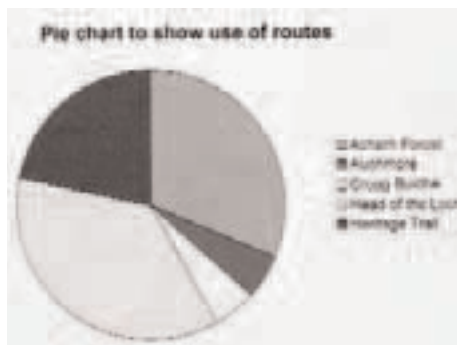
# Killin Community Path Network

The final plans for the Killin Community Path Network are beginning to take shape. A lot of progress has taken place during the last year.

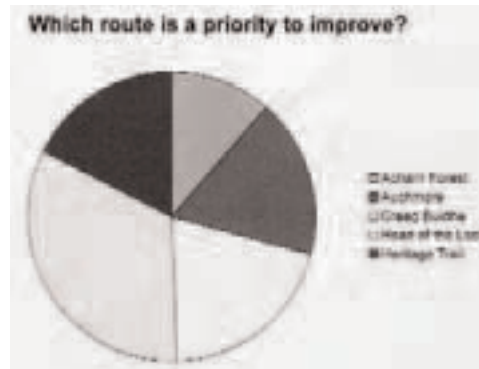
Over the winter members of EAK surveyed all the routes that had been highlighted by an earlier consultation. Contact was made with respective landowners and after initial negotiations a draft plan was taken forward to public consultation in early spring. Over one hundred and fifty persons, a good cross section of the public, attended this event. The bar chart shows the breakdown of attendance figures for the community consultation. From



completed questionnaires we built up a picture of the proposed routes, how often they are being used and which to prioritise for improvement. The results are shown in the pie charts. Since then we have had to amend some of the routes. It was



agreed by all parties that the current level of use at the Head of the Loch is just sustainable but recognised that any increase would be detrimental to the Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). As a consequence the route recommended by the Community Path Network will not include the sensitive shoreline. Leaflets and signs will show a route



alongside the River Lochay that terminates at Loch Tay. Public access to the shoreline will be permitted, as before, but not promoted. For the same reasons the Heritage Trail will now turn left at the point where Pier Road and the old railway line coincide, see map. The public consultation considered that the Head of the Loch route was a priority for



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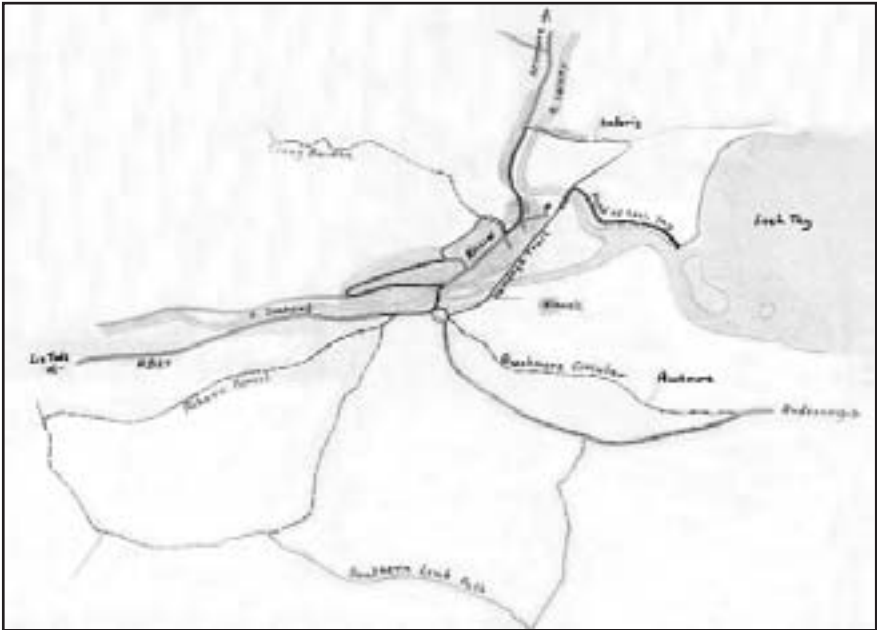
improvement so we are monitoring the erosion along the River Lochay to see if a proper path is a viable option. Meanwhile the current boardwalk has been repaired and extended and access to Creag Buidhe improved by a replacement stile. Members of EAK and the National Park Ranger Service were involved in both these projects. There are plans to build an 'all abil-



ities' path at the western edge of Breadalbane Park to link in with the new housing project. This is part of the Heritage Trail that includes a visit to Fingal's stone. Hopefully this work will be completed by spring 2004. The Fingal Stone Trust and Ogilvies are funding part of this project. The first thirty metres of the path leading from Breadalbane Park to Creag Buidhe will be constructed at the same

time. The next stage is the completion of the Action Plan for the Killin Community Path Network which will be used to attract external funding to cover the costs of the project. Once funds are in place we will take forward the path construction, put in place the relevant signage and produce a new leaflet.

**Gavin Skipper** Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Ranger, Breadalbane Area



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# Queen of The Lake

The Captain of the "Queen of the Lake" in 1938 was indeed Dugald McNiven, a native of Loch Tayside; his father came from Ardeonaig and his mother from Glenoglehead. As a boy he lived with his parents, sister and brother

at Morenish where his father was a gamekeeper and piper to Sir Joseph Todd of Morenish Lodge and as far as we know he attended Killin School. After the end of the 1914-18 war the family moved to Kenmore and Dugie, as he was

known, joined the Merchant Navy and spent several years at sea before getting married and coming back to settle down in Kenmore with his wife May and his two little sons Pat and David. We do not know the dates but we assume he became Captain of the "Queen of the Lake" in the early 1930's until it was withdrawn from service. Sadly he died at the early age of 38 as a result of injuries sustained in an accident while serving with the Home Guard. He was a talented, popular, and well known figure in the community, sorely missed. He is survived by his son David and his wife Cathie who live in Aberfeldy. Name and address supplied.

## MacNiven Family Connections

In a visit to Finlarig in about 1927 Alasdair Alpin MacGregor in his



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& Happy New Year*



book Wild Drumalbain was enraptured by his guide Dugald MacNiven, retired gamekeeper, who was then 83 years of age. Dugald introduced him to the beheading pit. "I noticed that the historical incidents connected with Finlarig, which gave him the greatest delight to recount were those suggested to him by the pit for condemned captives, the site of the drawbridge, the sentry's beat, the beheading stone, (he simply



loves to tell you of the manner in which, to this day, the human head fits into this stone!) and the execution chains that held the victim fast by the ankles."... "Dugald will

scramble into the bottom of the pit, in order to remove with his walking stick the dead leaves and fag-gotts covering from view the gutter along which the victim's blood flowed. And then he will commence a long and gruesome demonstration of the way in which the chained and lifeless corpse dropped on the floor of the pit, Dugald himself acting the part of the beheaded victim."

In the 1881 census Dugald is at home in Croftnabeallie with his wife Christina and children Catherine, Angus,



William, Duncan and Annie. Duncan was the father of Dugald MacNiven the Captain of the Queen of the Lake. **WA**



Captain Dugald MacNiven

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# McTrigger goes West

**H**ello. My name is McTrigger. I was born in the summer of 2002.

Heather Cumming from Keltneyburn, constructed me, a full size horse, out of scrap metal. Standing in front of the shop I attracted a lot of attention and compliments. Americans who came to visit saw me. Sue said I have to take that horse home with me. Ron said there is no way we can get him home, he will never fit in the overhead compartment in the plane. Sue said that I looked like Roy Rogers' horse Trigger. They went back to Killin, where they stay every summer. Enid Sutherland, gave me the Scottish name McTrigger to reflect my roots. Over the next year I was taken to several exhibitions and offers were made but Heather would not sell me. In the mean time, Sue told Ron that if I was there when they returned next year I was waiting for her.

I was and they persuaded Heather to part with me in 2003. Ron called Jimmy Gauld and asked how I could be crated and shipped. Jimmy said, "no problem". John Sinclair would build the crate and he, Jimmy, knew a shipper. So, John, Morag and Heather took me by horse box to Jimmy's garage where Ron and Sue visited me. John built the crate. It was

dark and scary, no food, no place to go and no company! Now the journey really began. By trailer to Perth, transferred to the port and off on my cruise, not much fun in a box in the hold. Finally, to New York to be put in bond, like being in jail, with Ron and Sue to bail me out. They told me I was worth the red tape. Next on a truck, for days, still in the dark I could hear the driver calling Ron and saying I was very heavy and he had no way to get me off the truck! Finally I heard we were nearing the house. It was narrow, twisty and unpaved. I bounced around. Now came the scariest part. Lifted by chains around the crate I was put next to the house. Luckily Ron knew a man with a crane or I'd still be on that truck. Two hours with a chainsaw, then fresh air at last! On the grass I look into the house and can watch Ron, Sue and what goes on. It's good to be here and they are happy to have me. Lots of people come and admire me. Thank you to everyone who made my adoption possible. I am applying for citizenship, but a part of me will always be a Scot.

**McTrigger**

PS We all hope that you will visit us here in Arkansas.



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# Killin Hotel & Riverview Bistro

## Seasonal Menus



### Pre-Christmas Lunch

(available from 12-2pm.  
Bookings Only)

Piping Hot Highland Broth  
with Crusty Roll

or

Fan of Honey Dew Melon  
\*\*\*\*\*

Roast Perthshire Turkey  
with Chipolata & Bacon Roll,  
Sage, Apple and Apricot  
Stuffing, Cranberry Sauce and a  
Rich Pan Gravy

or

Prime Roast Rib of Beef  
with a Rich Dianne Sauce

All Served with Chef's selection  
of Market Vegetables and  
Potatoes  
\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas Pudding & Brandy  
Sauce  
or  
Ice Cream

**£9.95 per person**



### Christmas Day Lunch Menu

(Bookings, 12.30 - 3.30pm £28 per person)

Gravalax of Scotch Salmon

or

Crown of Gala Melon

or

Smoked Chicken Basket  
\*\*\*\*\*

Cullen Skink  
\*\*\*\*\*

Roast Perthshire Turkey with a Sage, Apple and Apricot Stuffing  
or

Baked Fillets of Scotch Salmon and Monkfish

or

Prime Roast Rib of Beef

or

Feta Cheese, wrapped in a Filo Pastry Parcel, dressed with a Fennel  
Cream

All Served with Chef's selection of fresh Market Vegetables, Roast  
Potatoes and New Potatoes  
\*\*\*\*\*

Christmas Pudding served with a Creamy Brandy Sauce

or

Homemade Strawberry Shortcake with Vanilla Whipped Cream and a  
Raspberry Coulis

or

Chantilly Dark Chocolate Truffle Torte with Vanilla Ice Cream

or

A Selection of Scottish and Continental Cheeses  
with Biscuits, Garnished with Grapes and Celery Sticks  
\*\*\*\*\*

Coffee, Tea, Mints and Christmas Pies

### Pre-Christmas Dinner

(Bookings Only. **£14.95 per person**)

Piping Hot Highland Broth  
with Crusty Roll

or

Fan of Honey Dew Melon

or

Chef's Chicken Liver Pate

or

Lemon and Dill Prawns

Roast Perthshire Turkey

or

Baked Fillet of Salmon

or

Prime Roast Rib of Beef

or

Vegetarian Option

All served with Market  
Vegetables and Potatoes

Christmas Pudding &  
Brandy Sauce

or

Exotic Fresh Fruit Salad with  
Double Cream

or

A selection of Scottish &  
Continental Cheeses,  
Accompanied by Biscuits &  
Oatcakes

Tea or Coffee & Christmas Pies

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**Email: [killinhotel@eu.com](mailto:killinhotel@eu.com)**

**Fax: Killin 01567 820 647**  
**[www.killinhotel.eu.com](http://www.killinhotel.eu.com)**

# Frost Report

## Women I have slept with.

Having just finished the stag-stalking season we can look back on it as one of the driest that anyone can remember. There was the constant use of sun-block (to protect my solar panel!) and midge repellent in equal quantities. The deer had no such protection from the sun and the flies, as there was very little wind or even breeze, even when lying on the high ridges. With this continual heat the deer were spending a great deal of their day lying quietly and so we had to spend most of our day doing the same, waiting for them to stand.

Many days we were lying in the heat for two to three hours trying to be as still as possible and this tends to make you drowsy and on occasions my guests would nod off - this usually seemed to be the women. Over the years I must have slept with many women on the hill - all in the best possible taste of course. Believe me gentlemen, some of them do snore. Also over the years I have told you of various stag misfortunes that I have come across. This year we saw a stag looking very unwell, seeming to walk very slowly and carefully. The first time it was over the march (the invisible boundary between estates - usually a burn, ridge or watershed) so I could not shoot it. A few days later we saw it again and this time it was on our ground standing quite alone. We stalked it and shot it to find that it was obviously totally blind; both eyes were opaque and one was bulging from a growth behind it. Apart from this, the animal appeared to be fine. I have kept one eyeball in the freezer if you want to look - my wife says that you can even take it away if you want to. Not far from this but on a different day, we came on a stag with his horns entangled on fence wire, which was still attached to the strainer post. This happened to be in a sort of crater in the ground where a hydro tunnel collapsed some years ago. As you can imagine, he was in great distress and he was lucky that we happened to be in that direction otherwise his death from starvation would have been long and unpleasant. After shooting him we had to spend a good deal of time with stout wire cutters to free him from the fence.

Deer somehow seem to have a sometimes fatal attraction for creosoted strainer posts and telegraph poles. We have a few telegraph poles in the glen which are

worn into interesting sculptures by their constant rubbing - how's that for natural rustic art? I hear that the use of creosote is now banned - will the deer have withdrawal symptoms or will they equally like the new preservative?

One young hind would need to stay away from the creosote - have you ever tried to get it off a light coloured coat? One day we were spying a group of beasts at The Rhealdt from about a mile distance. One hind stood out by her apparently white coat. After stalking in to the group and shooting a stag we could see that she was actually a cream colour. As the hinds were all lying camouflaged in the dark heather she had a ghostly appearance. As I said earlier, I have slept with many women on the hill, but it is maybe some of the men who have shared scarier moments, each season seems to have the odd one or two. This year I had a current TV personality as guest and let us just say that he is famous for his outdoor abilities. We picked up the shot stag in the argo cat and got in ourselves and pro-

ceeded to merrily descend the hill as usual. People who have had this experience know that it can sometimes be what is described as 'hairy' crossing burns and swerving round boulders but our personality kept his cool - even when I managed to tip the argo over and I landed on top of him. Well done Mr. X!

One new observation this year was a stag 'cuddling' one of his hinds. He was nuzzling her ear (probably whispering sweet staggy nothings) and licking her face - to her obvious delight. Is this one of the first official sightings of a new age stag? So the stag season is not just about shooting. There is a lot of time spent observing daily life on the hill, seeing new and interesting things and sometimes giving a beast a helping hand. Occasionally it is the only answer to put them out of their misery - but I do think Ian Duncan Smith was going a bit too far when he advocated shooting Tony Blair. Good job he was not an ordinary guy or he would have lost his firearms licence.

**Tim Frost**

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Seasons Greetings to all customers

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Applications for residency are invited, in order to maintain Full Occupancy.  
Enquiries to the Home. Tel. (01567) 820237  
Main Street, Killin, Perthshire, FK21 8UW

*May you enjoy a Good Christmas and a Happy New Year*



# Police Report

## Fraud Board and Lodging

Several months ago mention was made of a South African male defrauding B&Bs and Hotels in this area and throughout Scotland. He has since been apprehended. He was caught on account of the vigilance of a local Hotelier in Lochearnhead who, suspicious of his actions, took note of the registration number of his car that he parked in a secluded location away from the main hotel car park. When he left without paying, the police were contacted and the car registration number was flagged up on the Police National Computer. Weeks later Traffic Dept. Officers from Lothian and Borders saw the car crossing the Forth Road Bridge and when they checked the number they realised that the driver was wanted by police for these crimes. Over time he had defrauded numerous establishments and committed acts of theft throughout the UK with several thousand pounds lost to these businesses. This had been going on for well

over a year. He was caught by a simple bit of information. Remember if you see people acting suspiciously it is helpful to obtain as much detail as possible such as - how many, male, female, approx. age, height, build, hair colour, clothing worn, carrying anything, direction of travel when last seen. Vehicle - make, model, colour, registration number, anything else identifiable ie roof rack, name or telephone number on side, dents, alloy wheels, or noisy exhaust. The Rural Initiative leaflets at the police office are available and give further details on what you need to note.

## Road Accidents

There are many different reasons for road accidents and the increase during 2003 cannot be easily identified. Drivers speed, weather conditions, inattention may all be contributory causes. The A85 (Trunk) road occupies approximately 19-20 miles within the Killin section and is used by thousands of

motorists each year who are not involved in accidents. The reduction in road accidents and making our roads safer is of great importance to Central Scotland Police and features highly in the Safer Central campaigns.

We are now enduring colder autumnal and wintry weather and longer hours of darkness. It's important that you and your vehicle are prepared for such conditions.

### Accidents

#### A85 Wester Lix and Mid Lix.

2002

Total of 10 recorded by the police  
2003

Total of 15 recorded by the police up to the 12 October

#### On the whole of the A85

2002: 46 road accidents were recorded of which none were fatal and 7 were serious.

2003 until 12 October: 50 road accidents were recorded of which one was fatal and 3 serious.

**Safe Winter Driving - Information leaflets are available at the Police Office.**

## ATTENTION!

Do you have an existing business, or are you considering starting a new business?

To discuss your business needs and to find out availability of our Business Clinics call Stuart Hamilton,

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Telephone: 01786 445 757, mobile 07771 778594

### Mobile Banking Hours

Lochearnhead: Monday 12.50 - 13.15 pm & Thursday 10.45 - 11.15 am

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# Killin Community Council

**Meeting held on Tuesday, 9th September 2003.**

## Emergency ambulance services

Mr. Gordon, the ambulance service manager addressed concerns about the deterioration of the ambulance service. He said that at the moment there were no plans to amalgamate with Callander. Discussions would have to take place first between staff and local inhabitants. Single manned ambulances only operate when there is shortage of staff, due to illness or vacancies. All staff at the Killin Depot are part-time. If the positions were made full time the vacancies would be more attractive. An internal advert had been placed. It would be advisable to place an external advert for the vacancy. Ambulances called out to life threatening illnesses could respond in 8 minutes although this could be longer in rural areas. It was suggested that classes be held in Killin on First Responder and the use of the defibrillator. Mr. Gordon said that Hospital cars should only be used for clinical needs.

**Waste disposal** Mr. Riggle and Ms Irvine from the Waste department explained the new procedures for waste collection. Kerbside box collections for

cans, paper, textiles and plastic would be collected weekly, the brown wheelie bins for garden refuse and cardboard would be collected on alternate weeks with the green wheelie bins. The boxes will be delivered to households by mid November and the brown bins would be delivered late December. It was hoped that a machine will be available to turn the material at the community compost site. All kerbside bins will be sorted by hand. Litter bins in public places will be dealt with differently. Commercial premises were under a different regime as they paid for waste uplifts. New lorries will be in operation in November. The lack of rubbish bins on the Ardeonaig road was raised and that plastic rubbish bags filled by anglers and others were not uplifted. Mr. Riggle congratulated Killin School on their paper collections. They averaged £276 per quarter.

**Library** A letter is to be written requesting the possibility of extended opening hours at the Library.

**Fireworks** The fireworks will go ahead this year but it could be the last due to the new regulations.

**Broadband** Suzanne Player is to find out what is happening concerning the introduction of Broadband.

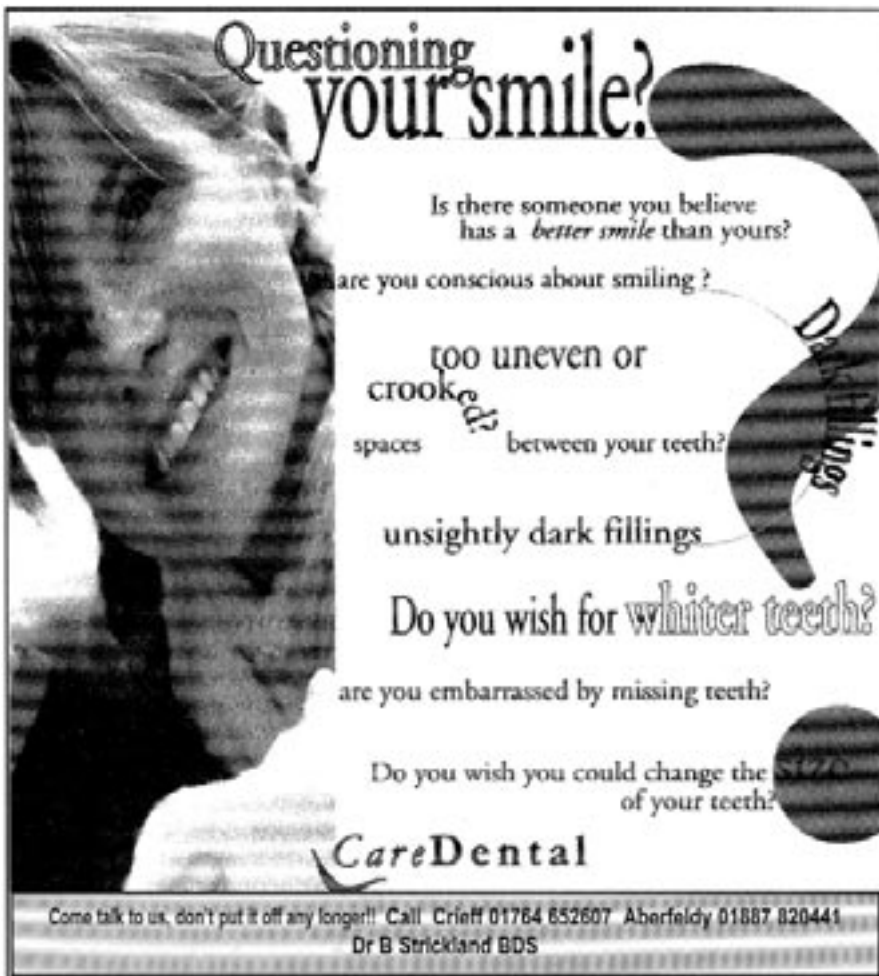
A letter will be sent to the appropriate authorities from the Community Council to highlight concerns about the **school bus** from Callander.

**An all night rave** at the lochside at the top of Glenogle was discussed. Dr. Turner will find out if cars are permitted on the cycle track.

John MacPherson thanked all the Community Councillors for their support over the past years.

## Railway Referendum

Killin residents should find with this issue of the Killin News voting papers from the Community Council asking whether or not they are in principle in favour of the proposed railway from the old station to the head of the loch. Whilst this method of getting opinions is not ideal and, as the promised feasibility study has not yet been published there are still many ifs and buts about the plans, it would be a great help to the new Community Council to have at least some idea of the general feeling in the village about the scheme. It is hoped, therefore, that everyone will use this opportunity to give the Council some guidance. **MM**



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## From the Crannog

The Crannog was featured on BBC's Holiday Programme. 60 seconds of exposure boosted visitor numbers in April by 30%. This season has shown an increase in attendances.

The Crannog events programme featured 25 themed days including appearances at tourism and archaeology fairs. High points included the two day Celtic Food and Drink Festival, a Fibre Day, our Bracken Festival and, the flaming festival of Samhain - the Celtic Halloween. The 23 November, was the Autumn Harvest. Directors Nick Dixon and Barrie Andrian have also been involved in underwater excavation in other parts of the country. They travelled north with Channel 4's Time Team to investigate a possible crannog in Loch Migdale, near Bonar Bridge. On the first day Nick and Barrie were able to prove that the structure was indeed the remains of a crannog, when basic excavation techniques exposed timbers and organic material similar to those

found at the Iron Age site of Oakbank Crannog off Fearnan, Loch Tay. This will be broadcast on Channel 4 in January.

The excavation at Oakbank Crannog this summer produced very interesting structural details not seen before. We ran an international Field School in underwater archaeology and attracted students and lecturers from the USA, England, Wales, Norway and Argentina. Later a separate film crew from Time Team visited the excavations and the Scottish Crannog Centre.

They filmed for a documentary on Crannog research and we interpret it for the public. 'Diving into the Iron Age' will be shown in early spring next year.

The visitor season is drawing to an end but renovations and improvements at the Crannog Centre continue over the winter months. With help from local landowners, Scottish and Tayside Native Woods, and the Forestry Commission, we are beginning to accumulate some much needed Oak, Alder and Hazel required for the job. Please contact us at the Centre on 01887 830 583 if you need any of



these species thinned from your woodland by experienced staff or wouldn't mind just donating it. We are looking for more Visitor Guides at the Crannog Centre. If you like meeting people and have an interest in history this fun job could be for you. There are various paid posts, part time or to cover for staff absence. Training is given at the Centre. Tel. 01887 830 583 The Crannog Centre is open at weekends only during November 10am to 4pm and daily from 15 Mar to 31 Oct 2004 10am to 5.30pm.

Colin Scott

# Croft-na-Caber



Exhibition of painting  
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artist  
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# NEW ABERFELDY OPTICIAN



Optometrist Mrs. Belinda Redden brings eye health care to Aberfeldy with the recent opening of her new practice, Aberfeldy Opticians. Belinda and her husband Jonathan established Pitlochry Opticians in 1997. The business has expanded, opening a second practice in Bank Street Aberfeldy in August. Mrs. Redden now divides her time between Pitlochry and Aberfeldy employing full time optical receptionists in both practices. She sees herself as an eye health care practitioner, especially serving the elderly in the community, as it was almost impossible for many of them to get to an opticians. She had always hoped to open

in Aberfeldy, and was already doing home, hospital, and nursing home visits in the area. It seemed a natural way to expand. The response has been wonderful. She has already been able to help several patients who had not seen an optometrist for over ten years. Good relationships with her customers and other local health care professionals are imperative.

One of her main successes she believes, has been to create more local consciousness of the need to visit an optometrist regularly. In Australia where Mrs Redden did her optometry training, optometrists are seen as GPs for eyes. Optometry is about detecting problems early and treating them appropriately. It is not unusual for a referral to be made to GPs and the eye department at PRI, but also to orthoptists, chiropractors and on rare occasions the dentist, as a result of eye examinations. Mrs Redden is delighted to be able to bring eye health care to Aberfeldy and the surround areas. **WA**

ABERFELDY

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Saturday 9-12.30pm

Mrs B A Redden B.Optom.

## Farming Matters

As I write this article on this beautiful October day, I am looking up Loch Tay to Fearnan. What a picture, the sky and the loch are, the most beautiful blue and the trees with such wonderful autumn colours. We have had a lovely spring, summer and autumn. The stock are all looking so well and fit for the winter, benefiting greatly from the good weather, what a difference the weather makes to them and to the people who work with them. When dipping the sheep in October it was like summer, what a pleasant job compared to some years, when dipping took place in oilskins. A small breeze would have been most welcome. We are fortunate here, after all the good weather, to still have green grass. In parts of Aberdeenshire the fields are brown and they were feeding cattle in September. The Autumn sales of lambs, tups, ewes and calves are just about finished. These sales all seem to be getting smaller and the old ewes and gimmers now go to a combined one day sale in Stirling, whereas there used to be a very big day for each of them. Also when you think back to the markets in Killin and Aberfeldy, they were big sales too. It is a sign of the times, that there are not the numbers of stock in the countryside that there used to be. The ewe hogs are away to Grantown-on-Spey for the winter. They will come back at the beginning of April and go back to their hefts, to start their life as breeding ewes. Now it's time for the tups to go out again, the start of another year for the sheep farmer. Let's hope we are favoured with reasonable weather in 2004, as we have been during this never-to-be-forgotten year.

Helen Taylor

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Come and find out about the benefits of Zarifeh Magnet Therapy - buy any product from the range and have your name entered in a Prize Draw - WIN A FLIGHT FOR TWO TO PARIS - What an extra Christmas gift for a lucky customer.

All of our departments will have a Christmas theme, samples of food and drink and many gift lines to see in each shop. The Restaurant will have a 'Festive Menu' with a difference. Sample some ideal Festive liqueurs too!  
Scottish International Relief and St Andrew's Clinics for Children charities will be supported throughout our Christmas Week.

All the family and staff at the Green Welly Stop wish all our customers an enjoyable Festive Season and hope you have a prosperous 2004.





## The Boathouse Restaurant and Bar



Close to the Tarmachans, Ben Ghlas and Ben Lawers, nestling in a sheltered bay on the north shore of Loch Tay, patrons can now enjoy a meal or a drink while looking out over the changing moods of the loch. On opening day the intense autumn colours provided an exotic background to the new project. Situated in Milton Morenish among the Loch Tay Highland Lodges the Boathouse restaurant and bar offer an enticing sequel to a day on the loch or exploring the hills. It lies within easy reach of Killin and Kenmore.

We wish the owner, Clive Booth and his Chef Jason Meadows, good luck with the new venture. WA







# Loch Tay Highland Lodges & Equestrian Centre



Loch Tay Highland Lodges Ltd., Milton Morenish Estate, By Killin, Perthshire FK21 8TY

Tel: 01567 820323 Fax: 01567 820581

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Bookings Telephone 01567 820853

We are situated 3 miles East  
of Killin on the A827  
Call us on: 01567 820323



# 1st Killin Brownies

We started back in September with an environmental night led by Helen Cole, who took us on a blindfolded exploration of tree trunks, followed by a lively acting out of "how a tree works". In October Liz Stevens held another Tri-Golf session in the church hall, using Velcro balls and mini golf clubs. It was great fun and we're sure there will be many new junior golfers next summer.



For part of the Seasons badge we made wooden bird boxes and bird puddings helped by Gavin and Abi, the National Park Rangers. We were pleased to have a visit from Sheila Rogers, the Divisional Commissioner, and are glad of her support for Fiona and Julie as they do their leaders training courses.

## Killin Playground Development Group

We have been very active over the last few years. Many of you will have noticed our attractive garden at the front of the school and the wildlife garden and pond adjacent to it. We are now turning our attention to the playground to the back of the school and have recently purchased an outdoor playing-frame named, "The Indian Village". The group has been very fortunate to have received many generous grants and donations and have themselves been fundraising for the equipment. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our funds and the following organisations for their generous donations - The Robertson Trust, The Gannochy Trust, The Scottish Co-Op, The Safari Supper Group, Ardeonaig W.R.I. and Newsfirst.

**Judy Holden**



## Brownies Christmas Post

This year, to raise money for charity, the Killin Brownies would like to deliver local Christmas Post. From 1st-20th December cards can be handed in to News First, Killin Library or Camas Mor, along with 10p for each card. The cards will be stamped ( Killin Brownies) and delivered the following Saturday. By local, we mean anywhere within the village between the Youth Hostel and Bickerton Farm on Craignavie Road. Please support us in this fund raiser and save yourselves a lot of time

**Fiona Rhys and Julie Mitchell**



**K**illin Golf Club Junior Prizegiving This year's prize giving was well attended by both juniors and adults. The Ladies' Captain Lyn Bartlett awarded certificates to all the juniors for their achievement throughout the year, she then awarded prizes to the winners in each category. Beginners Winner Josh Henderson Category 4 Winner Shane McPherson Junior Trophy Winner Ian Hancock Category 3 Winner Adam Mitchell Anniversary Trophy winner Alastair Gibson Category 2 Winner Jamie Murphy McArthur Trophy Winner Robert Grant Category 1 Winner Colin Woods Bert Yancey Cup Winner Colin Woods Best Beginner Laura Aitken Most



Improved Golfer Ian Hancock Junior Club Champion Colin Woods I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who helped with the juniors this year; Inga, Shona, Helen and Enid for serving up all those burgers and chips and making the juniors feel welcome; Mark, John, Laurence, Tam, Sheena, Audrey and Lyn for their regular help; all the parents who walked round the course with the juniors and of course to Allan Knox for his coaching, Brendon Pyle and the Golf Foundation for helping us to make golf available to so many youngsters and finally to the Cruachan Restaurant for their kind donation to the Junior Golf fund.

LS

## Killin Golf Club Prizegiving 2003



Some of the prizewinners after the presentation

### Killin Senior Ladies Open September 2003

Silver Scratch Shield Margaret McRae Pitlochry G.C. 84

Bronze Scratch Shield Sheilah McMorris Campsie G.C. 93

Handicap Silver

1st Prize Eileen Perry Tillicoultry G.C. 69 (b.i.h.)

2nd Prize Sheena Chisholm Killin G.C. 69

3rd Prize Chrissie Fenton Killin G.C. 73

Handicap Bronze

1st prize Louise Lauder Pitlochry G.C. 73 (b.i.h.)

2nd Prize Elsie Gibson Old Ranfurly G.C. 73 (b.i.h.)

3rd Prize Alison Wilson Whitemoss G.C. 73

Veteran's Handicap Prize Chrissie Fenton Killin G.C.

Longest Drive Silver Flora MacDougall Comrie G.C.

Longest Drive Bronze Doris Reid Tillicoultry G.C.

Nearest the pin Meripe Dunlop Old Ranfurly G.C.



Duncan MacDonald pictured receiving the Lyle Stevenson Cup as the Top fundraiser from John Allan one of the organisers of the 70 Wild Miles. Duncan raised £2055 contributing to a staggering £59,000 total from this year's event in aid of Cancer Research UK, beating last year's £44,000. The event has raised £375,200 for Cancer Research over 15 years. Duncan himself has now raised about £10,000. The 2004 event will be run for the joint benefit of Cancer Research (UK) and CLIC (Challenging Cancer and Leukaemia in Childhood). Be prepared for the usual visit from Duncan with his sponsor form!

LS



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The undercarriage can be extended for more stability when digging.



# Country Nite



Killin was host to one of Scotland's leading country & western bands on Saturday 18th October. Two of our village organisations worked together to bring Killin's first evening of country & western entertainment, for the enjoyment of all. A group of volunteers from our local McLaren Hall & Church, hosted this event, which included a buffet fit

for any royal household. The evening began at 8pm prompt when all 160 ticket holders had assembled in the hall. The Dez Walters band provided the music, with Mr Jackie Craig assisting on the microphone. Step dancing and more traditional dancing soon followed with folks from 24 to 84 participating on the dance floor. The wine and beer from the bar was ably supplied by the local Doctor and his band of helpers. This was better than any national health remedy! After much merriment and dancing, everybody gathered in the Lesser Hall and were tempted with an assortment of quiches and meats with sweets to die for. These were all served by Mrs B MacGregor and her team of formidable ladies! All the wholesome tucker was provided by local volunteers at their own expense. After this hearty meal and jolly raffle, the band

entertained until around eleven pm. The dance floor was full for the duration of the night, with many cowboys hardly sitting down. A truly enjoyable evening was had by all, with some asking when the next one would be. The grand sum of £2000 was raised which was divided equally between the two organisations. Thanks are extended to all those who took part in this fundraiser. This is surely testimony to the wonderful community spirit we all enjoy in our village. Long may it continue. **Colin J. McRae**



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# Memories of War

I wish to express my thanks to Mairi and Ian Hunter for the wonderful job they have done this summer in looking after the lovely flowers at the War Memorial. What a difference it has made to the entrance to the village – a welcome to visitors and residents alike and a show of respect and remembrance to those Killin folk of the past whose names are on the Memorial. Thanks should also go to Stirling Council for the weeding and general tidying up done earlier in the year.

Roy MacGregor



Roy MacGregor, Tony Weaver, Pat Sandeman, Syd Davidson, and Judge Stroyan



James C. Macnab of Macnab and Vincent Osbourne



## The Falls of Dochart Inn

### Through the Festive Season



Christmas Menu  
*Home-made Soup*  
*Aberfeldy Salmon Parcels*  
*Smoked Chicken*  
 ~~~0~~~  
*Roast Turkey*  
*Beef Olives*  
*Salmon Supreme*  
*Sweet Pepper Tarte*  
 ~~~0~~~  
*Christmas Pudding*  
*Poached Pears*  
*Scottish Cheeses*  
  
*Tea/Coffee*  
*Hot Mince Pies*

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Our Festive menu runs throughout December, with an extra Special Menu for Hogmanay, with local band 'Broadsword' ensuring festive fun each Saturday.

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Enjoy a fine meal on Hogmanay before watching the spectacular fireworks just outside the door.

### Christmas at 'The Falls'





## Wartime Recollections

There may be a few living in the Killin area who remember me, but not many who still remember Killin in 1942! I have recently re-established contact with Vincent Osborne, well known to the Forster family when he was with the Commandos. He and I served together in the Malayan Police in 1956 when I was commanding No.6 Police Field Force in Pahang. Our Police Retired Officers' Association had not heard from him for four years, but last year by chance I tracked him down to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea where, now in his eighties, he is an "in Pensioner". He ended his war service as a Sergeant in the Commandos and won the Military Medal.

I found Ozz (as he is known) in good heart and persuaded him to come to one of our reunion lunches in London. He turned up in his Chelsea Pensioner uniform wearing his medals. One of the wives (normally more sensible) asked him "Where did you get your medal?" He replied "D day". "Oooh!" she said, "When was that?" With a wicked gleam in his eye he replied, "In the morning!" In August he wrote to me mentioning his time in Killin in 1942. The following slightly edited extract from this letter may be of interest to readers of the Killin News:

A recent TV programme featured a couple wishing to move to Scotland. The very first property shown was one in Killin. There were various views of the area including the Falls of Dochart, Ben Lawers and part of Loch Tay. The Falls, possibly due to the camera angle, looked especially dramatic. I remember in 1942 the climb to near the summit on Ben Lawers and training around the ski-hut on very poor skis. Our two instructors were both Sergeants in the Norwegian Forces. One was Sgt Steverson. Sadly I did not

gain much from the instruction and my contribution to the course ended when I collided with a fellow student on an exercise to cross a range of hills and descended into a small river. I left the party with a "done-in" cartilage, accompanied by a Trooper MacKenzie who had lost a ski. After fording the stream twice we wound up at an isolated farmhouse, Kenknock. The good lady of the house had been warned of casualties and deadbeats dropping in from the cloudy regions and set before us a repast of tattie-scones and wonderful tea. A tap on the window announced Jack Sayer, a fellow Commando, who joined us. The school bus arrived bringing the kids home and took us back to Killin, passing a few morose looking deer looking for herbage not covered with snow, at the side of the road.

Best wishes to all our old friends in Killin. **James C. Macnab of Macnab**

Vincent Osborne (Ozz) was billeted with us at 'Craigbuie' in Killin, the then home of my late parents, Arthur & Colina Forster, my late elder brother John and myself aged 5 yrs. I must have just started at Killin School. Miss Jean Johnstone was my teacher. John must have been around 8 yrs. old.

My memories are rather dim I'm afraid but John relayed several tales to me over the years of that momentous occasion when we had genuine Commandos staying with us. It made a tremendous impression on two young boys. Vincent occupied the top east bedroom in Craigbuie and I have recollections of a very big, sharp pointed dagger, which I supposed he used to cut firewood? He also had, what we called a Tommy Gun with wee short fat bullets, of which he

gave one or two to my late brother. Having now just genned up on this it may well have been a Sten gun, with a magazine capacity of 32 9mm bullets and it could fire the entire magazine in under 20 seconds. A silencer could also be fitted. Incidentally, I can't remember whether we had venison at the time or not? I vaguely remember that the Commandos had field guns in the village, probably 6 pounders and very portable, that could destroy an entire tank. I do remember Vincent dressed up in an all-white suit ready to go up Ben Lawers. I also recall very vividly going for a walk with my dad along the Lochay Road one evening when, near Maragowan, we heard and sighted a bomber aircraft overhead with its engines popping and going on and off at intervals. Then we saw distress flares as the craft flew towards Glen Dochart, and finally a tremendous light in the sky as it crashed. Dad then took us in the car to Luib, where the stricken plane was burning. Everyone was rallying round trying to help. At the same time ammunition was going off incessantly. John and I went back again the next day and found a belt of machine gun bullets in the Luib Burn. I think every third or fourth bullet was a tracer.

As for the crew, happily as far as I know they all bailed out safely. I believe they were French, blown off course and out of fuel.

So these hills have been alive with more than the sound of music from time to time and, Ozz, on behalf of all our generation can I say "Thanks a million"

**Henry Forster**

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# C o r n e r

## The Angling

The West Loch Tay Salmon Fishers Association is

already looking forward to the 2004 season. This past year has been poor in both fish and weather conditions. However some first time visitors did venture out with ghillies, and were given an entertaining tour of the loch. All vowed to return which is great news for the local economy. More anglers from the Worthing area will be visiting in 2004.

The Opening of the Salmon Season 15 January 2004. The morning ceremonies at Auchmore Boathouse and Highland Lodges will start the first day and the traditional supper will be held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel. There will be an auction of sporting items. Presentations will be made from the sponsors Grouse Whisky, who are again supporting the association. The AGM will be in the Killin Hotel on the 16th at 7.30pm. The 17th will start with a breakfast BBQ hosted by Mr John Duncan, and the week

will close with a stovie supper in the Falls of Dochart Inn at 9.00pm. A raffle will be held in aid of the Tay Ghillies Fund. Tickets for the supper on the 15th will be available from the secretary Alex Stewart, and donations for both the auction and raffle can be handed to the secretary. The social activities will be advertised by poster but book early and avoid disappointment.

### National Park Angling Update

The Fishing Forum has completed its submission to the 'State of the Park' publication. This details what is currently available and concerns for the future. Access and fishing availability are well established and monitored in this area. The use of rivers and lochs for recreational and sport is growing. Safety has become an issue in the angling sector. The policy of many clubs is to encourage juniors to participate and enjoy sports and the right information, instruction and guidance is essential. It is now strongly advocated that organisers, in charge of juveniles, be registered with Disclosure Scotland. This important document ensures those in charge of youngsters

have no adverse record and juveniles are properly protected. Safety is also covered. Fisheries now issue life jackets. It is essential that the organisers of any sport have a safety procedure in place. It is important not to place participants in danger by ignoring simple safety procedures. Guidelines are available and it is the responsibility of any organiser to ensure these are followed. The safety of water related activities are of paramount importance.

**Alex Stewart**

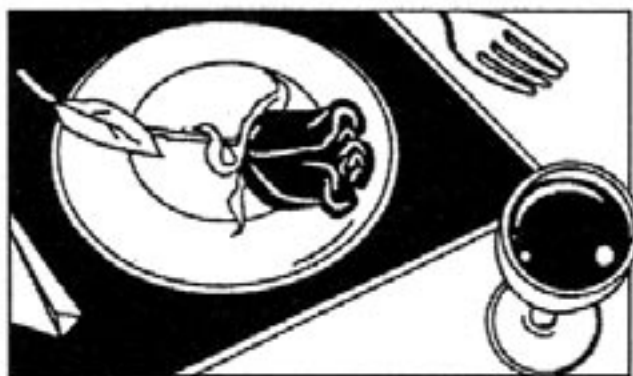
Angling Forum Member

### Children in Need.

I am a partner/ inventor with the company producing the new British word game "Blank", and am running a competition for this year's BBC Children in Need Appeal. I have set a puzzle on our website and want people to donate £2 along with their answers. I will give away 5 copies of "Blank" to the first five correct entries. People at Chambers Dictionary in Edinburgh are judging the competition which can be seen at [http://www.blankgame.co.uk/new\\_word\\_challenge.htm](http://www.blankgame.co.uk/new_word_challenge.htm) Rather than our Abingdon business address, residents of Killin should send entries to my home address - 19 Lyon Road, Killin, FK21 8TE

**Angela Ramsay**

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## Strathfillan - "By The Way"

### Xmas Message From The Minister

This wee message will come to you during 'Advent'.

Advent is the four- week period leading up to Xmas. The word means 'coming' or 'arrival', especially of one who is expected and awaited. The 'Season of Advent' is used by the church to prepare for the 'Advent', that is the coming and the arrival of Jesus the Christ-Child. Part of that preparation is in reading and teaching about what Xmas means. Some who are reading this will be thinking that my use of the word Xmas for Christmas is wrong - especially since it has been much favoured by the commercial side of our celebrations. Many who think like this may not know that the X was an ancient sign for Jesus. In Greek it is the first letter of his name and pronounced 'ch' as in Christos. In Greek Christos (Xristos) means 'anointed' and referred to the one who would be the anointed by God as his Messiah, the one through whom he would come down to earth. The X came also to represent the cross on which Jesus died and so represents both his coming and his going, his birth and his death.

May yours hearts leap as you prepare for the Advent of our Lord on earth and be filled with peace and joy at his coming.

**Reverend John Shedden**  
Minister for Glenorchy Innisheil and Strathfillan.

### Post Office and Shop Crianlarich



We would like to extend a warm welcome to Isla and Brian Craig, the new owners of the Post Office and shop in Crianlarich.

Having made the decision to live, work and bring up their children in a rural community Crianlarich is an ideal choice mid-way between their respective families in Dunfermline and Ardfarn.

They are greatly missed in Dalgety Bay where they were involved in the sailing club as membership secretary and IT support. However their boat will now be kept in Ardlui and they hope to find time to sail on Loch Lomond. The family would like to play an active part in the community.

Alasdair aged 6 and Nicola aged 4 have settled well in Crianlarich school and nursery and made many new friends. Good luck in your new venture.

WA

### Killin Carpet Bowling Club

The AGM was held on Monday 29 September.. The following were elected.

President H. Guild, Vice President C. Higgins, Treasurer L. Mitchell, Match Secretary J. Guild, Committee C. McLarty, C. Grant, R. Pritchard, D. Pritchard, E. Holmes.

The Carpet versus Green Bowlers match for the Cameron Trophy was played on 23 October.

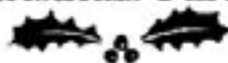
The Carpet Bowlers were victorious after a most enjoyable evening.

Carpet Bowls are played every Monday night in the Lesser Hall at 7.30pm. New members are welcome.

H. Guild

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# The Jazz Supper

The last weekend in September saw the opening of what might be the winter season in Killin. This is a frenetic few months of local events, which can range from the mandatory AGMs of the various local groups and associations to major productions. For many this can be the busiest time of the year. A huge amount of work goes on, much of it behind the scenes, and almost everything that takes place does so under the auspices of raising money for one cause or another. This is one of the things that gives Killin such a well deserved reputation as a particularly generous community.

The Killin Cancer Research Committee's most recent contribution to this effort was their third annual Jazz Supper. The Committee was formed in 1958 and, although the founders are no longer with us, the current members, all women, or rather 'ladies' as I was recently corrected, continue to raise the profile, not only of the charity, but also of the village. Only a few years ago, the KCRC was given an award for raising the most money per head of population in the West of Scotland. Indeed, if you're reading this review anywhere between Strathyre and Tyndrum, you're almost certain to have been nobbled by the ladies of the KCRC at some time or other. I can hear already some of you muttering and, yes, technically, September is still part of the summer season, but the Jazz Supper had all the feel of a 'Winter Special'. There weren't many visitors, but there was great turnout of locals, and a terrific atmosphere. The main hall lights were turned off, and the Reunion Jazz Band was illuminated by the Drama Club's superb stage lighting system. There were candles on the tables, casting flickering shadows on the walls, dancers on the floor, the rustle of conversation, the clink of glasses, and of course, the ubiquitous raffle. By any measure, this was the most successful Jazz Supper so far. The event raised nearly £1500 for Cancer Research UK, part of a tranche of money raised every year by the KCRC. The band played for three hours, a superb and wide ranging set of traditional jazz. This was one occasion in which the older dancers were able to demonstrate a bit more style and panache than the rest of us, and not just because they were more sober. In the interval there was the buffet, a lavish two-course spread, prepared by the ladies of the KCRC themselves. At £10 a ticket, this has to be one of the best value evenings in the calendar. Make sure you put it on yours for 2004.

Andy Aitken

## Killin Community Futures

Twenty groups were represented at the September Community Groups Forum and the Local Action Plan was reviewed.

**Achievements** included: Purchase of Retirement Home Day care and additional community meeting space in Nurses Clinic School playground development EAK & National Park work on footpaths New Youth Group Drama Club hosting part of SCDA one act play festival next year

**Work in Progress** includes: Glen Dochart Adult Education Group applications for community ownership of 15 laptops and internet access for Breadalbane area School wormery and registration as an Eco-School Chiropractic in Nurses Clinic Church Community Rooms Funding for paths/signage/leaflets Steamer feasibility study Finlarig Castle access Community Composting Village Heritage Trail Possible National Park Apprenticeship scheme

The "Still to do" list is also very long but a lot has been achieved and Killin clearly continues to be an incredibly active community. Three key points were:

**Future tourism for Killin:** The National Park will host an event in the New Year to consider development options. **Transport issues:** A local audit of existing transport and proposals for improvements. **Railway to the head of the loch:** Community Council holding referendum to ascertain community support.

The next Community Groups Forum will be held by mid March.

For more information or to get involved in any projects, contact

Suzanne Player

(Stirling Council & National Park)

Tel 01567 820154 or

e.mail players@stirling.gov.uk



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## Killin Primary School Waste Paper Collection

From November every household in the village will have three bins one of which will be for recyclable material. Stirling Council are very keen to encourage schools to continue to collect waste paper, and soon also a wider range of items for recycling and they have assured us that they will continue to pay us to provide this service. Between April and June last year, we raised £239.50. We are the most successful paper collecting school in the Stirling area. This is a very valuable source of income for the school and we would like to thank all of you who help us in this way. Please encourage your neighbours to do likewise. We can take junk mail, office paper, magazines, catalogues, brochures, old envelopes (brown envelopes are OK but preferably with glue bit torn off), shredded paper and old newspapers. (No cardboard at the moment please) Think of how much you can reduce your rubbish if you let us collect all the above for you once a fortnight. Remember : Reduce, Recycle, Reuse. Next Paper Collection will be on 5 December

Killin PTA

## Kerbside Collection

By now, most of the households in the Killin area will have been issued with a recycling box. Weekly uplifts begin in December on your normal bin collection day. The crew on the vehicle will sort the materials in your box by hand. You can help them by separating it in the box, e.g. by putting paper in an UNTIED plastic bag, squashing plastic milk bottles and rinsing tins and bottles. Sorted materials are processed locally where possible: glass in Alloa, paper in Croy and textiles in Denny, where they are either passed on to charity or used as industrial rags. In December, you will receive a brown wheelie bin for compostable materials, garden waste and cardboard. Unfortunately, we can NOT accept any kitchen waste, such as fruit and vegetable peelings in the brown bin due to new legislation. A compost bin for kitchen waste can be obtained from Stirling Council, £13 for a plastic bin or £25 for a wooden one. The brown bins will be uplifted fortnightly from mid-January onward. Put your Christmas tree next to the brown bin for collection. The compost product will be used to restore Lower Polmaise landfill site when it closes in 2004. When your brown bin collection starts, the green wheelie bin (for non-recyclable, non-compostable waste only) will also be collected fort-

nightly, on alternate weeks to the brown one. Each household is only entitled to one green wheelie bin, unless 6 or more people reside at the address permanently. Landfill sites cause severe pollution, including greenhouse gases responsible for global warming and leachate which is a threat to our waterways. By separating our household waste, we can seriously reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill sites – about 70% of the contents of an average wheelie bin can be recycled! For more information on the new kerbside collection system, or on other waste and recycling issues, phone Stirling Council at 0845 277 7000.

**Karin Helwig**

Community Waste Planning Officer.

Website [www.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.stirling.gov.uk)

e-mail [waste@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:waste@stirling.gov.uk)

## Killin Surgery Christmas & New Year Opening Times

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Thursday 25 December Closed

Friday 26 December Closed

Wednesday 31 December 9.00am-3.30pm


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Friday 2 January Closed

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Min party size - 8

# Archaeological Excavations in Glen Lochay

The season ended in July with another assault on the shielings above Corrycharmaig. Three main groups have been identified. Ruighe Luachrach or the 'shieling of the rushes' named from the nearby stream Allt Ruighe Luachrach. Indeed, the huts and enclosures are today covered in this vegetation. In the past we assumed that any small oval, rectangular and round structures were shieling huts, but it may well be that some of them are Prehistoric dwellings. There is a string of such remains above the old head dykes all the way down the north side of the upper glen from Kenknock to Tirai. Low Botaurnie has turned out to have more archaeology than High Botaurnie but the latter has a Medieval fort or defensive house to match one that we found at Innischoarach. Dr Steve Driscoll of the University of Glasgow dated the Innischoarach site and the Prehistoric hut circle on Dalgirdy. Low Botaurnie has a number of longhouses, field-systems and kilns as well as a set of Prehistoric cup marks. This is a new find and adds to the previously unrecorded set found at Duncroisk. High Botaurnie has thrown up a network of interesting field banks which could be Prehistoric or early Medieval. By the big shed at Kenknock we found remains of a Prehistoric long cairn. The facade is well preserved but most of the stone has been robbed out,

probably for dykes. This is an important find as there is a possible long cairn at Tullich and also at Tirai. With the one at Kenknock we possibly have added half as many again to the known long cairns in Perthshire.

At Innisraineach another Prehistoric hut circle was identified. This much damaged 12m diameter stone-built foundation matches the one at Dalgirdy and possibly another further up the glen excavated in the 1950's. At this site there are two sets of longhouses with a nearby barn at right angles, a configuration that goes back to Medieval times.

In the Scottish Record Office we have recently uncovered information on Mamlorn, Innischoarach and Botaurnie. A remarkable set of printed documents concerning a dispute between Breadalbane and Glenlyon dated 1733, was found, listing the names, ages and occupations of a number of inhabitants in the upper glen who gave testimony in the dispute. A number of shieling sites on Mamlorn are named with comments on their construction and the animals kept. Of greatest interest is that the duration of occupancy at the shielings is longer than commonly supposed. At Innischoarach in 1787 John McVean built the dykes around the steading, two houses and other farm buildings at a cost of £100, without prior consent and was removed from the

property. Newly available papers mention a field called Dalunie at Innischoarach. So far only one field in the glen, by the name of 'The Dal' on Tullich, has been identified. John McVean also constructed a house at High Botaurnie. A document dated 1807 includes mention of McNaughton and Clark who built the march dyke between Kenknock and High Botaurnie. The aim of tying the documentary evidence with the archaeology on the ground is meeting with some success. It will be many years before all the records have been studied but eventually an overview of the past history of the upper glen should be available.

The Tullich report is almost ready, as is Corrycharmaig. The former has almost 200 archaeological features. All sites have to be checked before being written up and this is a time-consuming task. It is hoped to publish Innischoarach and the High and Low Botaurnie surveys this winter. It was a superb season, not only for the archaeology but also for the opportunity to work in such a beautiful part of the country. The weather was warm and kind as was the hospitality shown by all who live and work in Glen Lochay.

**Dugald McInnes**

## Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project

This was open to the public on Saturday 20th September. Visitors were able to inspect the excavation of a ruined farmstead abandoned 150 years ago on the lower slopes of Beinn Ghlas by Kiltynie. Over 20 volunteers from Scotland, the UK and abroad carefully uncovered the remains of a farmhouse and outbuildings. The house appears from map evidence to have been built in the old outfield area at the end of the 18th century. It was a longhouse very similar in construction to the Morlainich Longhouse in Glen



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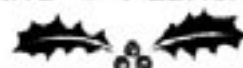
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Lochay. Some interesting artefacts were discovered. This was probably part of the reorganisation of land that occurred during the agricultural improvements in the area. Surprisingly, the farm was abandoned by the middle of the 19th century. It is unclear whether the inhabitants were forcibly removed or left as a result of economic hardships. The project is a co-operation between The National Trust for Scotland, owners of the mountainside, Glasgow University's Archaeological Research Department and the willing participants in the Trust's Thistle Camp programme, the popular series of working holidays for conservation volunteers. Over the lifetime of the project it is hoped that a wide range of volunteers and

members of the local community will become actively involved. Generous funding comes from The Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage. Headline funding amounts to just over half a million pounds for the project. For further information contact

**Derek Alexander**

The National Trust for Scotland's West Region Archaeologist and Project Manager for the Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project  
Direct line 0141 616 5120  
Web Site [www.benlawers.org.uk](http://www.benlawers.org.uk)

### Killin and Ardeonaig Church Guild

The Christmas meeting will be held in the Church Hall on Thursday 11 December at 2 pm when we will be entertained by the "Balquhiddie Trio", Christmas Carols and Readings. January meeting will be held in Kirk Care on Thursday 15 January at 2pm when Mrs Sally Beaumont will speak on the Iona Community. Everyone is most welcome to our meetings especially anyone who has just come to our village, the meetings always ends with a cup of tea and a friendly chat.

**Killin & District Sports and Leisure Club 100 club**  
**£100 winner for November**  
**K. Storey number 3**

### Eaione Nicol

My husband and I lived at Ballimore Farm for 65 years. He was paid off on September 6 2002, the day after his birthday. Eaione did not take kindly to not to be working as he was a shepherd thro and thro. Eaione was helping out at Glen Lochy and Glen Lyon with our son Kenneth, also a shepherd, when he took a heart attack on Ben Chreachian on the 2nd August. My family and I would like to thank all who were involved in bringing his body off the hill and to all who came to his funeral. Thank you also, Jim Brown who played the pipes, David Hendry and Donald McLean for your tributes which were read out at the funeral service. As the minister said "A man worth knowing." Collections Killin Mountain Rescue Service £150. British Heart Foundation £254. Various other charities £250. **Roberta (Bobby) Nicol** and family, Kippen

### Total for RHSC

Last year £1080.91 was raised for the Oncology Department of the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Edinburgh by Morag and her team of helpers. Their work this year continues to go to CHAS and the RHSC but not to Stirling Royal as mentioned in the last issue.

## Helping Rural Businesses



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Hire Videos 2 day hire and Weekend 3  
day hire. Children's weekly.  
Free Internet Access.



### Opening Hours:

Monday : 10 - 1 & 2 - 5 ; Tuesday & Friday: 10 - 1 & 3 - 7; Wednesday: 2 - 5; Thursday: Closed

**Tel: 01567 820 571**

**E-Mail: [killinlibrary@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:killinlibrary@stirling.gov.uk)**

## Killin Primary School Christmas Sale

Friday 28 November 6pm

Items will include Pupils' homemade crafts, the School Tea-towel featuring a drawing of every pupil, Toys, Children's Books, Children's Videos, Homebaking and Tombola. Donations for these stalls will be most gratefully accepted. Please hand donations into the school or contact: Sheila Aitken 820249 or Pamela Farquharson 820744

For fun and games, pick up one of our "Jolly Jam Jars", come, support us and buy your Christmas Gifts.



### Killin School Community Gardening Club

Help wanted. Some of the children are setting up a gardening club to look after the school gardens. They plan to manage the front garden and create new beds at the back of the building. Work commenced on Tuesday 11th November so you already will be able to see some changes. During the spring and summer terms we plan to meet every two weeks for about an hour or so and monthly over the winter period. If you are a parent or an interested member of the community we would welcome your time, expertise or donations of plants for the project.

For more information or if you wish to register your interest contact the school or Julie Rhys Tel. 820851

## Emergency Care Developments

A few weeks ago the Scottish Parliament discussed the first stage of the Primary Medical Services Bill which will introduce the new working contract for local GPs. With the new contract will come an additional 33% investment in primary care, with funding rising to £575 million by 2005-06. The Bill gained almost unanimous support at the first debate, although there were concerns raised about when the new regulations for the Bill will be drafted so Parliament can debate these and also the 'out of hours services' in remote rural areas.

On the 'out of hours' issue I have been in close contact with the Community Council through the Chair, John McPherson and had a meeting in Killin with doctors in the medical practice. Following that meeting I spoke both in the debate and at Parliamentary Question Time to outline the concerns of residents and doctors. I have also spoken with the Minister Malcolm Chisholm about the practice in Killin and he has since written giving details about the on-going discussions between his officials, the Scottish General Practitioners Committee (SGPC) and the Rural Practices Association about how GPs in remote rural areas like Killin will be brought into the new contract. I will keep the Community Council and Doctors practice updated about these discussions.

Later this month and in December are a number of Forth Valley Trust meetings to consult on the 'out of hours' issue. It is important everyone expresses their views and at the same time we continue to press hard to upgrade the ambulance service in the Killin area.

Sylvia Jackson MSP

For more information please contact Sylvia Jackson 01786 446515



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# LETTERS



## New Hospital

I wonder if Ian Mullan has ever tried to negotiate the traffic north of Callander (a) on a summer day when tourist traffic is at its peak or (b) in midwinter when the roads are at the best of times "dicey", icy or snowy, oh no I'm sure he hasn't. To quote him "The New Hospital is about 20 minutes from the SRI". All very well for locals, we have to travel at least 40 miles at present under very difficult circumstances (on most occasions) to get to SRI. The Rural population I understand is 25% of the community and our Hospital Car service has been cut to the bone so where does this leave the poor patients and those visiting?

**Margaret Wilson**

## My Local View

Having read Mr Whittaker's letter in the September edition, I gave it little attention until I came to the bit about the extension of the Cemetery car park. We are happy with the piece of land given by the landowner to increase the parking area. The land is

unproductive, it has some aspen and ash trees, but is waste ground. Yet it is suggested we use part of the adjoining field to extend the car park. Can you imagine using good agricultural land to make a car park? I think not. Next we come to the felling of trees on the railway, whether they are felled on the grounds of safety or not. Had we not had the misfortune to lose our railway, the trees would never have been allowed to grow. We are told then the lochside development will provide only seasonal employment. Killin is no stranger to seasonal employment and it is better than no employment at all. The proposal of a car park at the head of the Loch, not a bad idea it's a chance to clear some unsightly trees, but I'm not too happy about charging for parking. And finally Mr Whittaker has a fear that Killin could become a Theme Park. Is that too bad? Our theme could be a Highland Village on the way to a Secure Future.

**John Stewart**

Dreadnought Place

## Can You Help?

I have just read Issue 76 of the Killin News, downloaded from the Killin website. Thank you for making this wonderful service available. I wish to give my parents' the gift of a lifetime. In a recent discussion with my mother, she told me that her dream was to spend three months living in Killin. She is of Scottish descent, has been to Scotland and fell in love with Killin. Now in her 70's, having had a life in amateur and semi-professional theatre, she loves living life to its fullest. Clandestinely I discovered that she wants to visit Scotland again and spend some time in Killin. My parents cannot afford such a lifetime dream trip so I want to give it to them as a gesture of thanks for everything they have done for me. I am trying to organise a place where they could stay for three months in Killin, self catering, and become part of the community. Everything I have found so far is short term or too expensive for 12 or 14 weeks. Has anyone in Killin suggestions that may be able to help?

**Robert Drake**

Apt 9, 287 Bank Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205, Australia

## Looking for Roots

I am looking for descendants of Donald Sinclair and Christena Campbell. I am a descendant of Donald Sinclair, born 1752 in Killin, Perthshire. I understand that the Sinclair family was a large family. Any help would be appreciated. Thank you. **Marg Graham**  
67 Jocelyne Street, Port Hope, Ontario, Canada L1A2G4

## Reflexology

In Reflexology the feet are a map of the body. Working these reflexes with alternate pressure from the thumb and forefinger stimulates the body's own healing system and thus holistically rebalances the body for better health.

Reflexology may help chronic or acute illnesses and muscular sprains and strains.

**Gill Hunt**

Associate member of the Association of Reflexologists  
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## Shutters Restaurant

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e-mail ian-247aa@supanet.com

# What's On in Killin and District

## December

- 4 SWRI Cookery Demonstration 7.30pm Lesser Hall
- 5 Heritage Meet Lesser Hall 8pm
- 7 EAK event Loch Tay shore clean up McLaren Car Park 12 noon
- 11 Green Team 3.15pm Lyndoch
- 13 Make Xmas Cards/Decorations National Park event  
Lochearnhead Village Hall 11am
- 14 Make Xmas Cards/Decorations National Park event  
Crianlarich Village Hall 11am
- 14 Christmas Shoot Gun Club members only 11am
- 16 Killin School Concert McLaren Hall evening
- 24 Carol Singing Main Street
- 31 Hogmanay Fireworks Dochart Bridge midnight

## January

- 1 New Year Dance McLaren Hall
- 9 Heritage Meet Lesser Hall 8pm
- 15, 16, 17 Pantomime
- 21 Herb Society Meeting Village Hall  
Ballinluig 10am
- 22 Green Team 3.15pm Lyndoch
- 24 Make Bird Feeders/Nesting boxes National Park event  
McLaren Hall 11am
- 24 Burns Supper evening Lesser Hall contact 820005

## February

- 4 Heritage Meet Lesser Hall 8pm

Advanced Gaelic  
Mondays 7pm  
Killin Church Session House  
starts Jan 12

Art Classes  
Tuesdays 7pm  
Killin School  
Starts Jan 13

Badminton  
Mondays 7pm  
McLaren Hall

Boys Brigade  
Fridays 6.30pm P4 - P6  
9pm P7 - S5  
Killin School

Brownies  
Mondays 6.30pm  
Church Hall

Carpet Bowls  
Mondays 7.30pm  
Lesser Hall

Computing for the Terrified  
Tuesdays 7pm  
Killin School starts Jan 13

Highland Dancing  
Tuesdays 4.30pm (3 classes)  
Beginners, Intermediate, Advanced  
Crianlarich Hall  
Contact Aileen 01301 - 704283

Internet Classes  
Mondays 10am  
Killin Sports Pavilion  
Contact 01360 - 441608

Introduction to Computer  
Application Packages  
Mondays 7pm  
Killin Sports Pavilion  
Contact 01360 - 441608

Jumping Beans  
Wednesdays 9.30am  
Lesser Hall

Keep Fit  
Mondays 10am  
Tuesdays 7.30pm  
McLaren Hall starts Jan 19  
and 20

Killin Youth Group  
Wednesdays 7pm  
Lesser Hall

Line Dancing  
Thursdays 7.30pm  
Lesser Hall  
Contact 01383-732609

Playgroup  
Fridays 9.30am  
Killin Nursery

Shinty P4 - S1  
Wednesdays 6.30pm  
Sports Pavilion

Tiddlers & Toddlers  
Fridays 9.30am  
Church Hall

Upholstery Class  
Mondays 10.30am  
Lesser Hall

Yoga  
Wednesdays 7pm  
Killin School starting  
7 Jan

## Calor Scottish Community of the Year Awards

Killin Community Council is one of three groups shortlisted for an Award. There were over 100 entries and awards will be presented at a ceremony in Edinburgh by Communities Minister Margaret Curran. The Killin Community Council entered two of five categories, older people and community life.

The setting up of the Killin Care Trust and the efforts to raise £220,000 for the acquisition of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home were highly praised. Killin was recommended as a particularly active community in which the young and old cooperate and show a caring attitude. Other contenders are Strathblane Community Council and Gartmore Village Shop.

WA

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# Thank You

## One Year On

During the past year since Win's passing, I have been constantly – daily – asked by many people, some not very well known to me “How are you?” and “How are you coping/managing?” I have also had quite a number of offers of help if required. It is this extended kind consideration and caring that makes Killin village quite special, with so many caring people. So I wish to thank most sincerely everyone for their kindness and consideration during this past very difficult year. Thank you all.

**Syd Davidson**

## Russell Beeston

Marion Beeston and family would like to express their thanks for the many kind letters, cards and expressions of sympathy received after Russell's recent death in Iraq and to all who attended the services in Glasgow and Fort William. Thank you to my friends in Killin for their support and offers of help. A very special thank you to Ann, George and Freda, for being here for me and doing everything they can to help me in so many ways. Special thanks also to Ann, Fiona and all the girls at Dochart Crafts for their help and support over these very difficult weeks and which I know will be there for

me in the future. Employers and friends at work like these girls are not easily found. They are very special people.

## 70 Wild Miles

I would like to say a big thank you to everyone who sponsored me for this charity event in aid of Cancer Research UK. A special thank you to Rosie and Liz for their help on the day, also Neil MacKenzie for collecting money from the Britten Foundation. This year my sponsorship total was £2,055 which included a generous cheque of £500 from Scottish and Southern Energy. Thanks again, see you all next year.

**Duncan MacDonald**

## MacMillan Cancer Relief

Elma Scott and friends would like to thank everyone who supported the coffee evening held in Crianlarich Hall on 26 September 2003. The sum of £1065.10 was raised. Thanks to all.

**Killin Youth Group** would like to thank everyone who helped with our coffee morning, whether it was by baking, donating or helping. We raised £292.87

**Julie Mitchell**

## News First

We would like to thank all our customers for their support since taking over the

shop. We are enjoying the venture and look forward to seeing you all in the future. Hope you all have an enjoyable Christmas and Prosperous New Year.

**Dougie, Liz and Douglas**

David and I would like to thank everyone who shared our wedding day with us. We are grateful to you all and also to those of you who sent your kind wishes.

**Julia B**

## Christmas Church Service Times

### St Fillans Scottish Episcopal Church

**Christmas Day**

10.30am Holy Communion

### The Parish Church of Killin and Ardeonaig:

**December 14**

Sunday School lead worship 10am

**Christmas Eve**

service 8pm

### Roman Catholic Church:

**Christmas Eve**

Lix Toll House 7pm.

**Midnight Mass**

St Joseph's Church Callander

**Christmas Day**

St Joseph's Church Callander 11.30 am.

## Rob Roy Homes

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# Computer Corner

## A Computer is not just for Christmas...

...it is for life (3-5 years). It's that time of year, parents will be under pressure to buy a computer for Christmas. A new home computer is an expensive item, costing between £500 and £1200, so it is essential to make an informed decision. Here is some simple advice to help you to select the right computer for your needs. As always, if in doubt seek expert advice. The main areas to consider are Performance, Printers and Scanners and Support costs.

**Performance:** Nearly all new home computers now come with Windows XP Home operating system. This is the best version of Windows for home use. Any computers with previous versions of Windows are out of date and should be avoided. If you are going to copy CDs, or download music files, or videos from the internet, then you are likely to need large amounts of disc space. Typically entry-level computers are fitted with a 40Gb disc. (Gb=Gigabytes; 1 Gigabyte = 1 billion characters). This is usually more than sufficient for general needs, but for the storage of large amounts of video and music, consider a minimum of a 60Gb disc or more.

**Memory:** (or RAM - Random Access Memory) The more RAM a computer has, the faster the performance. Many computers are sold with 128Mb of RAM

(Mb=Mega Byte, 1Mb= 1 million characters). This is not really sufficient to run today's computers. A minimum of 256Mb RAM is recommended, preferably 512Mb RAM.

**Printers:** Be careful of a Computer/Printer deal, where the printer is virtually given away. Check the cost of print cartridges for the specific printer. Typically, cheaper printers have more expensive cartridges and are a false economy in the long run. For printing photographs consider buying a printer in the price range of £150-£250.

**Scanners:** You get what you pay for. Look out for the Dots Per Inch (DPI). The higher numbers are better. Only consider a scanner with a minimum of 1200x2400 DPI specification. Lower resolution scanners do not provide suitable quality images and will not cope well with photographs.

**Support Costs:** Most people need some technical help with their new computer. Many High Street shops offer a telephone support service, but be careful as most of these are premium rate phone calls costing up to £1 per minute. The calls can easily last for an hour. Look for a supplier offering free or cheap telephone support during the warranty period.

## Preventing Hackers

The internet is rife with people who appear to enjoy eavesdropping on conversations, gaining access to other people's computers, and causing damage to computer equipment via the internet. Affected computers become very slow, lose data, and systems can become unusable. This is not uncommon, and virtually every internet connected com-

puter will be affected at least once in its lifetime. I fend off attacks to my computer every minute of the day. To prevent this we use an application called a "Firewall". This piece of software reads all incoming and outgoing traffic to and from your computer, allowing traffic to pass only if it comes from a trusted source.

Windows XP, has an inbuilt firewall, which can be switched on for internet connection. See the inbuilt Help system for details. If you do not have Windows XP, it is wise to obtain a reliable Firewall program from the internet. I use a free program, Zone Alarm - which can be downloaded from the web site [www.zonealarm.com](http://www.zonealarm.com). Each Firewall program needs to be configured. If you are unsure about this I suggest you seek expert help.

Please note that using a Firewall will not protect you from Viruses. The use of an Antivirus software package, for instance AVG (obtainable free of charge from [www.grisoft.com](http://www.grisoft.com)), alongside a Firewall should protect your computer against most malicious attacks.

## Broadband Update

We need to act now, as a community if we wish to secure Broadband locally. I am prepared to coordinate this to see what options are available for us but we need the support of local business as well as home internet users. Potential funding is available if we form a consortium of internet users to manage the project. Please contact me via email if you are keen to support this. My email address is [MarkL@iclway.co.uk](mailto:MarkL@iclway.co.uk). So far there are only 32 registrations of interest in Broadband in Killin. We need twice this number to be taken seriously. Crianlarich has only 2 registrations of interest, Lochearnhead only 8, and Tyndrum 5. You can register your interest at the web-site [www.vote4broadband.co.uk](http://www.vote4broadband.co.uk).

Mark Lincoln



## New Year's Night Dance



The Traditional dance will be held in the McLaren Hall on the evening of 1st January 2004.

Tickets are priced at:

16 and over £7, under 16 and over 65 £5

These are available from the following Lodge Members:

**Colin McRae**  
**Alex Stewart**  
**Mark Lincoln**



Tickets should be paid for on ordering

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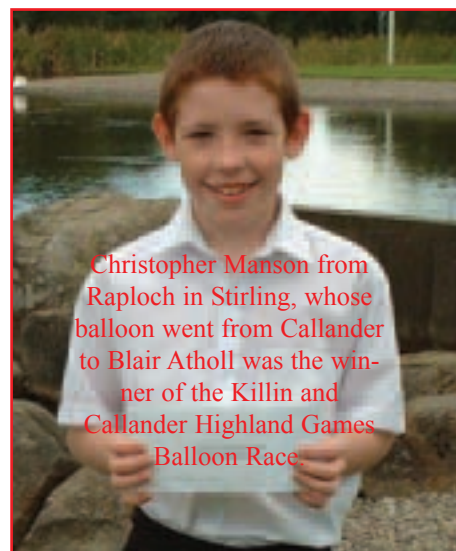




## Fundraising Efforts at Halloween



The staff of the Co-op Killin raising money for the Children's Hospice Association Scotland. Currently, CHAS has two tough challenges: Ensuring the running costs of Rachel House and completing the £10 million appeal to create and run a second children's hospice for Scotland. The Co-op aims to raise £200,000 for CHAS throughout Scotland. Thank you all who contributed.



Christopher Manson from Raploch in Stirling, whose balloon went from Callander to Blair Atholl was the winner of the Killin and Callander Highland Games Balloon Race.



Rhoann and Tommy Bickerton celebrating their 6th wedding anniversary with Harris junior born 2 July 2003.

## Frogspawn Computers



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Mark Lincoln:

Telephone: 01567 820369 Email: [markl@iclway.co.uk](mailto:markl@iclway.co.uk)



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# Killin News

**Deadlines issue 78: Ads. 9th January: Copy 16th January**

## 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.

## To advertise in the Killin News

**Rates from £12**  
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**killin.news@virgin.net**  
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Adverts are accepted in good faith and we can not be held responsible for the goods and services advertised.

Postal Address: Main Street, Killin FK21 8UW  
e-mail: killin.news@virgin.net

Telephone Office: 01567 820014  
Web site: www.killin.co.uk

## Editorial Comment

Winter at last and the challenge of a new set of road conditions. The summer / autumn season has not been problem free. We hope safety will be improved by the introduction of new mobile telephone regulations.

It is not known why our own accident hot spot south of Lix Toll has been the site for a number of cars, both visitors and locals, leaving the road. Some of these were on the same day. Wet conditions following a dry period, diesel, rubber deposits, leaves, speed and inattention have all been blamed.

Comprehensive statistics are hard to find. Why secrecy when this knowledge could help fuel the search for a remedy?

In this issue the Police Report offers an informed perspective and advice to us all. Happy and safe motoring. **WA**

## Production Committee

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

## Health & Safety and Food Hygiene Training

Hospitality Safety Services (Scotland) Ltd are providing the following courses at the Ardoenaig Outdoor Centre. The Centre Management have kindly agreed to offer the limited number of spare places to local business organisations. If you wish to attend either of the courses or would like more information on the course content, please contact:

**John Morris or Jacqueline Rice**  
**Hospitality Safety Services (Scotland) Ltd**  
**Tel: 01877 331284**

---

### REHIS Elementary Health and Safety Certificate - One day

Wednesday 14th January 2004  
Cost £55 + VAT per person

---

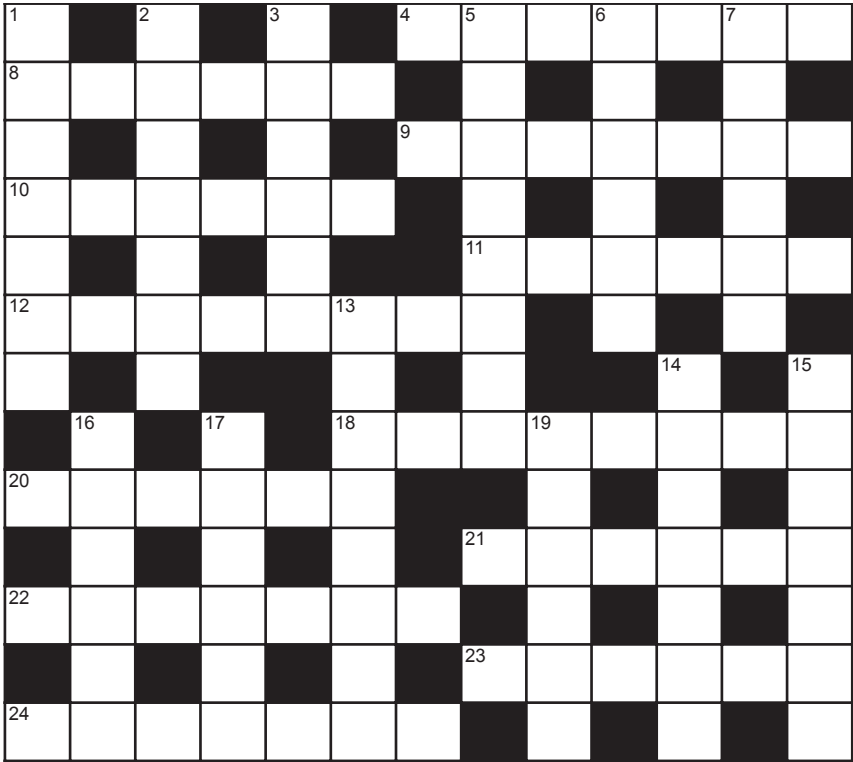
### REHIS Elementary Food Hygiene Certificate - One day

Thursday 15th January 2004  
Cost £55 + VAT per person

Costs include Lunch, REHIS Examination fee, Handbook and Certificate.  
Both courses will start at 0930 and finish at approximately 1730.



# Crossword by Scorpio



## Across

4. Scorn queen for cutting them (7)  
8. Lug warmer? - no insect (6)  
9. Praise excessively (7)  
10. A difficult pie to swallow (6)  
11. She can be found in limo generally (6)  
12. A plucky little thing (8)  
18. Honest and direct (8)  
20. Cooking utensil at hospital department becomes powerful (6)  
21. Sail haphazardly to the NE to find salt water (6)  
22. Violence of female fowl quarters? (7)  
23. Fish upset in CD is finished (6)  
24. Give up (7)

## Down

1. PR shape altered possibly (7)  
2. Voluntary instrument (7)  
3. Boneless meat or fish (6)  
5. Elderly person or antique clock (3,5)  
6. Lens on board as an admiral (6)  
7. Putrid (6)  
13. Put back or upgraded (8)  
14. Anti as giant upset (7)  
15. Nurse in ATS pays attention (7)  
16. Spot a toad holding a tuber (6)  
17. Rich in bacteria (6)  
19. North African on the French for kind of land (6)

## Solution to Crossword 76

Across 1 classless, 9 harbour, 10 appraise, 11 saddle, 12 indeed, 14 poet, 15 tesco, 16 thirst, 18 trieste, 21 nostril, 24 barber, 26 event, 30 agog, 31 neaten, 32 legate, 33 alacarte, 34 satiny, 35 sedentary,  
Down 2 lupine, 3 sorbet, 4 lairds, 5 stewpot, 6 breath, 7 borderer, 8 freestyle, 11 setto, 13 eels, 17 stabilise, 19 irregate, 20 targe, 22 sane, 23 degrade, 25 eating, 27 engage, 28 tagart, 29 beater,

**£10 for first correct solution opened.**

## Index of Advertisers



**Santa is Making a Pre-Christmas Tour of Killin!**

On 21st December Santa will be touring Killin and will be meeting up with carol singers around the Christmas tree at 8pm.

Everyone welcome.

Donations in aid of the Killin Brownies and the New Year Fireworks.

|                             |    |                            |    |
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| 24/7 Cars                   | 35 | Kenmore Hotel              | 2  |
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| Aberfeldy Chiropractic      | 12 | Killin Hotel               | 13 |
| Aberfeldy Opticians         | 18 | Library                    | 33 |
| Allerton                    | 24 | Lift Wanted                | 29 |
| Anderson Andrew & Sons      | 36 | Lix Toll                   | 20 |
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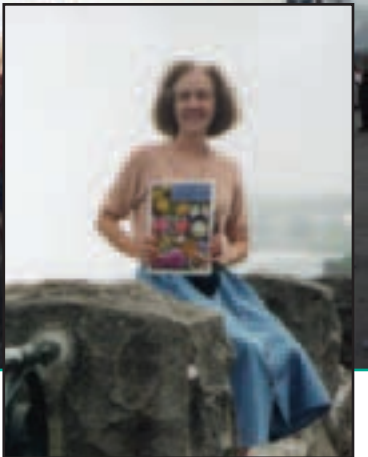




## Across the Globe



Cousins Norma MacArthur and Sandy Bickerton at Niagara Falls in August



Sue and Ron Wallace with McTigger at home in Arkansas

## Congratulations

Happy 21st, Toad!



Congratulations to Gregor Gillies for winning the Scottish Award in London this year from Titan Great Britain for excellence in oil tank installation. We are all so very proud of you. Your family and friends.

David Blaney and Julia Bates tie the knot



Married on 6th September in Morenish Chapel



## Craig Ard Hotel & Fishers Bar



Main Street, Killin, FK21 8UT  
Tel: 01567 820285 Fax: 01567-820025  
Accommodation, Restaurant and Bar

Mike and Shelagh wish everyone



**A Very Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year**



We would also like to extend our personal thanks to all the local people who have given us their support during our first year.

**Watch out for special**

**"Indian" nights, "Scottish" nights and other theme nights.**

**Coming Soon "Indian Carry-out" facility on selected evenings.**

The restaurant will be open for Christmas bookings and Party Nites from the 1st to the 24th December

Closed 25th and 26th December and open again throughout the New Year period



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&  
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