



PRICE £1

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 79 April 2004

Report Page 4

## On Safari





Leap begins at 40!



Gordon McRae about to base jump by wire 630 feet in 25 seconds on his trip to Auckland New Zealand.



John Hamilton of Stirling on 23 February 2004 with his salmon (weight - 24lb, length - 3ft 6in) caught at Firbush using an Orange Repala. Sent in by his sister Alexandra Fraser

...but does life continue?

See Brownies page 6



Four Generations

Sheila Webster, Andrew King, Margaret Anderson, Laura King, Yvonne King

## The best place to be ... in the outdoors

Monday 5 - Friday 9 April 2004  
Monday 12 - Friday 16 April 2004

### Activities

#### Programme 5-9 April

	AM	PM
<b>Mon</b>	Treasure Quest	Ropes & Archery
<b>Tue</b>	Ropes & Archery	Orienteering
<b>Wed</b>	Sailing	Ropes & Archery
<b>Thur</b>	Canoeing	High Ropes
<b>Fri</b>	Abseiling	Raft Building

#### Programme 12-16 April

	AM	PM
<b>Mon</b>	Canoeing	Ropes & Archery
<b>Tue</b>	Ropes & Archery	Team Challenges
<b>Wed</b>	Abseiling	Gorge Exploring
<b>Thur</b>	Sailing	High Ropes
<b>Fri</b>	High Ropes	Orienteering

Each day we will collect the participants at the McLaren Hall at 9.30am and return them there at 5.00pm. Only participants who have pre-booked and are on the drivers list can be picked up. A day's activity costs £15.00 per person. Second and subsequent children from the same family benefit from a discounted price of £12.00 per person. **Please book early**

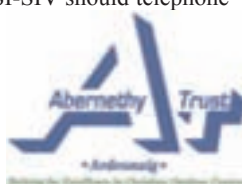
These activities are primarily aimed at children in P5 - P7. Those in SI-SIV should telephone for further information.

To make a booking please contact Angela or Morag:

Tel: 01567 820523

Fax: 01567 820955

Email: AT@ardeonaig.org www.ardeonaig.org



In November Beverley Anne Parker, younger daughter of Jimmy and Maureen Gauld of Lawers View, Killin, graduated with a BA 1st class Hons. Degree in History From University of Gloucester in Cheltenham. Beverley is now employed at Cirencester College, married with 2 children and living in Wiltshire.

# Steamer and Killin Railway Update

The last section of the steamer, the stern, is expected to arrive on site in a few weeks time. The steel vessel is being built to a Victorian design and has a hull thickness of 9mm.

The engine - a Crabtree Twin

Compound steam engine is original and was made around 1900. It is now fully restored to its former glory. The new oil fuelled boiler was manufactured by Cochranes and has a working pressure of 150 psi. A hydraulic thruster will be fitted to the bow to assist manoeuvrability during docking and undocking. A restaurant with seating for fifty will be available to the 240 passengers the steamer will be licensed to carry.

The Spirit of The Tay has an overall length of 115 feet, is 18ft 7ins wide and will have a full load displacement of

108 tonnes.

The launch at Dalerb is to be by a 300 tonne crane at a date yet to be announced. She will remain at her berth at Dalerb until fitting out is complete and should start commissioning trials in June 2004. New jobs will be created including Skippers, Engineers, and support staff.

In addition, Richard Shand and Tony Allen have proposed to reopen the dis-used railway, part of the Killin Branch Line, from the Killin Car Park to the head of Loch Tay, using a full gauge rail track. The support of the Railway Preservation Societies is being sought to assist with advice, financing, sourcing track and hardware, leasing rolling stock, and organising visiting engines. Volunteer enthusiasts may help with the construction.

A Railway Station at the Loch Tay end will act as a platform for the train extending out to a pier for boarding the Steamer. A Victorian type Station Building at the Killin Car Park would act as a Ticket Office and Information Centre.

The Killin Car Park and toilet area would receive a much needed upgrade

and include the adjacent land between the car park and the Killin Hotel, which at present is a dumping ground for the Roads Department. This ground would allow the car park to be enlarged and could also take the coaches through from the Hotel.

The developments will not affect existing access via the footpath network. A Master Plan will soon be available. It is estimated that both projects could bring up to 24 jobs to the area.

**Taken from a report to the KCC by  
Roger Twigg**

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# Safari Supper

The first Safari Supper was held in February 2000 to raise money for the Millennium celebrations and, like the Hogmanay Fireworks, it was so popular that it has continued to be part of the Killin programme ever since. This year's was the sixth and they have all been organised by Elizabeth Woods and Marion McRae, who now have the routine down to a fine art. First decide the date and advertise it in the Killin News. Then find volunteer hosts and work out how many guests they can take. Print and sell the tickets, noting any dietary requirements against names of guests. A fortnight before the date, hold a meeting of hosts who report their proposed menus. A few days before, get together and work out who is going where. This is the tricky part and takes time and lots of pieces of paper: Vegetarians to hosts who offer vegetarian dishes. Each pair to a new host for each course with different fellow guests. Then the double checks: Has enough time been allowed for each changeover? Are there any obvious mismatches? Has anyone not been moved? On the day, guests are told their first destination and hosts given lists of all guests to expect and envelopes for each pair telling them their next destination and, where necessary, their travel arrangements.

For this year's supper, on 28th February, there were 14 hosts and 68 "travellers" including many previous hosts. As most hosts were in or near Main Street, most guests were able to walk between courses and Main Street was filled with happy chatter and laughter as the evening went on and the wine intake grew greater. By the time everyone got to the Craigard for coffee and mints, the noise level was deafening as happy guests, hosts and helpers exchanged stories and continued to party (see pictures on front page!) £1137 was raised and shared equally between the Curling Pond Project and Junior Golf. Once again congratulations to Elizabeth and Marion and all who contributed in any way to a very successful evening.

MM

## Senior Citizens' Burns Supper

This was hosted again by the Killin Drama Club and held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on Friday 23rd January.

The Hall was decorated and tables laid for over 50 guests. Susan McRobbie, standing in for Douglas, who had been called back to work, recited the welcome and grace.

The diners tucked into a hearty Leek & potato soup.

Duncan MacKinnon piped in the haggis, which was carried by Gregor MacKenzie. Susan performed the Address to the Haggis in an admirable fashion. Alex Stewart toasted The Immortal Memory. Gordon Hibbert made an amusing Toast to the Lassies and Clare Wagland made a hilarious reply.

The room was filled with laughter and a general air of enjoyment throughout the evening.

Entertainment continued from Jim & Frances Cushley, Siobhan Anderson and Jessica Menzies, Mary Masterton, Paul Elson and Tam Bolton.

Tam Bolton closed the evening with a vote of thanks. The meal was provided by The Falls of Dochart Inn, The Craigard Hotel, The Killin Hotel, The Coach House Hotel and John McRae Butchers, and was served by members of Killin Drama Club, Yvonne and Richard McPherson.

LS

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# Frost Report

## Controversial Issues

Recently there has been quite a lot of talk about raptors (birds of prey) killing homing pigeons. There have been calls for some measure of control to protect the pigeons. There seems to be some support for this from M.S.P.s and rejection from organisations such as the R.S.P.B. When the Wildlife and Countryside Act was instigated there was supposed to be a licensing system to deal with occurrences such as this. As far as can be seen, these licences have never been issued.

There are many other instances of killing of domestic livestock but these have not been considered as special cases. It is going to be of great interest to see if anything comes of pigeons versus raptors in the present review. It could have lost many human lives in the last world war if carrier pigeons had not returned with vital messages and that is why birds of prey were controlled on the South coast of Britain at that time.

In the deer world issues are being raised at Glen Feshie about hinds being killed in March, this being after the season which ends on February 15th. The reason given is that the hinds are being shot when pregnant – but this is the case anyway since the rut occurs in late October.

If you heard any radio programmes about this, e.g. Lesley Riddock, then take them with a large tub of salt. It was claimed that deer were being shot in hundreds

from helicopters. In actual fact the number was far fewer and the helicopters were used to drop stalkers off at strategic points. But we all know that the Bambi syndrome makes good press. It was also said that pens were being built to catch wild deer and this was controversial. A number of years ago deer were caught in this way to stock deer farms as there was far more money in live deer, at that time, than in dead ones. So this was not exactly hot news. So be wary of what is true or what may not be. Maybe we are being monitored on the hill by some new spying device.

A couple of weeks ago we were counting deer in Glen Lochay. Coming over a rocky face above a cairn, a sleeping fox was seen. The spotter reported this on his radio and the fox opened one eye, had a look, then resumed his nap. After another conversation on the radio he lazily got to his feet, slowly stretched and sauntered off, not at all concerned that his siesta in the sun had been disturbed. It cannot be repeated what the man on the radio actually said!

There has been a national review of road accidents caused by deer so maybe at this time of year with the movement of frogs and toads from hibernation place to spawning ponds and ditches there will be a similar one for reptiles. Anyway please drive carefully for the frogs' sake.

## Keeping your dog under proper control

An extract from 'The draft Scottish Outdoor Access Code'

### You must keep your dog:

- out of fields where there are cows and calves present
- out of fields where vegetables for human consumption are growing
- on a short lead, if there is no alternative route available, in fields where sheep, lambs, and other livestock are present.
- off sports pitches
- on a short lead in areas where ground nesting birds are breeding (normally between April and July)
- under close control at all other times and on a lead in busy places;

**You must ensure** that dog dirt is disposed of safely, particularly when you are in places that are well frequented by the public (such as parks and play areas) on paths, near sports pitches, on golf courses, and near water supplies.

## RAF Commendation

An ex-pupil of Killin School, David McCallum, has been awarded a commendation by the Royal Air Force for his co-ordination of a rescue on Ben Nevis last year. He was also commended for his outstanding work with The R.A.F. Mountain Rescue Team. Dave and his colleagues are often around the Killin area training. We wish him well – well done David.

Linda Frost

## Neolithic axe

According to the Herald, the Neolithic axe at the heart of a dispute in Fife probably came from the 'axe factory' by the Tarmachan Ridge. The finder, who uncovered the 6,500 year old artefact at the foot of the Lomond Hills, has re-buried it rather than allow Kirkcaldy Museum to bid for it, saying that he will only hand it over if they sponsor his film or his book. The matter has now become a criminal case and is in the hands of the Procurator Fiscal.

WA

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# Cupboardcleaner

Jamie Hunt, 4th year pupil at McLaren High, is now managing his second web site. The first, which he started when only twelve, involved sport and sporting challenges.

His current venture 'cupboardcleaner' offers a useful and easily accessible service for all who have unwanted items



around the house, garage or grounds. Anyone who wishes to buy or sell unused or once useful items that take up valuable space are welcome to apply to his website. Why chuck it when Jamie may be able to find it a good home? You need a bicycle, or garden gnome? You never know your luck. If you are unfamiliar with computers, give him a ring on 07833 108335.

Jamie's current ambition is to use the internet as the basis of his future career. His experience and skills with Apple computers and PCs should hold him in good stead. Other interests include swimming, basketball and, as we have seen here in the Killin News, drama (see Issue 78). This is the season for spring cleaning. We wish Jamie every success.

WA

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# 1st

# Killin

# Brownies



This term Mrs Meek came to explain how people live without sight. We played touchy feely games and puzzles with Braille symbols.

Jane Brown attended almost every session helping the older Brownies complete their First Aid badge, thank you Jane.

The Brownies enjoyed the opportunity to practice mouth-to-mouth resuscitation skills on the dummy.

Sammy Hibbert came along one night for an aerobics session. This was great fun and very noisy.

We have been busy with Mothers Day cards, presents, badge work and of course, lots of fun & games.

Now we are looking forward to different types of outdoor activities, next term at the Pavilion and on the loch.

We are delighted to have 4 new Brownies. They will be making their promise on parents night at the end of March.

**Fiona Mitchell  
& Julie Rhys**

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## Stirling Settles With Nursery Nurses

A local agreement has been reached between striking Nursery Nurses and Stirling Council. It's been hailed by UNISON and the Council as laying the foundation for a more modern Early Years Service in Stirling. "If the offer we received from Stirling Council was made nationally – I believe this dispute would be over," said UNISON Branch Secretary Marion Henderson. "It's a good, respectable settlement, slightly outwith the more rigid national framework." Councillor Tom Coll, who chairs the Council's Resources Group, said: "This Council places a high value on the work of our Nursery Nurses and this settlement recognises their professionalism and provides them with a 21st century career structure".

As a result of the deal the Nursery Nurses returned to normal duties on Monday, February 2, and will take no further part in the national dispute. The Stirling settlement offers the following: Nursery Nurses will receive increases of up to 12% backdated to April 2003. A new salary scale for all Nursery Nurses ranging from £15,582 for newly qualified nursery nurses up to £18,441. The settlement will mean a single hourly rate for all Nursery Nurses, opportunities for more flexible working, and a career structure. It rewards Nurses with enhanced qualifications and recognises experience. Linda Kinney, Head of Stirling Council's Early Years Service, said: "This is a settlement that looks to the future and the development of a high quality early years service that will give our children the best possible start in life. It lays the foundation for a new modern partnership between all those working in the best interest of young children, recognising the importance of early childhood and early learning".

Don Monteith, Stirling Council

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## Farming Matters

Friday 19th March a wet windy morning with snow well down the surrounding hills, a timely reminder that winter is not over yet.

After a spell of what I would call old fashioned winter weather, a touch of frost and cold but dry weather ideal for feeding outside stock, we have had a reasonably good winter with little snow, and now look forward to spring.

In approximately 2 weeks around 1st April we will see the return of the Ewe Hoggs (2003 female lamb crop) from their winter grazings. The majority are in the North East of Scotland as far away as Buckie. This practice has been going on for many years on Hill Farms with little 'in bye' ground. It has proved to be the most suitable way to winter the Ewe Hoggs. This however is a costly exercise as they have to be hauled both ways plus wintering costs. So if you see Sandy Taylor and David Noble going through the village at all hours they are bringing the hoggs back to their respective farms which is generally from the last days of March until mid April.

After returning from wintering it is important to treat Hoggs for various diseases the most serious being Sheep Scab. This disease can be controlled by dipping sheep in an O.P. dip or by injection. The disease is contagious and if possible hoggs should not be mixed with other

sheep until treated. Later in April most hill farms will have started lambing. Again we are at the mercy of the weather and look forward to, hopefully, a good spring which in turn will help towards a successful lamb crop. Once the lambing is over towards the end of May, we are involved in starting the Summer-work, marking lambs, clipping etc.- and this work continues until the sheep (almost all) are clipped by the end of July or early August.

I will finish by wishing my friends and neighbours a successful farming year.

Alex Buchan

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# Breadalbane Tourism Event

Killin & District Tourist Association, Loch Earn Tourism Initiative and Crianlarich and Tyndrum Tourist Association were the joint hosts of this very successful leaflet distribution event held on Friday 12th March in the Killin Hotel. This was the first time an event of this type had been held in the area and over twenty visitor attractions and activity providers were present to distribute their leaflets and explain to people just what they have to offer. And what a choice - from sea-faris and land rover safaris to castles and toy collections; military museums and glorious gardens to wildlife walks, liqueur tasting and a literary jewel - and all within easy reach. Staff from Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling & Trossachs Tourist Board (joint sponsors with Stirling Council and the LL&T National Park) and Perthshire Tourist Board were also present and brought along a wide and varied range of leaflets. Two of the activity providers had staff on hand to offer canoeing and archery, and despite the very cold day, several hardy souls ventured out on to the River Lochay or tested their skills with bow and arrows. Representatives from tourism-related

businesses, based throughout the Breadalbane area of the National Park and beyond, as well as members of the general public, took the opportunity to come along and gather information, meet the providers face to face and network with each other. This sharing of information, in whatever form, should assist everyone in encouraging the tourists they come into contact with to stay longer in the area, to use it as a base for a wider range of activities and visits and to plan a return visit because there is so much to see and do.

The event merely touched the surface of what is on offer for visitors and 'locals', and brought home to many the fact that they do not know what is out there. Feedback from the activity providers/attractions, the many tourism related businesses, and members of the public who attended has been very positive, with many asking for us to repeat the exercise next year. Attractions/activity providers are the first to acknowledge that they often achieve a better response from their publicity by placing six

leaflets in a B&B than several hundreds in the general domain where they are frequently picked up and then quickly discarded. As with any good experience the



best recommendation is by word of mouth and that will hopefully encourage others, from all sectors, who did not take up the invitation this year to come along on another occasion. **Gilleen Ford**

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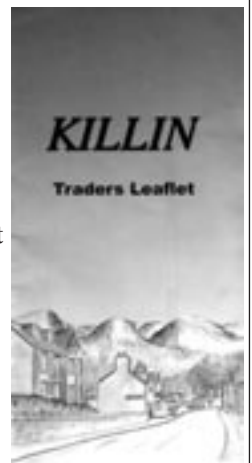
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# W.R.I.

## February Meeting

Mrs M Hunter, President welcomed members and visitors to the meeting held at the Lesser McLaren Hall on 5th February.

Mrs Kathryn Storey gave a very interesting illustrated talk on Capability Scotlands work with people of various disabilities. The vote of thanks was given by Mrs B. MacGregor.

## Competition Winners

### Jar of Marmalade

1 Mrs. B MacGregor 2 Mrs J. Willison  
3 Mrs M. Twigg.

### Pennies in a Smartie Tube

1 Mrs B. MacGregor  
2 Mrs J. Huntly/M. Hunter/B. Gordon  
3 Mrs E. Stewart/J. Willison.

## March meeting

Mrs M. Hunter welcomed members and visitors from Balquhiddie, Fearnan and Ardeonaig to the meeting in the Lesser McLaren Hall held on Thursday 4th March.

Mr Burt, a potter from Fearnan, spoke about glazes and colourings and demonstrated pot making. Four members were given the opportunity to throw a pot which was later fired in Mr Burt's kiln.

## Competition Winners

### Piece of Pottery

1 Mrs E Woods 2 Mrs J Stewart  
3 Mrs B Whyte

### 4 Squares of Tablet

1 Mrs C Reid 2 Mrs J Stewart  
3 Mrs E Stewart.

## Ardeonaig and District

## January Meeting Members Night

Margaret Taylor showed slides of St Kilda.

## Competitions winners

### Cream of Mushroom soup

1 F. Taylor 2 J. MacKenzie 3 M MacLaughlin

### Recycled Christmas cards

1 M. Taylor 2 J. MacKenzie 3 E. Campbell

## February Meeting

Talk and slides by Polly Pullar **Competition winners**

### Fruit Smoothie

1 M. Taylor 2 J. Scott 3 J. MacKenzie

### Driftwood

1 J. MacKenzie 2 M. Taylor 3 E. Cox-Hyat

## March Meeting

Talk on Homeopathic Medicines by Gerri MacNamara

## Competition winners

### Shortbread Fingers

1 M. Taylor 2 J. MacKenzie

### Pot Pourri

1 P. Hope 2 J. Scott

Janet Anderson

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## Woe is me

I despair, I despair, I'm at my wits end  
I don't understand, I can't comprehend,  
Why the folk of this country won't open their eyes  
To the litter that all around them, it lies.

It hangs in the bushes, it flaps in the trees,  
It hangs on the fences and blows in the breeze,  
It lies on the verges and covers the grass,  
And the LLTNP's signs are a farce.

There are take-away cartons from far away places,  
If this was America there'd be rubbish from Macey's,  
But what worries me most 'bout the litter we make,  
Is the fact that it's back home, this grot we should take.

They pack up their cars to come to the country,  
With all sorts of goodies in case they get hungry  
But why should we put up with the filth that they scatter,  
Do they really think folk in the country don't matter?

So before I begin to start losing the plot,  
I'll move aside and let you have a shot,  
At trying to persuade the tourists who roam,  
In this beautiful country to

**TAKE LITTER HOME!**

Emma Paterson

## A Change Of Name

After 31 years (18 years in Killin) Kirk Care Housing Association Ltd, changed its name to Trust Housing Association Ltd. on 1st March 2004. The reasons for this were firstly, that several Church of Scotland Homes closed down were reported by the media as "Kirk Homes to close". This worried Kirk Care tenants who associated this with Kirk Care sheltered housing. Secondly people used to be of the opinion that, unless they were associated with the Church, they could not apply for a tenancy, which of course is not the case, although for a while staff had to have a church connection.

The Kirk Care Housing Association was the idea of the Social Responsibility Committee of the Church of Scotland, but they realised that in order to be able to apply for housing grants it had to be a completely separate organisation. It was set up as a non-profit making company, with charitable status supported by government funding and registered with Scottish Homes. Hopefully they will be as successful with the new title as they were with the old one.

Margaret Fenna

# Computer Corner

Mark Lincoln

## BROADBAND WILL COME TO KILLIN!

Killin has now reached its target. BT is setting a date to bring in broadband. This is a major achievement for our village, and we should be proud that our efforts resulted in a successful outcome. When it arrives phone line broadband will be available to all within 6 km of the local exchange. People outside this area will need to have alternative arrangements.

Our thanks go to the e-Business team at Scottish Enterprise Forth Valley, who helped us with our campaign, in particular, Fiona Soutar and Pete McLaren who discussed rural broadband at our January Community Council meeting. They were impressed with the level of local commitment and support.

A team from "Broadband for Scotland", a partnership between Scottish Executive, Highlands and Islands Enterprise, and Scottish Enterprise, came to Killin in February, to persuade the local businesses and

residents to register their interest and took about 200 signatures for the campaign. This was fundamental to our success.

The Broadband Bus came to the village in February, and Joe Nelson, our local Broadband Advisor from Scottish Enterprise Forth Valley, ran presentations to local residents and businesses on the benefits, technologies and security issues related to broadband. He talked about possible alternative solutions, including wireless broadband, for those who live outside the effective area. The Broadband Bus, equipped with a satellite broadband internet connection, and 10 computer terminals, was provided by a partnership between Glenrothes College, and Scottish Enterprise. Broadband experts were on hand.

I would like to thank local volunteers for their strong support and the time and effort they committed to the campaign, especially Suzanne Player and the community council team for co-ordinating the activities, Julie Rhys for the production and distribution of marketing materials, and the Killin News team for delivering our flyers to the local community. For more details about broadband I suggest you visit the web site.

## Going Green

After the glorious summer last year, the Green Team is hoping for more sunshine this year. The programme of summer meetings begins on April 29th and continues every other Thursday from 6 - 7.30pm.

The Group is run by staff from Killin Primary School and rangers from the National Trust for Scotland, but any school-aged children from the local area who are interested in the world about them are welcome.

Any adults wishing to help can come along too! We use fun activities to learn about nature and the environment. Events last year included more planting in the wildlife area and putting in a path around our pond at the front of the school, watching bats emerge from a local roost and enthusiastic inspection of many other plants and creatures. Members also carried out a survey of the plants within and outside the Fingal's Stone enclosure.

This year's programme will be just as varied and we look forward to seeing some new faces.

Helen Cole

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## John Muir Report - Killin Primary School

Last year P6/7 started learning about John Muir as part of our topic on Conservation and Pollution. Gavin Skipper and Abby showed us a video of animals and paths. I didn't know there was so much litter around here. Jennifer Elliot delivered a wormery which we named Compo and Wormy. A video showed us different ways to be an Eco-school. We made leaflets about how to Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle and invented our Eco code; "Keep Killin Klean", bin it or pocket it, recycle all paper, get more active, keep feeding Compo and Wormy, nurture nature, reduce the use of electricity and water and promote green team.

Mrs. Ross, our technology teacher, and parents helped us make bird feeders, bunny soap holders, cards, flower pressed candles, Santa bottle tops and recycled Christmas card boxes for our Christmas sale. Our business is called "Killin Christmas Crafts". My label was chosen and used at the sale.

In November Gavin taught us a country game, showing us what you need for a day out in the countryside: Water/food, hot drink, money, whistle, map/compass, torch, hat/gloves/scarf, waterproofs, proper clothing, first aid kit, spare clothes,

survival bag and a mobile phone. On the 19th we went with Gavin and Callum, (Gavin's Boss) along the cycle track. We made notes about all the nature we saw. When we got back we made a leaflet using our notes. On the 27th Mr. Mardon from the National Trust for Scotland, showed us slides about Ben Lawers.

In December the Rangers helped us to make bat and bird boxes. It was great fun. In between times we had to go and practice dancing for our Christmas party! The Rangers put the boxes up along the cycle track.

In January we received our John Muir awards from Toby Clark. I really enjoyed learning about John Muir.

**Rachael Shanto P7**

## Killin School Community Gardening Club

We welcome parents or interested members of the community to come along and help the children tend their school garden. This year we hope to grow some peas, beans and lettuce as well as flowers to attract insects.



During the summer term we meet once a fortnight for an hour or so starting on Thursday 23rd April. If you think you would like to help us with your time, expertise or by donating plants, we would be delighted.

Future Dates : Thursday 23rd April, 6th May, 20th May, 3rd June, 17th June.

Contact the school or

**Julie Rhys** Tel: 820 851

## Environmental Action Killin



EAK is now into its 4th year. We have carried out numerous projects, such as constructing a walkway along the path to the head of the loch, putting up bird boxes, clearing up litter, working with the council to start recycling and composting, which will hopefully start this year. We also assist the National Park Wardens by carrying out path surveys and numerous other projects. For those wishing to join, membership is £5 for individuals or £8 for families. Even if you don't want to get involved physically, your subscription or donation would be very much appreciated.

Please contact

**Margaret Fenna** on Tel: 820206.



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## Mervyn's Weather

A friend who visits the mountains of Norway on a fairly regular basis described the transition there from winter to summer. In late May snow lies around a yard deep, then a high-pressure area becomes established, this is a pretty regular feature, so that within a few days of temperatures in the 80's nearly all of the snow disappears. With no preamble, winter changes into summer.

Here it is normally much more drawn-out. Poets and writers of lyrics enthuse about the joys of spring, for at its best this season is a wonderful unfolding of the annual rebirth of nature but like everything else it has its less desirable side. With our oceanic climate instability of weather conditions is the rule, hence the many cautionary adages and proverbs.

Most years, including 2004, we are served up an early mild spell, snowdrops reported in bloom on Christmas day. This mild spell carried on 'till mid-February.

Although a comparatively cooler interlude occurred, it did not stop some daffodils coming into bloom here on the roadside on 6th February, despite the predations of motorists who, when meeting another vehicle, are unwilling or unable to reverse the four yards to a wider passing place.

Thereafter for the rest of February and

early March colder though mainly settled conditions ensued, slowing down any precocious advance of the blooming of flowers and shrubs although this did ensure that snowdrops are still in full and unsullied bloom (20th March).

Except for the odd snow flurry and an occasional brief dusting, Loch Tayside escaped the heavy snowfall of further north and elsewhere. Some trees and deeper rooted shrubs, benefiting from geo-physical warmth, are coming into bloom on cue, among them larches, prunus, and others. Although large flocks of peewits and oyster-catchers have been observed further down the strath they have been fairly reluctant to press on upstream. Sadly the abundant oyster-catchers around here are no more, last year only one pair was in evidence, this no doubt due to predation by mink and raptors. Hill ewes seem to have wintered well and already those that have been scanned carrying twins are daily appearing more maternally.

At present the conditions are comparatively mild though unsettled. East winds could still return, burning up pasture before lambing begins mid/late April and the cuckoo returns to gladden our hearts.

Mervyn K. Browne, Ardtalnaig



## Fingal's Stone



### Breadalbane Park -Sron a Clachain

The path work is now complete!! Anyone wishing to visit the Fingal Stone can do so without getting their feet wet or muddy. A link to the new housing has been added and we are waiting for Ogilvies to complete their section. When this is finished you will be able to walk to the Fingal Stone and Breadalbane Park from Fingal Road.

Thank you Kay at the library for conducting a survey on the name for the "hill path". In a previous article I referred to the "hill path" as Creag Bhuidhe, but was informed by a number of people that it should be called Sron a Chlachain. I am happy to say that following a unanimous decision the "hill path" will be known as Sron a Chlachain, and this is the name that will appear on the signposts and leaflet. As promised the first twenty metres of the "hill path" has been built to a high standard to stop the ground from turning into a quagmire at the point where the path leaves Breadalbane Park for Sron a Chlachain.

Gavin Skipper  
National Park Ranger

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## Killin Primary School Board

After many years without a school board the inaugural meeting of the new School Board was held on Thursday 19th February. The parent representatives on the Board are Les Berrow (Chairman), Julie Rhys, John Wyllie and Susan McRobbie. George Weir is the staff representative and there are two co-opted members from the community, Moira Meek and Kay Riddell. Sandra McKellar has been appointed to take care of all the clerical duties. Councillor Tony Ffinch, together with two representatives from Stirling Council Children's services, Colin McMenemy and Rebecca Maxwell and Head Teacher Sandra Logan, also attended the meeting.

It was an opportunity to agree to the various statutory duties, and to think about and discuss how to proceed as a Board. Our first priority is to prepare a School Board action plan which should be available in the near future - watch this space! School Board meetings are open to parents of children at Killin Primary School who are very welcome to attend. The agenda will be posted in the window of Mrs Frost's classroom and minutes of meetings will be available from the school.

This is a new experience for us all. We are very enthusiastic and look forward to keeping everyone in touch with what we are doing.

Susan McRobbie

### Killin Summer Theatre Group

Shake off winter blues! Make plans for Summer! Come and join us for a great day out and a good seat in the stalls at a once-a-month matinee to see six super plays at Pitlochry Festival Theatre: (with lunch beforehand). From 'farce' to 'thriller', this year's repertoire promises a feast of entertainment from May to September. For season ticket details, please contact

**Morag Lithgow** Tel: 820440.

### Local Virtual Learning Centre Project Receives Major Funding

This project, which is being led by a group of local people from Killin, Strathfillan, Balquhitter and Strathyre, is just about ready to get under way.

The aim is to use laptop computers and broadband connections in villages across the 3 community council areas to offer access to ICT facilities and training to as many local people as possible.

We have already received funding from Direct Grants to employ a Co-ordinator for the project and some of the capital funds are in place from the Community Development Planning Fund.

We are just waiting to hear the outcome of some other funding bids and we will be ready to offer training to individuals, groups and businesses. We want to hear what people would like to learn and how we can best use these resources. If you have been looking for a particular course - maybe in digital photography or how to design a brochure - or you just want to get to grips with your computer - get in touch with us so that we can design our first training programme to meet your needs. Courses and internet cafés will be advertised widely by poster and word of mouth - so please look out for information or give us a call.

Julie Rhys Tel: 820851  
Suzanne Player Tel: 820154



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# New View



Since the beginning of the year there has been extensive felling along the Auchmore Circular Walk which has completely changed the outlook from the Auchmore Drive. The Auchmore Wood is no more and what before was a pleasant walk in between trees, is now a more open track with views of the Loch which have been opened up for the first time in at least thirty years. When the scars have healed perhaps there will also be the spectacular display of foxgloves which always seems to follow tree extraction. For the last few months the Drive has not been easy walking as it has been badly churned up and very muddy. Although temporary work is planned to improve the surface, there is some felling still to be done and large lorries removing logs may still be encountered until July or August.

MM

## Paper Collection Dates

April 16th, 30th

May 7th, 21st, 28th

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## This will floor you

The children's or any spare bedrooms may have their floors relieved of the dull and commonplace look if the following cheap method of covering the floor is utilised. Thoroughly clean, the floor with hot water and soap, afterwards filling all crevices with paper putty. This is made by soaking ordinary newspapers in a paste made by adding a tablespoonful of crushed alum and a pound of the cheapest flour to three quarts of water.

Having filled, the crevices, obtain some sheets of cheap brown wrapping paper, and paste them flat upon, the floor, taking care to avoid wrinkles. If possible, have two layers of this paper, allowing the first to become thoroughly dry before pasting on the second layer.

A wallpaper of suitable design is now pasted over the brown paper, and coated with two or three coats of size. A size very suitable for this may be made by dissolving half a pound of cheap carpenter's glue in two quarts of hot water.

Let a couple of days elapse and apply one coat of hard varnish. The floor will then have a durable, airtight covering which may be washed and scrubbed in the ordinary manner.

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## 29th Stirling (Killin) Boy's Brigade



The annual parents and friends evening was Friday 19th March 2004.

Mrs. Margaret Ogilvie the inspecting officer presented the boys with the following awards:

**1 Year Perfect Attendance:** Dale Pritchard and Jack Gibson

**6 Years Perfect Attendance:** Garreth and Steven Tigwell

**Junior Section: Best Group:** Jack Gibson

**Company Section: Best Squad:** Peter Campbell

After the evening's entertainment Mrs. Ogilvie presented Ryan Douglas with the 'Best Drilled Boy' cup for the 7th year in a row. She then gave a brief account of how the Killin Boys' Brigade started. B.B. Chairperson Mrs. Alex Tigwell thanked the officers on behalf of all the boys and parents for their hard work throughout the year. A delicious tea and friendly chat was then enjoyed by all. Killin Boy's Brigade wish to thank everyone for their continued support and generous donations.

Chris McLarty

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# Drama



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## ***The Falls of Dochart Inn***

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### ***New Restaurant***

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Some of the local catches at the start of the season weighing in at the Falls of Dochart Inn





# Festival



Team  
ns (sound), Lesley Syme  
d Glenda Mardon (actors)  
mpt and makeup), Douglas  
lighting)  
pt and makeup)




Tryst Theatre from Falkirk - Winners of the  
Outlook Tower Trophy with "Travels with my Aunt"  
(abridged) by Giles Havergal from the novel by  
Graham Greene




The "Evergreens"  
side by side  
in the Mini Bus  
See page 19

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# Killin Hosts Drama Festival

Thirteen months ago Killin hosted the District round of the Scottish Community Drama Association's One Act Play Festival and, although our plays did not win any prizes, Killin won a tremendous accolade with the opportunity to host the Divisional Final 2004 on 15th to 27th March. This was not a chance for us to make money as all income goes to the SCDA, but it was a chance for us to show off our facilities and hospitality and, above all, the friendliness of Killin folk.

Organisation of the event has involved a lot of hard work from everybody involved. Information about Killin's accommodation and services was collated and sent to 160 members of the SCDA. The McLaren Hall was redecorated and new curtains put up, probably not at the best time for the regular hall users, but anybody who has seen the result will agree that it was worth it and Festival visitors were most complimentary. During the week before there was

a great deal of activity in and around the hall, portakabins and the Mountain Rescue caravan were brought in to act as dressing rooms for the teams. The Lesser hall was transformed into a "Theatre Bar", and the box office was utilised to complete the "theatre" feel. The Killin Drama Club also managed to find time to "go on tour" and visit as many of the District rounds as possible to see what the qualifying teams would require.

The Festival featured the best of theatre from nine clubs as far afield as Kirkcaldy, Edinburgh, Fintry, Yetholm with three plays presented each night for three nights - including one from Killin. Adjudicator Tom Doherty from Ireland had the difficult task of selecting the top two to go on to the Scottish Finals to be held in Inverness in May.

Killin's own Bunty MacGregor presented the trophies at the end of Saturday night.

LS

## Winners:

**First: Outlook Tower Trophy:** Tryst Theatre with "Travels with my Aunt" (abridged) by Giles Havergal from the novel by Graham Greene

**Second: Moffat Trophy:** Mercators with "The Café" by Neville Watchhurst

**Third: Bob Buchanan Salver:** Aberdour Players with "The Ark" by Helen Griffin

## Stage Presentation:

**Say Trophy:** Tryst Theatre

**Production: John Duncan**

**Quaich:** Tryst Theatre

**Best Moment of Theatre: Jimmy**

**Brown Trophy:** Killin Drama Club with "The Evergreens" by David Campton

**Best Comedy: Jean Fleming**

**Quaich:** Kirkcaldy Amateur Dramatic Society with "When I Snap my Fingers" by Bruce Adam

**Full Length Play Winner: Fraser**

**Neal Trophy:** Leith Theatre with "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest"

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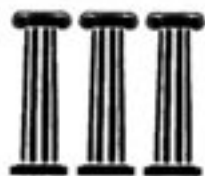
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**Kirkcaldy Amateur Dramatic Society Winners of the Jean Fleming Quaich for Best Comedy with "When I Snap my Fingers" by Bruce Adam**

### Other Festival entries

**Bowhouse Amateur Theatre** - The Virtuous Burglar by Dario Fo

**Fintry Amateur Dramatic Society** - 100 by Diene Petterle, Neil Monaghan & Christoper Heimann

**Bowmont Theatre** - Between Mouthfuls by Alan Ayckbourn

**Linlithgow Players** - A Light Lunch by Bridget Derrett

### Thank You

Killin Drama Club would like to thank everybody who helped make the Drama Festival weekend a success. We cannot even begin to make a list as we would definitely be guilty of leaving somebody off! Whether you provided goods, services or your own time it is very much appreciated by Killin Drama Club, the SCDA and all of the drama enthusiasts who came to Killin for the weekend.

LS

## Killin "Evergreens" sing for Drama

The Killin entry into the Drama Festival required a sound effect of elderly people singing "Side by Side" on a bus. Not satisfied with the offerings available on the internet, we enrolled the help of seven ladies from Killin Rural Day Care. One week we rehearsed the song with them and the following week we took them for a spin on the mini bus whilst recording the singing. It was perfect and gave us the results we wanted for the play, and their involvement perfectly epitomises what community drama is all about.

LS

(Picture page 17)

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# New Owners Drumfinn



Welcome to John and Cath Goulden the new owners of Drumfinn. Unfortunately ill health forced Barry and Linda Blackwell to sell after just under eighteen months. They were sorry to leave the area. This is a new venture for Cath and John who have no experience in the hospitality trade but are very keen to put their guests' comfort and needs as a priority and hope to build up a good repeat business. John is a timed served Baker and ran a successful bakery south of Doncaster for 20 years. They both then had a career change. John joined

the Police as a detention officer for the Nottingham Force and Cath worked in a Doctor's surgery. She also brought up a daughter who is now a prison officer in Wakefield.

Cath bred and

showed dogs for 30 years. She specialised in Daschunds and Afghans. They have six wee daschies with them!

They found Killin by coming here on holiday with their caravan and staying at Maragowan in July. They liked it so much they came back again in October. One thing led to another and now they are living here. John, a motorbike fanatic, is hoping to arrange a few "meets" in the area, he is also an avid sailor.

Hope you have a good first season.

**D.G.**

## Killin Community Council 9th March 2004

**The £500 Calor Gas Award** for the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home will be distributed as follows: £150 to the Tuesday Club, £150 to the Retirement Home, £100 to the new Youth Movement Group and £100 to be for Group future spending.

**Proposed Railway Update** (see report on page 3).

**The Cemetery Car Park:** Money is required for planning permission.

**Fingal Road Development:** A meeting between Stirling Council and residents had been held about their concerns.

**Floral Association:** More flower baskets etc to be put at either end of the village.

**BEAR:** Investigating the flooding at Glenoglehead and road camber above Lix Toll.

**Breadalbane Park:** J.Stewart, Parks Convener, asked for an authority badge as he has been challenged in the Park. Dogs must be kept under control (see page 5). Cllr. Finch to report back as to who is responsible for the Breadalbane Park. Stirling Council to be contacted again regarding drainage.

**Refuse Collections.** All complaints to be addressed directly to David Hopper. New refuse lorries come into force in October. Skips may be withdrawn but Cllr. Finch is trying to keep the skip in Killin.

**Disability Act,** October 2004, comes into force for shops etc.. Stirling Council has not given advice to small shopkeepers.

**Traffic speed:** Police are being asked to monitor the speed of traffic in the area of the zebra crossing. The possibility of a twenty mph limit will be investigated.

**The date for the next meeting** and AGM will be Tuesday 11th May, 2004 in the Primary School at 7.30 pm.

Plants for the garden

## Gatehouse Nursery

Seed potatoes, Onion sets, Bedding Plants,  
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## 40 years and still on tap



**Peter Sinclair, Flora Fraser (widow of Ian) and Mick Grant**

In 1964, at the age of 15, Peter Sinclair left school at the start of the Easter holidays. Peter was keen to stay in Killin and sought employment locally. Plumbing was not his first choice. Primarily Peter wanted to be a mechanic and approached Hamish MacGregor, one of the local garage owners, with a view to being taken on as an apprentice. At the time Hamish didn't need anyone. MacGregor's garage was on the site that is now Costcutters and Dochart Crafts. Peter's second choice was to be an electrician but, as the nearest electricians were in Aberfeldy and Peter could not drive, that was not an option. Ian Fraser known locally as "The Colonel" offered Peter an apprenticeship as a plumber. Ian's father, Alex C. Fraser, started the business in 1928 in Kenmore and branched out to Killin and Aberfeldy. Peter started his apprenticeship, which in those days was 5 years, working with Ian Fraser, his son Alistair,

Jimmy McKenzie and Bill Ogilvie. Peter remembers his first job which was the plumbing of 18 houses at Marshall Crescent in Callander. When it was time for Ian to retire, Michael Grant bought the business and retained the name of A.C. Fraser & Son. So, effectively, at Easter this year Peter will have been with the firm of A.C. Fraser & Son for forty

years.

He is now sharing all his knowledge with Sonia Grant, who has just completed the first year of a 3 year apprenticeship. Peter admitted that he never thought he would see the day he had a female apprentice!! In the little spare time that he has, he enjoys walking and cycles for miles, weather permitting! Well done Peter.

**D.G.**

## 200 years and still trading



I am a MacEwen of D & J MacEwen the wine merchant and grocer in Killin and number of other Perthshire and Stirlingshire towns until the seventies. We are celebrating the 200th anniversary of the company and, as I work in PR, I have been tasked with spreading the word. I am particularly keen that former employees and customers, who may remember D. & J.s, are informed that we still exist.

**Graham MacEwen**

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## Rubbish – Have you got it sorted?

Hopefully most people are now getting used to the new kerbside collection service in Killin. So far, across Stirling Council area, the overall recycling rate has doubled from 10.2% during the pilot phase in 2002/3 to around 21% in early 2004. This is really helping the Council get closer to the first national recycling target of 25% by 2006. However, much steeper recycling targets are yet to come beyond 2006, so we will need everyone to continue sorting and recycling every week in order to meet these.

### Here are some further tips to help you.

The recycling boxes will be emptied every week on your normal collection day. The brown and green wheelie bins will be emptied fortnightly on alternate weeks, with the brown bin emptied one week and the green bin emptied the next. The leaflet which arrived with your brown bin contains a calendar showing which wheelie bin is to be collected each week for the next year.

Remember – you can put plastic milk bottles (and other bottles with the HDPE plastic type number 2 recycling symbol – e.g. some washing up bottles, shampoo bottles) in your recycling box as well as cans (aluminium & steel), clean foil, glass (bottles and jars), dry textiles and paper.

Other types of plastic, such as PET (category 1) plastic bottles will hopefully be

recyclable soon, with plastic bottle banks to be located at the Killin Recycling Point.

### The brown bin is for compostable

**waste** – green garden waste and all types of cardboard packaging. Please note that, due to new national regulations, vegetable peelings and other kitchen waste cannot go in the brown bin. If you have a home composting bin, you can compost these at home. Those without a home composter should put these in the green bin.

Work on constructing the **Community Composting site** is almost completed, and plans are underway to launch this facility soon – look out for more details or contact David Riggle at Stirling Council.

Finally, don't worry if you still have an issue or problem regarding the new kerbside scheme! There are still issues to be resolved, particularly in a rural area such as Killin, where one solution doesn't suit all. We are currently trying to resolve issues we are aware of – for example by bringing in new vehicles better suited to narrow, bumpy roads; or arranging suitable collection points for isolated houses. Further information and advice can be obtained from the Stirling Council website ([www.stirling.gov.uk/waste](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/waste)), or by phoning 0845 277 7000.

Caroline Crawford

## Oh No Not Again!

Mention rubbish collection or recycling in a group and you get one of two reactions – usually preceded by groans. People are either bored by the subject or can't wait to tell you the problems they are having with theirs – and sometimes both.

The lack of brown bins is yesterday's topic as most people have finally got them even if many use them only occasionally – for cardboard, say – as they compost garden waste at home.

Blue boxes, however, are still a problem. It's quite interesting to walk along Main Street after a collection and see what is left in the boxes – large plastic lemonade bottles, plastic bags, various other plastic items and fabrics all apparently unwanted. Yes, we have been told that any plastic with 2 in a triangle is OK but you need a magnifying glass to search plastic containers to find the triangle in the first place and, having spent hours searching and finding an item with tiny 2 on it, this is rejected by the bin men because they aren't supplied with magnifying glasses. Most plastic, apart from milk bottles it seems, is not yet recyclable in this area. Taking bottles, newspapers and aluminium cans to recycling banks and clothes and fabrics to charity shops is still a good idea – particularly in the areas where blue boxes have either never or only rarely been collected.

When will the new vehicles designed for collecting from narrow bumpy roads be ready? There are a lot of such roads in rural areas but nobody seems to have remembered this when giant blue box collectors were ordered. As for the suggestion that blue boxes should be delivered to central access points and then collected again when empty, how environmentally friendly is that? Two extra trips by car for each household each week!

### STAFF REQUIRED

STRATHFILLAN WIGWAMS  
TYNDRUM

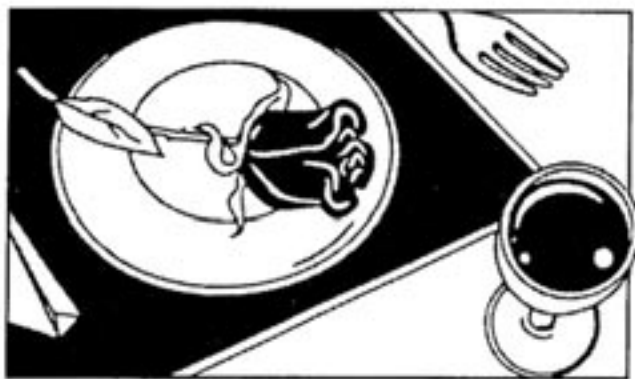
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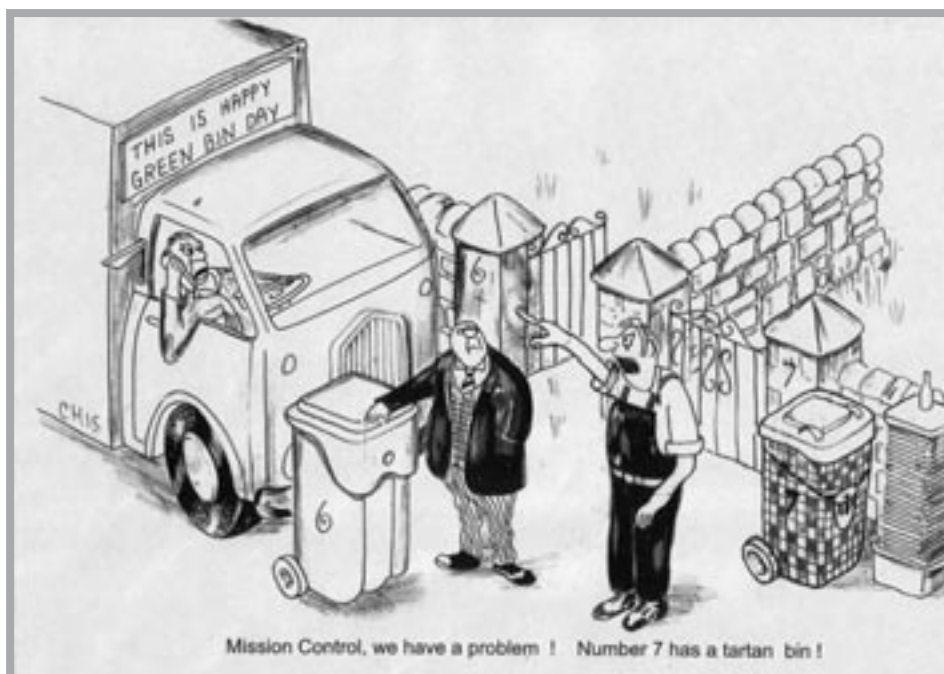
And for some households with their own water and sewage systems the only direct benefit from their Council Tax is rubbish collection!

Which brings us back to the good old green bin, which still has to take most of the things it used to take but is being collected half as often – particularly difficult for families.

Yes, you can ring Stirling Council and complain but usually the person who has the answer isn't there or calls aren't returned or there isn't a solution to your problem.

Recycling is an excellent idea and won't it be wonderful when the teething problems have sorted themselves out and we don't have to talk about it anymore!

**Victoria Meldrew**



### Mobile Library Times

Tyndrum/Crianlarich  
Fortnightly Fridays April 9, 23  
May 7, 21 June 4

Crianlarich  
Willow Square 12.05 – 12.35  
Police Station & School 1.40 – 2.30

Tyndrum  
Station Road 10.50 – 11.10  
Clifton 11.15 – 11.40  
Mansefield 11.45 – 12.00

Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig  
Fortnightly  
Mondays April 5, 19  
May 3, 17, 31 June 14

Benmore 2.35 – 2.55  
Suie Lodge 3.05 – 3.25

Glenlochay 10.50 – 12.30  
Ardeonaig 2.00 – 2.45

### Bric-a-brac sale

This year's bric-a-brac sale will be held on Wed. 4th August from 10 am to 4 pm. Your contributions have been greatly appreciated in the past and we look forward to receiving your continued support. Further information will be given in the next issue of the Killin News or please contact

**May Aitken on 820358  
or Babs Gordon 820470**

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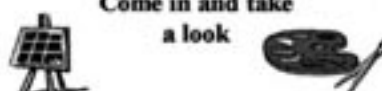
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## Strathfillan - "By The Way"

### Message from the Minister

Ash Wednesday saw the beginning of the season of Lent, which lasts for 40 days ending at Easter. Those 40 days of Lent remind us of the 40 days Jesus spent fasting in the desert preparing himself for the rigorous demands of the work he believed God had given him to do. Many people give up something they enjoy for Lent as a way of reminding themselves of Jesus' obedience and the value of self-discipline – not very popular ideas in our time! I say this because we read and hear daily in the media about problems of excessive debt, consumption of alcohol and unhealthy foods, which combined with a lack of exercise lowers our level of healthy living. Now I'm no better than anybody else in all this, but I have the wee niggles in the back of my head about the value of self-discipline, of treating my mind and body – as well as my inner spirit – in a way that recognises that though they belong to me, I was given them as a free gift and therefore have a duty of care for them. That takes a bit of practice and I find Lent a good time to start. A final thought. I heard a professor say

on the radio the other day that we are becoming obsessed with believing we can always find something better – car, house, partner? 'When you have found something *good enough*,' he said, 'be happy with that and stop looking.' Be at peace with yourself this Lent.

**Reverend John Shedden**  
**The Manse Dalmally**

### Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Our last 'Strathfillan Lunch Club' meal of this winter season was on 26th March. The Lunch Club meets monthly in Crianlarich Village Hall where we enjoy each other's company and a good meal. Younger members serve lunch to the older members. We average 20 people per sitting, and highlights this year have included an outing to Killin Pantomine, as well as Burns' poems and tales from Jim and Jean Kinnell of Tyndrum. The Club is run by a volunteer committee, assisted by the Trust. We receive some funds from Stirling Council's Community Grant Scheme. Thanks to all who came along this year,



especially to Lesley Thomson from the Rod and Reel, who provided magnificent meals. New members are always welcome.

Our 'Rural Voices' project, undertaken jointly with Strathfillan Community Council, held an open event on Friday 19th March to share ideas for developing the Station Yard in Crianlarich, and improving health, leisure and training services in Strathfillan. The number of locals who attended was disappointing, although it was helpful to see those that did come along. Thank you for making the effort.

In April, we will move our Trust Office into Tyndrum Village Hall. The community approached the Trust with a proposal, which we hope will be of benefit: the Trust is establishing a telephone link, and will screen off a small area for the office, making it much more accessible. The community will benefit by the Trust promoting more use of the hall, and maintaining it.

The Trust office phone number remains unchanged.

**Sue Wyllie SCDT Office**  
**Tel: 01838 400545**

**Mains  
Of  
Murthly  
Aberfeldy**

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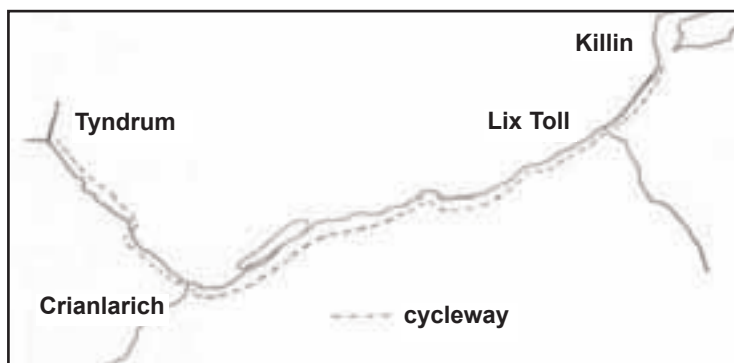


# Killin-Crianlarich-Tyndrum Walk and Cycleway

This project is being developed in partnership with Strathfillan Community Development Trust, Killin Community Council, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, SNH (Scottish Natural Heritage), Sustrans, Stirling Council and members of the local community.

Over 100 people attended an exhibition on the Killin - Crianlarich - Tyndrum Walk and Cycleway on Saturday 17th January in Tyndrum and on Saturday 31st January in Killin. They were able to view the map of the proposed route, read through the feasibility study and hear about proposals for this new route. A number of displays highlighted the opportunities for local business and showed how the route fits into the "larger picture" with direct links to the West Highland Way and National Cycle Network Route 7. Other displays included information on safe cycling and healthy living. The route, agreed in principle, with the various landowners, would cross the A85 just south of Lix Toll, where a

new foot bridge would be constructed. The path would then stay on the south side of Glen Dochart (avoiding any further crossing of the A85) making use of the old railway line together with forestry tracks and new built sections where required. It would enter Crianlarich via the Community Woodland before passing through the village (new road calming measures would be put in place) and on to Tyndrum. The majority of the route through Strathfillan would be on the south side of the A82 where a new path would be constructed in the forestry adjacent to the main road. As well as providing a safe off-road cycling route this path would allow West Highland Way walkers a low level alternative to the main track and should reduce the number who strug-



gle along the grass verge of the busy A82. There would be one major road crossing close to Kirkton Farm, thereafter the route would follow the line of the West Highland Way into Tyndrum. The next phase of this project involves finalising landowner access agreements and attracting the necessary funding. As we are unlikely to receive all the funding required to complete the project at one time, the route would be developed in phases. Work will probably start on the section between Tyndrum and Crianlarich.

**Gavin Skipper**  
National Park Ranger

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

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

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# Police Report

## Speeding

Over a third of fatal road accidents in Central Scotland area occur on the A84. Whilst a number of these deaths relate to motorcyclists, this is not always the case. Speed plays a major part but is not the sole cause of these fatalities. More detailed research is being carried out by Central Scotland Police Traffic Department. A programme of enforcement and education has commenced in a bid to reduce the number of accidents and fatalities. There are regular patrols in Killin, Lochearnhead, Strathyre, Crianlarich and Tyndrum by local officers supplemented by officers from the traffic department. The speed limit in all the local villages is now 30mph.

## How Secure Are You?

Central Scotland is one of the safest places to live in the United Kingdom. However it is sensible to take some simple precautions to reduce your risk of becoming a victim and make you safer when you are at home or away.

### These include: -

1. Fit good quality lights outside your house that are left on throughout the hours of darkness. Annual running costs around £5.
2. If you are going out during the hours of darkness, close curtains and blinds, and leave lights on in living areas. A

time switch can do this automatically.

3. Create the illusion there is someone at home by leaving a radio playing or a car in the driveway.

4. Security Mark valuable items with your postcode. If they are stolen and later recovered, they can be returned to you. Property marking kits and warning stickers "Marked Property" for displaying on your front and rear doors are available free of charge at your local police office.

### If you are away for a longer period consider-

1. Cancelling deliveries of milk, newspapers, mail, etc.
2. Let neighbours know you are away.
3. Leave small valuable items, like jewellery, on deposit at the bank or consider installing a small floor safe. Don't lock internal door or desks as they may be forced if someone does break in.
4. Lock the garage and shed with proper security locks after putting all your tools away so they cannot be used to break into your property. If you have to leave a ladder outside, put it on its side and lock it to a secure fixture.

These are a few of the measures, further advice backed up by leaflets on all areas of security, Home, Car, Caravan, Bicycle or Personal is available at your local police office. Feel free to call and speak to Andy or Ian at any time. Stocks of battery-powered alarms for garages,

sheds and outbuildings, and personal attack alarms, are held at the police office and available at the subsidised cost of £5. Free home security surveys are also available.

## Breadalbane

### Crime Prevention Initiative

About a year ago on the advice of the local police, the three Community Council areas of Strathfillan, Lochearnhead/Balquhiddier and Killin, applied for funding from Stirling Community Planning for a crime prevention initiative involving Crime reduction poster cases and battery alarms. A grant was awarded for the aluminium poster cases that you can now see, strategically placed, in Killin, Crianlarich and Lochearnhead. They are permanent fixtures and will display messages on a variety of topics that have been highlighted as local problems in meetings between the community councils and the police. This will include a display on Security in April and Speeding in May and will be accompanied by articles in the Killin News.

Andy Fleming

## Ardeonaig Road

Further to recent letters, articles and last months poem regarding the Ardeonaig road, I recently found the following description in the book "A Survey of Lochtayside 1769" by M.McArthur. "we see the loch, fifteen miles long; the high hills on either side of it, those on the south side more wooded than those on the north; a good road running along the north side of the loch and an indifferent one on the south side." Not a lot has changed in 235 years, although many of us would use something more forceful than "indifferent" were the article to be written today.

Dino

## Forth Valley Advocacy

Forth Valley Advocacy is an organisation providing a free and confidential service throughout Falkirk, Stirling and Clackmannanshire.

The organisation has expanded over the last year to increase the accessibility of the service.

It works with people experiencing mental ill health and with older people to provide independent support and representation to ensure their views are heard.

For example, if you require support to attend a meeting or information to help support views, then it could assist with this or it can speak on your behalf. Being faced with choices over care options for older people can be daunting and someone independent who can explore all the options with you can be of real benefit.

If you feel their service could be of use to you or someone in your life, please ring them on 01324 557070.

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# What's On in Killin and District

## April

18 Loch Earn Charity Boat Race  
21 Herb Society Meet Plant Dyes Killin Hotel 7pm  
25 National Park Event Time Travel (Tel 830430)  
29 Green Team 6pm School Pond

### Bowls

Starts May  
Monday and Friday afternoons  
Tuesday evening

### Gaelic

Mondays  
Beginners L'head Village Hall 1.00 - 3.00pm  
Intermediate Killin School 5-7pm  
Advanced Killin School 7-9pm  
starting 19th April

## May

1 National Park Event Celtic Festival Beltane (Tel 830430)  
11 Community Council Meeting School 7.30pm  
11 Community Council AGM  
12 Killin Golf Club Senior Gents Open  
13 Green Team 6pm School Pond  
19 Herb Society Meet The Herbalist's Garden Pitnacree 10am  
23 National Park Event Nettles Week (Tel 830430)  
27 St Fillan's Golf Club Seniors Open  
27 Green Team 6pm School Pond  
29 Killin Golf Club Mixed Open

### Keep Fit

**Monday** 10 - 11am  
starting 19th April  
**Tuesday** 7.00 - 8.00pm  
Circuit training 8.15 - 9.00pm  
McLaren Hall

### Brownies

Mondays 6.30pm  
Church Hall

### Highland Dancing

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

### Tiddlers and Toddlers

Fridays 9.30am  
Church Hall

## June

5 Killin Golf Club Ladies Open  
5 St. Angus Church Bazaar Lochearnhead 2pm

Please let us have details of dates of events during June July and August for inclusion in the next issue

### Playgroup

Fridays 9.30am  
Lesser Hall

### Youth Group

Wednesdays  
Lesser Hall 7.00pm  
Starting 21st April

### Line Dancing

Thursdays 7.30pm  
McLaren Hall

### Upholstery

Mondays 10.30 - 1.30pm  
McLaren Hall  
starting 19th April  
Tuesdays 12.00-3.00pm  
L'head Village Hall  
starting 20th April

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Stuart on:  
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07855 496961



## CraigArd Hotel

and Fishers Bar

Main Street, Killin

Licensed Restaurant

Telephone: 01567 820285

Fax: 01567 820025

STB 3 star. All rooms en-suite





# Killin News

**DEADLINES Issue 80 : Advertising 7 May, Copy 14 May**

## Editorial Comment

### All Change for Killin

Killin is undergoing a phase of unprecedented change with mild winters, new building, rising house prices and the National Park as some of the drivers.

With UK and worldwide connections, the increasingly inhospitable political climate in some foreign holiday destinations and ever larger disposable incomes, it is likely that an increasing number of visitors will be attracted, to escape from the cities.

The National Park has introduced measures to control the influx of visitors, for example the coordinated planning by riparian owners to agree the usage of lochs, plans which could displace jet skis and speedboats to less controlled lochs, such as Loch Tay. The draft countryside access code gives rights and responsibilities to visitors and landowners and may encourage tourists from England where access is much more rigidly controlled. Fortunately the people of Killin are concerned for, and involved in, the future of this remarkable village and their voice is represented by an effective Community Council. We need to be proactive in our planning, to welcome responsible users and be aware of unintended consequences.

WA

### Editorial Policy Statement

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed 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.

### New Email address

From now we will be using our new email address (see below). This will eliminate 95% of the spam that floods into our computer so saving up to half an hours work every day. We hope this will be a more efficient service. The letterbox on the office door will always remain the most effective system.

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

### To advertise in the Killin News

**Rates from £12 Contact.. Tel: 01567 820298**

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 Telephone Office: 01567 820014

e-mail: [killin.news@zoom.co.uk](mailto:killin.news@zoom.co.uk)

Web site: [www.killin.co.uk](http://www.killin.co.uk)

## Annual General Meeting of the Killin News

The AGM of the Killin News will be held in the Killin News Office, Main Street, Killin  
at 7.30 pm on Friday  
16th April 2004  
All are welcome

## A.C. FRASER & SON LAWN MOWER SALES, SERVICE & SHARPEN

FOR IMMEDIATE COLLECTION  
AND DELIVERY SERVICE CALL

**01567 820277 / 386**

OR CALL INTO

**EUREKA HARDWARE SHOP**





## Obituary

### Hope MacDonald

Hope MacDonald was born in Aberfeldy the only girl in a family of six all of whom predeceased her.

After leaving Breadalbane Academy she trained at Athole Crescent in Edinburgh and then had a variety of jobs including a spell in the WRNS. She took a secretarial course and first came to the area as a secretary with the Hydro scheme in Glen Lyon and then at Morenish. She went to New Zealand in the sixties and worked there for three years.

When she came back to Scotland she worked in an architects' office in Edinburgh until she returned to Perthshire as secretary to the doctor in Killin. She soon got involved in various local activities and her secretarial expertise was very useful to the ladies' section of the Golf Club, the Bowling Club and the Community Council among others.

After she retired she was a hospital car driver and she also helped out by acting as occasional organist in both churches. Unfortunately she had problems with her health for many years and spent her last nine months in hospital eventually dying on 23rd January at the age of 77.

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Hope MacDonald.

**Mairi MacColl and May Aitken**

### Derek Douglas Wilkie

**1939 - 2004**

Derek was the only son of Netta and George Wilkie of Lanark Road and Glasgow.

He was sadly taken from us aged 64 after a valiant fight.

He was always a wonderful Husband, Father, Father in Law and Papa to Jessica Beth and died surrounded by his family and Tigger, the other love of his life. Sadly the Porsche had to stay in the garage. He was loved and respected by so many.

Friends and family celebrated Derek's life at his funeral on 5th March. The day will be one to remember. He had a great send off. Many thanks for the floral tributes, bouquets, letters, cards, and the generous donations for the St Andrews Clinics for Children.

A special mention must go to Killin Surgery, especially to Dr De Laat, for their unwavering support over the last two years, and to the nurses of Ward 6 Perth Royal Infirmary, Dr Peter Brown and Dr Peter Currie. Derek meant so much to so many people. We have all lost our best friend.

**The family**

## Thank You

I would like to thank everyone who sent me cards, gifts, good wishes and visits during my stay in Perth Royal Infirmary. They were all very much. I am now home and getting on, thank you all once again.

**Christine Webster**

**Mrs Mary Hunter** would like to thank all those who assisted at the time of her accident, also everyone who sent cards and flowers and visited her during her stay in hospital.

Your kindness is much appreciated.

Thank you to all those who attended the coffee day on March 12th March in the Library. £108 was raised for Action Aid

**JF**

### Scottish Country Dancing at Fearnan

Come, put a spring in your step and dance your winter blues away! Following last year's success, Fearnan SCD Club will again be holding a Spring Workshop for 6 weeks, starting Friday, April 12 at 7.30 in Fearnan Village Hall. This is a light-hearted, but energetic approach to Building on the Basics and having fun with figures and easy dances. Beginners especially welcome. Friendly, fun and non-fattening! For details please contact **Morag Lithgow** Tel: 820 440 or **Liz Menzies** Tel: 01887 830 212

## Cruachan Restaurant



**Open Daily  
for  
Homebaking  
Snacks, Lunches  
Evening Meals  
Special nights coming  
soon  
Parties Welcome**

**01567 820302**



### For Sale

**Rattan Three Piece Suite  
£20 Tel: 01567 820298**

### Shutters Restaurant and Coffee Shop



**Coffees & Homebaking  
Homemade Soup  
Snack Lunches  
Main Meals**

**Tel: 01567 820314**

# Crossword by Scorpio

## Across

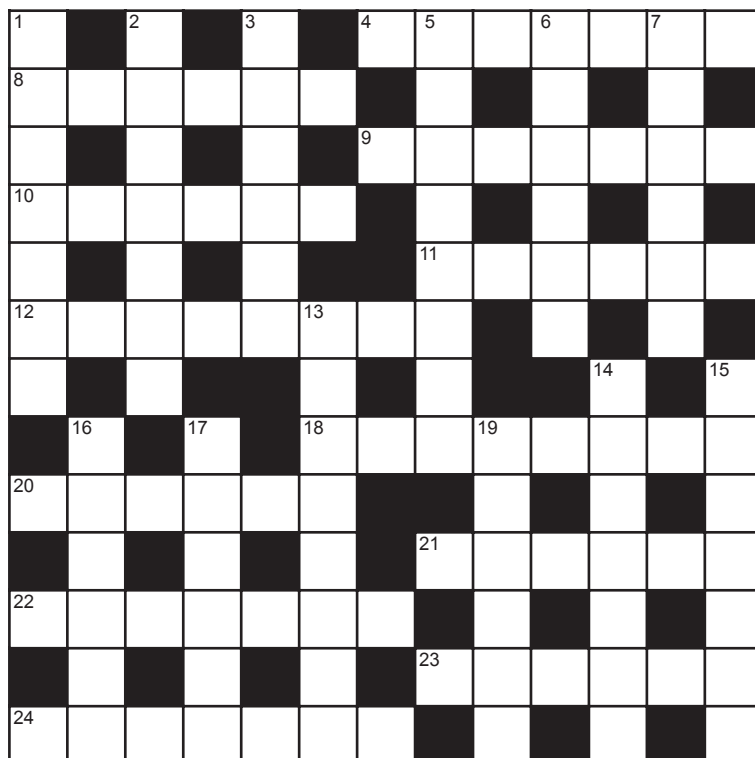
- 4 First and second southern globes suck up liquid (7)  
 8 Unforeseen occurrence (6)  
 9 Heat Ben in error and put him down below (7)  
 10 Rubbish consumed in a spin (6)  
 11 A young rabbit (6)  
 12 Healthy, green goodness (8)  
 18 Make lawful (8)  
 20 Sedan cession holds signs of happiness (6)  
 21 Roll Dan and lose 50 for a fabric with a nap (6)  
 22 Time Italian and obey order to view (5,2)  
 23 First Class chaps get together to be threatening (6)  
 24 Sudden violent attempts (7)

## Solution to crossword 78

Across 4 gelatin 8 avowal 9 demoted 10 intake 11 amnion 12 undercut 18 corporal 20 bureau 21 spreeds 22 scarabs 23 before 24 stature  
 Down 1 maximum 2 low tide 3 packer 5 elevator 6 abound 7 ice box 13 cucumber 14 freedom 15 blasted 16 dulcet 17 ferret 19 pepper

## Down

- 1 Sacred black dung beetles (7)  
 2 Warn (7)  
 3 Acid C.I.A. etc. (6)  
 5 Waves are doing this and so are hearts (8)  
 6 Salt from oleic acid (6)  
 7 Hesitate after two to cause annoyance (6)  
 13 Forms a dangerous film on the surface of water (3,5)



- 14 Don't trust a mild sea - it can deceive (7)  
 15 Can ectoplasm be seen at these? (7)  
 16 Graduate sailor created from molten lava (6)  
 17 Warm loving tree of Africa or Australia (6)  
 19 The eager 500 concurred (6)

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## Scot Electrical Services

**All Electrical Repairs, Maintenance & Installations**  
**Domestic, Commercial & Industrial**

**For A Qualified Tradesman -**  
**SELECT**  
**The Man In The Yellow Van**

**Auchmore Lodge, Killin Tel: 01567 820872 Mobile: 07768 468228**

## What's on Offer at Killin Library

**Videos and CD's**  
 Current Offers - Hire 3 videos for the price of 2  
 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**

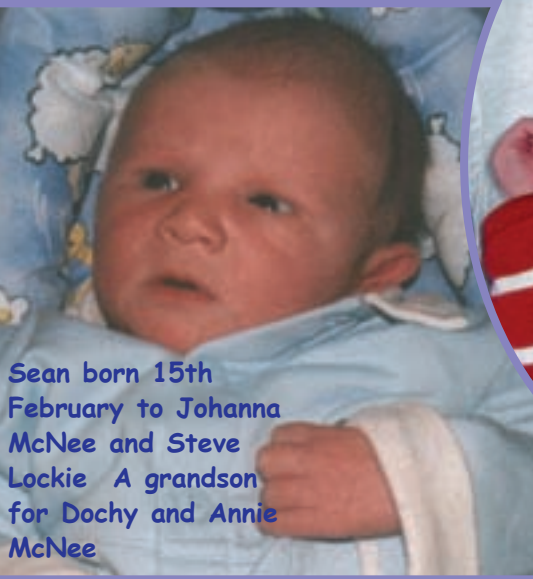


# Congratulations

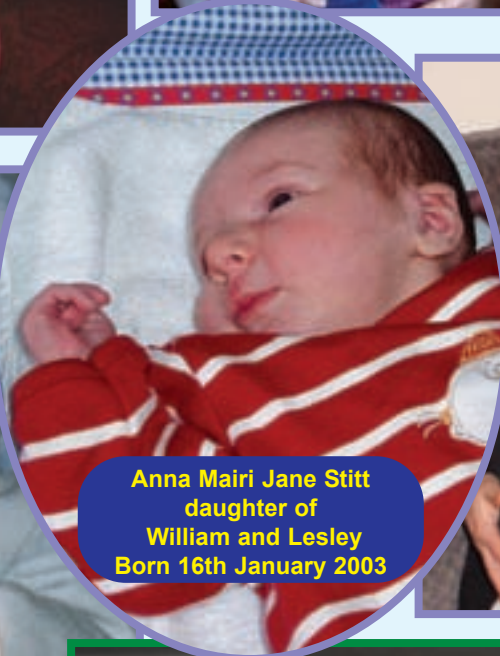
Anna McCallum  
born 29th  
January to  
Gordon and  
Emma. First  
grandchild to  
Judy Forster



Bindi, Graeme and Megan are pleased to announce the safe arrival of Emily Patricia Lily Pease. Born on 9th February 2004 at 11.10am at SRI weighing 6lb 7oz. We would like to thank all for cards and gifts



Sean born 15th  
February to Johanna  
McNee and Steve  
Lockie A grandson  
for Dochy and Annie  
McNee



Anna Mairi Jane Stitt  
daughter of  
William and Lesley  
Born 16th January 2003



Kelly Twigg  
and David  
Cunningham  
with baby  
Ethan Roger  
Cunningham  
who was born  
on 22 Feb.



Donald Coyne and Gillian Denholm  
married at  
The Dunkeld Hilton Hotel



Iain Wilkie and Mairi McIlroy who were married at the Roman Camp Callander on Friday 12th March. The ceremony was conducted by John Sheddian from Dalmally and Father Jim from Callander. It was a wonderful, special and emotional day with family and close friends and one mad photographer. Iain and his family have been at the Green Welly Stop for the last 40 years. Mairi whom he met there has been in Tyndrum for a mere 11 years!



# Loch Tay Highland Lodges

by Killin, Loch Tay, Perthshire

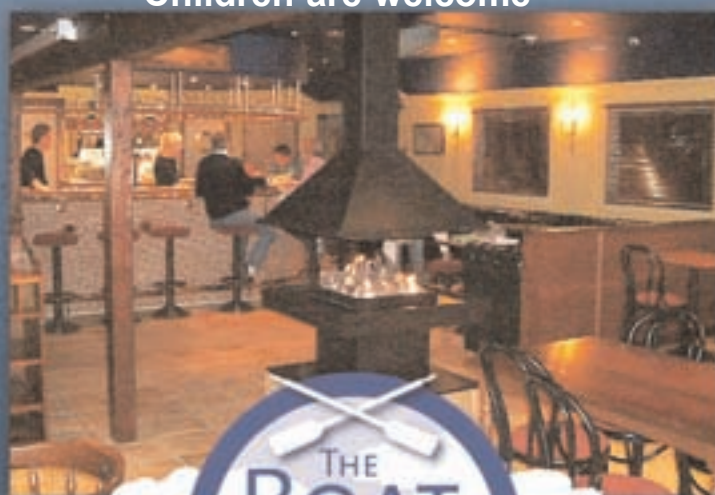


A warm welcome awaits at  
The Boathouse Restaurant & Bar

Recently opened, the restaurant offers a varied menu featuring excellent home cooking & Chef's Daily Specials

Open fireplace and a warm cosy atmosphere combined with stunning loch views and friendly service assure an ideal venue for that special evening out or family get-together

Children are welcome



We are situated 3 miles east of Killin on the A827

## SAMPLE MENU

### Starters

Homemade Soup . . . .	£2.90
Garlic Mushrooms . . .	£2.90
Prawn Cocktail . . . . .	£4.50
Chicken Liver Pate . .	£3.25

### Main Courses

Sirloin Steak	
8oz . . . . .	£11.75
10oz . . . . .	£14.25
Gammon Steak . . . . .	£7.95
Deep Fried Scampi . .	£8.75
Deep Fried Haddock . .	£8.75
Homemade Steak Pie .	£8.50
Homemade Beefburger	£5.50
Chicken Balti & Naan .	£7.50
All Day Breakfast . . . .	£6.50
Salmon Fillet . . . . .	£9.99

also:

Vegetable Balti  
Homemade Lasagne  
and  
Vegetarian Choices

### Selection of Desserts

Tea, Coffee and  
Liqueur Coffee

## OPENING TIMES

Open every day  
12 noon to 3pm  
6pm to 11pm

Bar Lunches  
12.30 - 2.30pm

Evening Meals  
6.30 - 9.30pm

To book please  
ring  
01567 820853  
or  
01567 820323