



PRICE £1

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 80 June 2004



Fraser Wilson, winner of the large plough



The Killin & District Agricultural Society annual ploughing match took place at Boreland. Unlike last year when rain fell all day, sunshine and a light breeze made a very enjoyable day out for the competitors and spectators alike. Twelve tractors competed for the honours supported by a good crowd of onlookers. The large plough first prize went to Fraser Wilson of Carie Farm and the small conventional plough first prize went to Finlay MacAskill of Tullich. Young Donald his son on his first ever ploughing match came second and also won the prize for youngest ploughman

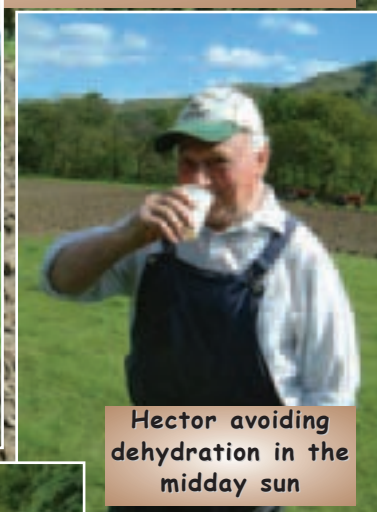
IC



Donald MacAskill, youngest competitor and runner up in the conventional plough



Finlay, "the winner" with his lucky hat!



Hector avoiding dehydration in the midday sun



Worth a bet on this team for next year's event!



Youngest competitor ?



Gregor and his brother enjoy the craic



Ploughmen of the future?



Youngest competitor ?



Sawdust at a ploughing match, all very technical



# Congratulations



See  
page 31  
for more



Caitlin Isobella Grant was born on 27th March 2004 weighing 6lb 14oz Graham would like to thank everyone for the cards and presents



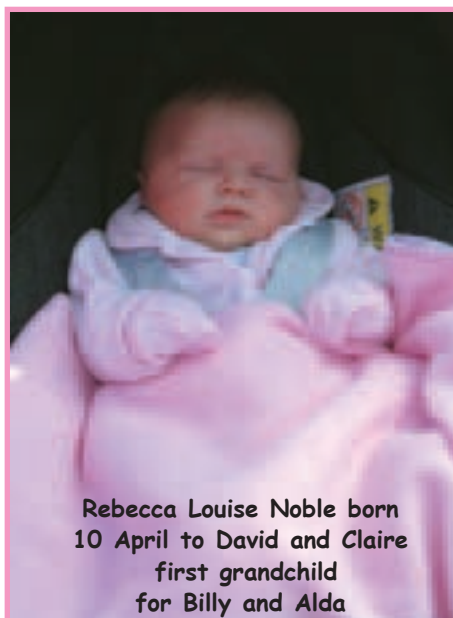
Jack William born January 29 weighing 9 lb 14 oz to Marie and Craig MacLeod. Craig is the son of Jessie and the late Willie MacLeod Jack is a new cousin for Aimee



Katy Alex McLean born 3rd Feb to Catriona (Chisholm) and Brian



Logan Buchan Reilly born 16 January 2004. Delighted parents Peter & Elma. Grandparents James and Moira Reilly of Suie Lodge and Alex & Janette Buchan of Morenish Farm







Rebecca Louise Noble born 10 April to David and Claire first grandchild for Billy and Alda



Lydia Constance Elizabeth Hill born 20 Feb 2004 weighing 6lb 5oz to Angel and Simon Hill

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# New GP Contract and Out of Hours Cover

On 1st April this year our contract with the government to provide General Medical Services (General Practice to most people) changed from the system that had been in place since 1990. I doubt whether many patients noticed a difference, although we had to do a lot of work behind the scenes to gear up to a new way of working. Many of the fine details still aren't sorted out as I write and it will probably be a year

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or two before everything is clear. This is par for the course in the Health Service and shouldn't affect your care particularly. There is one area where you WILL notice a difference fairly soon. The contract moved responsibility for "out of hours care" (i.e. from 6.00pm to 8.30am weekdays and all week-end) to the Health Board. This means that the Board, not Killin Medical Practice, is now responsible for deciding how care is delivered at nights and weekends in this area. Officially, the Board doesn't take over this responsibility till Hogmanay 2004 but everyone recognizes that that would be a daft time to make the change so there will be alterations before then. The first major change is that the first point of contact for medical problems out of hours will be an organization called "NHS 24". NHS 24 has been operating in other areas of Scotland for the last year or two. Forth Valley is one of the last areas to "go live". One advantage of NHS 24 is that it operates day and night, as its title suggests, so you can phone if you feel you may just need advice, without worrying that you are waking the doctor on call. Although there have been some teething troubles in other areas, we are assured that these have now been ironed out. The service is manned by specially trained nurses who can work through the problem and decide on the most appropriate response. A few callers will need a "blue light" ambulance. Of the rest, a third can be dealt with by advice, a third will be advised to see their own doctor in normal hours and a third will be either advised to attend an out of hours centre or will have a home visit organized for them. The expected start date for NHS 24 is 10th August. A more interesting problem is where the "out of hours centre" will be or who will provide the care if you need a home visit. We are negotiating with the Board at present, so that we can continue to provide an out of

hours service based in the surgery here but **this is by no means certain to happen.** There seems to be an impression in some quarters that if you need a doctor at night you will be either well enough to travel to an out of hours centre, which might be in Stirling, or so unwell that you need to go to Stirling by ambulance. There is also a growing idea that care can be provided by people other than doctors, e.g. paramedics, who have had special training and are allowed to prescribe a range of drugs. This is probably so, but in this area, at present, there is a lack of appropriately trained and experienced personnel to cover in this way. I would be the first to say that the ambulance crews here do a great job. I'm also confident that they can expand the service they provide in time. Meantime there could be a gap in the service that you (or I!) might fall in to. There also seems to be no appreciation in some quarters that out of hours care isn't all emergency work, for example, no mention has been made in any of the documents I've seen as to how terminal care will be organized. We hope we will be successful in our negotiations and that the service will run more or less as before, at least in the short term, except for the extra step of speaking to NHS 24. I know there is an intention at the Health Board that care will eventually be provided in a different way but by then we'll be able to see how the current "experiment" has worked and maybe they might need to change their mind. The Board has to consult you about these changes and there will be public meetings in the area in the near future (though no details as I write this). Do watch out for notices and do try to attend the meetings, otherwise you'll have no one else to blame when you're driving to Stirling (or soon, Larbert) at two o'clock on a January morning!

**Dr David Syme**



# Killin Community Council

## Meeting 11th May 2004

**Litter:** A ton of rubbish had been collected on the A85 in the Lix Toll area but the clean up had been abandoned after the discovery of asbestos. The Council would supply bags and gloves to EAK to assist with other clean up operations.

**Recycling:** Blue boxes had not been collected in Glen Lochay and Cllr. Finch would follow this up.

**Children's Play Bus:** This had not appeared in Killin at Easter but should be here during the summer.

**Breadalbane Park:** Stirling Council is responsible for the Park but the Community Council is responsible for the electricity.

**Community Skip:** This is threatened with closure and Cllr. Finch will continue the fight to keep it.

**Speed Limit:** It is still hoped that a 20mph outside the school will be established.

**Insurance:** Insurance for both fireworks and the Floral Association has to be taken out privately.

**Planning Applications:** Concerns were expressed about proposals for a two storey building behind Clematis Cottage, a hot food take away in Main Street and whether planning permission had been given for an advertising sign outside Costcutters.

**Medical:** The Ambulance Station had employed another person but still on a part-time basis. An experiment making patients' hospital appointments to suit the patient rather than the hospital is being considered.

**Ballechroisk Terrace:** This has now been adopted by Stirling Council.

**Steamer/Railway:** The steamer was awaiting delivery of its engine and boiler and consultants findings on the proposed railway should be known at the end of May.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, 13th July at 7.30 in the Lesser McLaren Hall.

## AGM

At the AGM after the meeting the following Office bearers were elected:

**Chairman** John MacPherson

**Vice-Chairman** Pat Christie

**Treasurer** Fiona Kennedy

**Secretary** Mairi Hunter

**Park Convener** Jock Stewart

**Planning Correspondents** Charlie Grant and Alda Noble

**Representatives for the Association of Community Councils** John MacPherson and Jock Stewart.

## Killin Care Trust The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home

The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home continues to receive financial support from friends, individuals, groups and businesses, both locally and nationally. As some of these donations are anonymous, the Board of Directors feel that it is only proper that those who have donated to the Home should be aware of what their donations have been used for.

By far the largest proportion of donations has been allocated to the upgrading of the garden. This work, for which we have also secured a grant from "Awards for All", will be undertaken by a local contractor and is due to commence shortly. The upgrading of the garden area will enable easier access for residents to enjoy the facility in good weather. The Board has also installed satellite television to the lounge and all the residents' rooms. This has greatly improved reception and is appreciated by the residents. At the residents request, a new music centre has also been purchased.

It is the Board's policy not to use money donated as gifts to the Home for normal upkeep and operation, but rather to enhance the facilities available to residents.

**Sheona Macaskill**  
Secretary Killin Care Trust

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## 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 this service could be of use to you or someone in your life, please ring  
01324 557070.**

# Fassiefern Revisited

I was interested to read Graham MacEwen's article in the April 2004 issue of the Killin News. Seeing the photograph of D & J MacEwen & Co shop has sparked off a myriad of memories. Our family lived in one of the flats above the Chemists Shop at the address of Fassiefern. It was my childhood home for the first 12 years of my life from 1940.

My earliest memory is especially vivid ; V.E. Day and my mother is lifting my brother George and myself up to the sitting room window looking over the Main Street which is bedecked with Union Jacks and Lions Rampant flown from windows and buntings of different colours flying across the street. It is the brightest and best memory I treasure of childhood. Our mother did her weekly shopping in D & J MacEwens grocery and the then Manager was a special friend when he would supply us children with orange and cardboard boxes for playing houses and setting up our shops.

My younger brother Tommy and I had wonderful imaginations, in those days we made our own fun.

The concrete pavement in front of the shops is where we played hop scotch and marbles. It was where I first learned to ride a bicycle that Dad had bought for me at an auction. Later on I was able to buy a new bike for myself from the savings at potato picking. My father also purchased a piano for me at an auction and there were happy times when we would sing to my piano playing. I never lost sight of my early years in Killin, Sunday School and the Girl Guides being particularly pleasant.

Although there wasn't the same opportunity in those post war years we knew how to be resourceful and how to make the best of what we had.

There were three rose bushes at Fassiefern, one pretty pink one and two lovely white ones which we children simply loved and adored. The scents of Summer a delight and joy. Our mother

had a wonderful way with flowers and cooking. The perfume of spring hyacinths and the aroma of her baking in the afternoons are fragrant reminders of the past. Gathering primroses on the hill sides from Fassiefern, rolling pink hard boiled eggs at Easter, school concerts and Highland dancing are other cherished memories.

My first sight and taste of the exotic was when Uncle Alex sent us a beautiful box of crystallized fruits from Italy when he was in Service there during the war. Those were happy days and formed a sure and sheltered upbringing which would be a strong springboard for the drama ahead that would become my life. Goodness knows I could go on forever , but I would like to send my congratulations to Graham MacEwen on the 200th anniversary of D & J MacEwen & Co.

**Norma Macarthur**  
(nee Bickerton )

See also Page 26

## Heart of Scotland Herb Society



The Killin Hotel hosted our April meeting which was alive with natural plant dye and colour. Dr. Agnes Walker led us through a trail of Scottish native herbal plants, highlighting their identities, characteristics, past and current possible uses. Morag McKinnon then followed through the wool and cloth dying process for specific plants and fungi, focusing on colour fixing and variety of colour intensity, with a wide array of plant dye materials and examples

of finished swatches, fabrics and woollen goods.

The Herbalist's Garden at Pitnacree was the scene of our May session. It has been functioning for three years and has been open to the public as a teaching and meeting centre for nearly a year. Our adopted section of the garden, partly lottery grant funded, is progressing well. Killin member, Georgia Crook, has completed the lovely circular open air willow structure which will now be enhanced

with herbal plants and function as a meeting place or for quiet contemplation.

We have two further summer events scheduled. 'Flora Poetica' will be June 16th at The Scottish Plant Collectors Garden, Pitlochry Theatre. The annual day out bus tour is travelling to Kellie Castle and Garden, Pittenweem, Fife July 21st.

For further information contact

**Patty Hope** at 820 408 or  
**Judy Forster** at 820 298

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# Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers

We are an informal, relaxed and fun group of mums (and dads) who meet once a week for coffee and a chat. All children under 3 years old are welcome, including babies, and we have a variety of toys, puzzles, books and large play equipment. The group is run by the parents but sadly our numbers are low due to children growing up so we need the support of the new mums and families who have recently moved to the area to continue the great group we have.

Each year we fund two fun events, which are organised with the local playgroup. They are a summer outing, which this year is to Auchingarich Wildlife Centre in Comrie and a Christmas party where we get a visit from Santa. Please come and join in, it's great fun. We meet on Friday mornings from 9.30am till 11.30am in the Church Hall, Ballechriosh. During July and August you can usually find us in the park.

For more information contact **Susan Fraser** on 820816

## Nicer Nappies

Nicer Nappies is running a 3 month pilot project in Killin and the surrounding areas aimed at increasing awareness of and access to washable reusable nappies. This is a project supported by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) and Stirling Council. It is about enabling families to make an informed choice about the nappies they use and finding out for themselves some of the benefits of using washable nappies.

Stirling Council spends an estimated £180,000 each year disposing of nap-

pies and with the collection of waste to be sent to landfill now only once a fortnight, households with children in nappies are finding their wheelie bins are bulging. Washable nappies are an alternative to disposables that minimise waste and can save money too. The 3 month pilot project allows parents to borrow a 'nappy kit' containing a variety of washable nappy systems for 2 weeks at no cost. This loan is supported by an initial 'training session', phone support and advice on purchasing nappies after the trial period.

The project will also be engaging other 'nappy stakeholders', such as midwives, health visitors, childminders and nurseries so that they are aware of washable nappies and are able to offer support to families using them.

Until recently, there has been a perception that washable nappies are very hard work and only for the seriously green, tree-hugger types. However many more parents are discovering that modern washables are fun, easy to use, can save you money and reduce the amount of waste in your wheelie bin. It's also possible to 'mix and match', for instance still using a disposable at night, but washables during the day.

By the end of July it is hoped that children in nappies in the area covered by the Killin Medical Practice will have had the opportunity to borrow a nappy kit for a fortnight, so if you're interested, please give us a call 01567 820260.

**Jemma Morgan**

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# Computer Corner

Mark Lincoln

## Broadband on its way to Killin!

BT has now set a date to enable the local exchange with broadband technology. On 28th September 2005, the local residents and businesses near the village centre will be able to access a broadband internet connection via their telephone line. Even though this is still nearly 18 months away, this is a major achievement for our community.

Due to the technical nature of the BT lines, broadband via telephone line is only available within a short distance of the exchange. This means that many of us will need to have other methods of accessing broadband technology. We, as a community, need to pull together over the next 12-18 months to see if we can find some method of providing broadband internet access for those of us who are not near the village centre. Initially we will need to undertake a survey of all those in the outlying regions who want or need broadband, so we can size the task, in preparation for any potential funding application. I am more than happy to discuss potential technologies with anyone, preferably via email, and if there is enough demand, I can run presentations or seminars on this subject. I will keep those in charge of Killin website ([www.killin.co.uk](http://www.killin.co.uk)) informed, so they will be able to publish any news as and when it occurs.

More details can be found from the websites [www.broadband4scotland.com](http://www.broadband4scotland.com) and [www.scottish-enterprise.com/broadband](http://www.scottish-enterprise.com/broadband)  
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## Killin Community Composting Site Open for Business!

In the last Issue of the Killin News we announced that work on the new Community Composting Site was almost completed. We are now pleased to say that the site, which is located in the Old Station Car Park, is now open for business. You can bring your excess garden waste to the site on Saturdays from 12 – 4pm only. Please do not dump material at the gates when the site is closed. (Note that you should still use your brown bin for cardboard and garden waste).

By next year the natural recycling process will have transformed your garden waste into compost – and bags of finished compost will then be available to those who have brought material to the site. So start collecting your bundles of prunings etc and take them down to your new Community Composting Site.

There are plans to organise an official launch of the new facility at a Community Composting and Recycling Fair - organised in conjunction with Environmental Action Killin (EAK) in the McLaren Hall on 17 July 2004 from 10am – 1pm. There will also be a series of displays about what happens to materials like glass, plastic, cans, etc when they are recycled. Nicer Nappies' Washable Nappy Library, Scottish Environment Protection Agency, Waste Aware Stirling and other organisations will also be invited to participate. For further details contact David Riggle at Stirling Council, Tel: 01786 442873 or e-mail [riggled@stirling.gov.uk](mailto:riggled@stirling.gov.uk)

Caroline Crawford

Community Waste Planning Officer, Stirling Council

### Apology

Computer Corner in issue 79 was edited to state that 'When it arrives Phone line Broadband will be available to all within 6 km of the local exchange'. This is not correct. While broadband can be accessed at a distance of 6 km through telephone lines, these are not necessarily conveniently placed. They weave around houses and properties making the actual distance from the exchange much shorter than 6 km. We are sorry if you were misled by this information.

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## Mervyn's Weather



A publication written early in the last century "Twenty years on Ben Nevis", by a gentleman called Kilgour, gives very interesting reading, describing the trials and exigencies of those hardy souls who built, maintained, and faithfully recorded the weather statistics at 4,400 feet on the summit plateau of The Ben. Extreme conditions were of course the norm, ranging from Arctic periods when the incumbents must necessarily dig themselves out of the observatory through tunnels in perhaps twenty feet or more of drifted snow. To move even a short distance away from the building without being roped to a colleague or even to part of the structure itself, was to court disaster due to winds of perhaps 100 m.p.h. combined with driven snow or rain. At the other end of the scale there were balmy nights in high summer when it was never fully dark and the after glow could be followed from NW through North to NE and when often the high tops stood like islands in a sea of mist. At times like this a match could be

struck and burn in utterly calm conditions. At other times fierce lightning storms could strike the summit of the mountain and fuse solid the telegraph system – the only communication, except by pony, and walking, between the observatory and the low ground. St. Elmo's fire would be seen clinging to any projections on the buildings and the cook would be scared out of his wits when lightning struck the chimney and sent his cooking utensils and their contents "into orbit"!

Alongside the observatory was a restaurant of sorts. The buildings were situated on the summit plateau only yards from the fearsome 1500 feet precipices that form the N.E. face of the mountain, and the domestic rubbish was thrown down one of the gullies in the cliffs. This gully is now known to climbers as "The gardyloo gully" which name was applied due to the old time practice of shouting "Gardez l'eau!" when emptying liquid waste from windows in high buildings onto the street, and pedestrians, below!

One of the pastimes of the off duty weather observers was to lever huge boulders over the cliffs to watch them crash hundreds of feet below. Today's climbing fraternity would be less than amused!

After about twenty years existence the then government sadly refused to produce further funding, only several hundred pounds sterling, and the edifice was closed down, much to the chagrin of the leading figure and observer, one Clement Wragge, known as "Inclement Rag"!

Descending from the airy height of our highest mountain to the spring of 2004 here on Loch Tayside, conditions while not as unrestrained as at 4,000 feet, have on occasion been far from ideal.

In 2003 late April and most of May was, in contrast to most of the spring/summer period, unsettled and showery. The same period in 2004 shows a similar pattern. An unusually, for the time of year, deep depression (about 970mb) has been sitting over us for some days and although at the beginning of May pressure rose, heavy prolonged showers with thunder, lightning and hail were still the order of the day. By the beginning of June 2003 conditions began to improve, followed by the idyllic summer we remember.

While 2004 may not produce the prolonged anti-cyclonic spells of its predecessor, one would hope it is not too much to wish for a broadly similar sequence. "Good or partially good" summers seem to come in threes or fours, for example 1995, 6 & 7; 1981, 2, 3 & 4 and 1976, 7 & 8, often followed by at least one abysmal season. Wishful thinking perhaps, but "Hope springs eternal"!

Mervyn K Browne, Ardtalnaig

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Who really does require the proverbial patience of Job? The recent 'Time Team' programme about the Crannogs of Loch Tay gave us the definitive answer - an underwater archaeologist. This intriguing television documentary

showed us the painstaking way in which artefacts are collected underwater, where they have lain for centuries. Each item helps Dr. Nick Dixon, our Chairman, and his wife, Barrie Andrian, extend the picture of what life was like for those who lived on the many crannogs on Loch Tay all those years ago. Whilst the academic purpose of the programme was uppermost, the spectacular aerial shots of the loch and surrounding countryside showed the magnificence of where we are so lucky to live. This was not lost upon the viewing public who thronged to the Crannog giving us our best weekend attendance yet over the May holiday period.

With the season well underway, we have a great number of special events to suit all tastes over the next few months. Take a look at the "What's On" section of the Killin News to whet your appetite. We are, of course, open daily all season so why not bring along the family or friends, or just tell folk about us?

Colin Scott

## New Member for Ambulance Team

In April the Killin Ambulance Team, Paramedics Michael McLaren and Marina Hilditch and Technicians Scott Munro and Jane Brown, were joined by newly qualified Technician, John Wyllie.

For the past nineteen years John had been working for the Scottish Agricultural College, the last fifteen on research at the Kirkton Hill Farm near Crianlarich. He was also a Director of the Strathfillan Community Development Trust and responsible for both the Crianlarich Community Woodland and work on new footpaths. John and Sue lived at Kirkton until four years ago when they moved to Killin.



What made John give up agricultural work to become an Ambulance Technician? He says he simply wanted a change and the ambulance job appealed because, as a member of the Mountain Rescue team, he already had basic first aid training and experience of casualty care. There would also be the opportunity for further training as a Paramedic after two years. He found the most difficult thing about the change of job was getting used again to the learning process and taking exams. After skills, fitness and driving tests and 9 weeks intensive training at the Scottish Ambulance College in Peebles, John is now on a year's probation with exams every four months. As a Technician he drives the ambulance and gives patient care but, until he completes training as a Paramedic, there are only certain treatments he can administer. One similarity he finds between his old job and the new is that both sick lambs and sick humans need to have their airways kept clear!

John likes the variation of ambulance work and being close to his work place and, although he really misses being outside on the hills, he has no regrets about the change. It's good to know the Ambulance Team is now again at full strength and that a change for John did not mean the family having to leave Killin.

MM

### Killin & District Sports & Leisure 100 Club February to May Winners

Feb £100 Iain Campbell No 31  
March £100 Anne Simpson No 90  
April £100 John Strang No 91  
May £100 Mark Lincoln No 64

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## Children at Killin Golf Club

Children from three local primary schools will have the opportunity to set foot on a golf course when Killin GC opens its doors to the community's youngsters on June 11. The children, from Crianlarich, Killin and Lochearnhead Primary Schools, have had a chance to try the sport via Clubgolf's Introductory Game. Clubgolf, a partnership between the Scottish Golf Union, the Scottish Ladies Golfing Association and the Professional Golfers' Association aims to introduce 50,000 nine year olds in Scotland annually to the sport by 2009. The introductory game is played with specially modified clubs designed to make it easier to hit the rubberised balls and children who enjoy the game can move on to the second stage of the cur-

riculum hosted by their local golf clubs. Killin GC has a strong tradition of encouraging juniors, with over 50 junior members.

Last month five volunteers from the Club were amongst the first in the Central area to take part in a Training for Volunteers



Laurence Brown Liz Stevens Mark Lincoln of Killin Golf Club flanked by their PGA coaches

Course, which will allow them to teach the game to local youngsters. The Club looks forward to a good attendance on June 11.

**For further information** please contact: Rob Eyton-Jones, Clubgolf PR Manager  
Tel: 07775 746981  
or visit the official Clubgolf website  
[www.clubgolfsotland.com](http://www.clubgolfsotland.com)

## Killin Senior Gents Open

### Results 12 May

#### Best scratch

B.R. Grieve (King James VI) 68

#### Best h/cap

A. Payne (Comrie) 63

#### Handicap results age 55 - 63

1st S. Keay (Dunkeld) 64

2nd H. Campbell (Killin) 67

3rd D MacIver (Killin) 67

#### Handicap results age 64 - 68

1st A. Payne (Comrie) 63

2nd J Elder (Muthill) 64

3rd R McDonald (Killin) 66

#### Handicap results age 69+

1st J MacAllum (Killin) 67

2nd A Green (Comrie) 67

3rd G Smith (Killin) 67

#### Killin members only

#### Lix Toll Trophy (h/cap 1-14)

J Blyth 67

#### McTaggart Trophy (h/cap 15-28)

R McDonald 66

#### Nearest pin

H/cap 1-14 S Keay

H/cap 15-28 J MacAllum

## Carpet Bowls

Killin Carpet Bowling Club ended their season with a most enjoyable Dinner and Prize-giving at the Falls of Dochart Inn. Mrs. Jean Mitchell presented the trophies as follows:

#### League before Christmas:

B. Rew, J. Willison, J. Beattie

#### League after Christmas:

S.Aitken, J. Guild, A. Stewart, L. Mitchell

#### Knock-out Trophy:

J. Guild, C. McLarty, L. Mitchell

#### Handicap Shield:

J. Beattie, A. Stewart, J. Willison

Points: C. McLarty

Pairs: J. Guild, C. McLarty

Singles: C. Grant

The Carpet Bowls start up again at 7.30pm on Monday 4th October

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# Farming Matters

## Cows and bulls, but will there be any more of them?

The first fifty years are the most difficult, that's my excuse anyway. Sputnik was the first house cow we had after we got married. Rough coated, a supposed Ayrshire in calf to a Highland Bull when purchased in Oban Mart, she wouldn't have won a prize at Olympia. However she did us proud, with a growing family drinking milk as if there was no tomorrow. Sputnik produced gallons. Our system was very old fashioned, the cow was milked in the morning and her calf (and sometimes an extra calf) were left to suckle her during the day. However if Sputnik was to produce a calf and all that milk next year she had to be bulled.

On one occasion the Galloway Bull and his cows were grazing beside the main road, at Kin Inver Dhu, so we set off. Sputnik had never been halter trained. She would only walk if a rope was attached to the halter so that she could walk in front with her "leader" behind. This usually worked OK, but on this

occasion she left the byre, went down the drive, over the bridge and onto the main road - so far so good. However when we were passing the Excambion (where the Sawmill is now) Sputnik, her head full of romantic thought, plodded along the verge of the southbound carriageway with me following. A small car going north was cautiously overtaking us just at the moment Sputnik abandoned Sex for Gluttony and decided that the grass on the other side of the road was irresistible. She crossed the road in front of the car, tangling the rope round the car's headlights and plunged down the bank intent on a mouthful of grass, dragging the vehicle after her. In the ensuing mayhem, we untangled the rope, hauled an indignant Sputnik out of the ditch and tied her to a tele-

graph pole, whilst rescuing the car and apologising to the occupants. They're probably still dining out on the story. We set off again after impressing upon Sputnik that the day's excursion was for the purpose of nuptials not nutrition. Having arrived at Kin Inver Dhu without further alarms and after a brief honeymoon, we summoned extra troops to ensure no repeat of the morning's event and escorted the radiant bride homewards. **John Christie**





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## Drama Weekend

Killin Drama Club presented four short plays in the village hall over the weekend of 30th April/1st May. This effectively marks the end of their short season beginning with the Pantomime in January, although work behind the scenes, I'm assured, is never-ending.

A few years ago, the Drama Club altered the format of this weekend to encourage better attendances. Instead of seating the audience in rows, they opted for a more relaxed approach, setting tables and serving drinks and nibbles, as in a café or nightclub. Sadly, it has not had the intended effect, and less than a hundred people watched this year's show over the entire weekend.

This is a shame, as the quality of acting on display was exemplary. Of the four plays, I could criticise only one, and that mildly.

Semblance of Madness was a complex play with a flavour of the 'whodunit' about it, but was performed in such colourless and Spartan settings that it may as well have been a radio play. However, an experienced and very talented cast did their best to rescue the drama of the piece. A bold effort from Jane Brown, Gill Hunt and Elizabeth Murphy that fully deserved our applause.

Among the remaining three plays,

all dryly humorous, there were some real gems. Cruise Missile was a directorial debut for Gill Hunt, and featured Clare Wagland and Glenda Mardon as awkward acquaintances on a cruise liner. I rather suspect this might have been even better pitched as a 'straight' drama, allowing the audience to discern the irony and humour of the situation for themselves, but it worked well enough as a light comedy, and was perhaps more in keeping with the ambience and flavour of the evening.

The Interview was another directorial debut, this time for Liz Stevens, and was a worthy showcase for Kay Dowling, a relative newcomer, who seems to go from strength to strength. Needless to say, she was amply supported by veterans, Lesley Syme and Tam Bolton, the former playing an efficient but downtrodden secretary, and the latter playing a bumbling dupe to Kay's slick con artist.

Rattle Rattle was billed as a black comedy, and involved mayhem and murder, as well as unsolicited haircuts. Susan McRobbie played the demented hairdresser and Myrica

Reid her victim with such style and panache that the humour of the play was always evident. This was a delightful production, which also inadvertently illustrated the wealth of skill and talent in Killin. I discovered later that the cast had 'accidentally' dropped a page of the script, necessitating a frenetic, but flawless period of adlibbing to recover the storyline. I didn't notice a thing, and I'm pretty sure no-one else did. Hopefully, next year's attendance will be better. On merit alone, the cast and crew deserve it. Perhaps the Club should be a bit more enterprising in its marketing. I spoke to several people in the village that weekend who were unaware of the event. This is a great night out – far cheaper and friendlier than a trip to the pictures in Stirling, and much more fun.

Andy Aitken

### Rattle Rattle



Clare Wagland

Glenda Mardon



Susan McRobbie

Myrica Reid

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# Killin Connections



Bob MacGregor with Jimmy McKerchar  
1920 on an Ariel Fixed Gear

Congratulations to Bobby Lafferty for finishing The Scottish Six Days Open Reliability Trial 2004 (SSDT). Bobby took up the sport in the year 2000 and this was his biggest event so far. It covered a distance of 526 miles, most of which is off road and on rough terrain around Fort William. It involves taking a motorbike along river beds, rocks, and steep mountain tracks without putting a foot to the ground. Each footfall or dab costs one point. Bobby is no doubt helped by his commitment to physical fitness and his undoubted skills of balance, probably related in some measure to his prowess with a unicycle, which he used to demonstrate, and his spell as a para-trooper. He rides a Gas Gas 280cc Pro Bike and belongs to the Perth and District Motorcycle Club.

The SSDT used to pass through Killin and the Edramucky sections provided a major challenge. One of our own, Bob

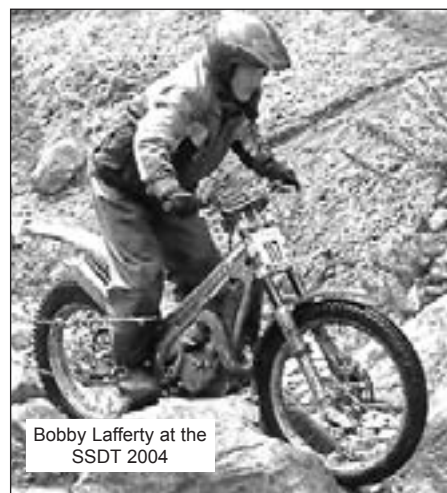


Bobby Lafferty 2004  
on his Gas Gas

MacGregor, whose name graces Gordon Webster's shop, won the event in 1932 and 1935. His achievements were with bikes that were very heavy and cumbersome by today's standards and he provides a very high benchmark to which Bobby and others can aspire. (See page 10 of issue 29 of the Killin News) While developing his interest Bobby draws others into his wake. His son Robert, a six year old who shares his excitement and dogged determination about trials, now has his own miniature Gas Gas trials bike and has already won a medal in a junior club event.

Bobby devotes some of his time to encouraging and teaching local youngsters about trials and the disciplines involved. These include the obtaining of permission for the routes used for riding, keeping within fixed marks on the route, removing rubbish from the vicinity, and avoiding ecological damage. Some have acquired their own bikes and accompany him to events. Perhaps this is a sport that can fire the imagination of Killin youngsters and we may again have the privilege of watching local talent competing at a high level. We hope to publish details of local trials in the What's On to encourage others to watch and support events where there is Killin representation.

WA



Bobby Lafferty at the  
SSDT 2004

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# Frost Report

## The Darling Bugs of May



Did you see the clouds of heather beetles one weekend in the middle of April? There were swarms coming down Glen Lochay into the Killin area and they were also, apparently, out and about in Lochearnhead on the same day. At the time of writing, in the middle of May, there are still the odd ones landing on car windscreens, windows and the walls. Many seemed to be attracted to white snowcapped walls where they stayed for several days. After that the attraction proved fatal, as they just hung there and died. If you are not sure what I mean, they are the wee brown beetles, which look a bit like ladybirds in plain clothes. We will need to keep an eye on the heathers in the garden though what we can actually do to save them I don't know. Does anyone have any idea what may kill or ward off these pesky creatures? An organisation called The Heather Trust does not seem to appreciate the damage caused by the beetle and the likely effect on the upland economy. While talking of heather, have you noticed that it is in decline on the hills? Not only is it pests like heather beetle and bracken but, like many species, its habitat is being poached. Often new planting is on the heather slopes. After the trees are cut down in the future, will the ground regen-



erate heather? In snow cover in Winter the tips of heather often provide the only food and shelter. Any reduction in heather could have some effect on the wildlife in these areas. Recently walking through a fairly local R.S.P.B. reserve, the lack of bird life was very noticeable. On moving from the reserve to other neighbouring ground (managed by the time-honoured but now awfully politically incorrect landlord /gamekeeper liaison) there was an equally noticeable increase in the sight and sound of birds. We did wonder if the birds had fled because of the number of ticks around. Whenever we go through that area both we and the dogs pick up ticks. There seem to be more around earlier in the season. Maybe even ticks have been affected by global warming? Nationally there has been a definite increase in road accidents caused by deer. It is thought that this may be due to denser tree growth closer to the edges of rural roads since councils are no longer cutting, trimming and ditching as they used to do. In many other countries there is a stipulated clear margin along the roadside. Also the roadside trees are growing so tall in many places that the

tourists can no longer enjoy the beautiful views, which they come to see. Talking of roadside views, the South Loch Tay (Ardeonaig) road is quite breathtaking at the moment with now rare coverage of primroses and bluebells. It's a pity the tourists can't enjoy this wonderful fringe of The National Park either because - yes, you've guessed it - they are too busy watching the potholes in the road. It is rumoured that even the red squirrels have complained to the roads department. They are all moving into the smoother surfaced Tayside area. On the hills above Loch Lomond the other day, when a fox ran into a bunch of sheep, one startled lamb ran after the fox, presumably thinking that it was its mother. The fox's face, with images of ready-meal lamb chops in its eyes, was quite entertaining. At that moment the fox saw us, hastily put away his mint sauce and bolted over the rise.

**Tim Frost**

**Paper Collection Date  
from Killin Primary School  
June 18th**

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## Highland Games

This year's games are on Wednesday 4th August, and we are all praying for a dry day. The committee has been working hard organising the event and finding new ways of raising funds.

Last year we held a balloon race that we also promoted at Callander Highland Games - but the committee never want to see another balloon after that!

This year we are having an auction on Sunday 18th July, so clear out those sheds, attics and cupboards and find everything that you have been meaning to get rid of.

Donations of goods are required by Saturday 10th July, and we are willing to help with transport. Contact Alex Stewart or other members of the Highland Games committee to arrange collection.

Sir Malcolm McGregor of McGregor, Baronet, has once again accepted the role of Games Chieftain. David Webster and Douglas Edmunds of World's Strongest Man fame are organising the strongmen and athletes once more.

There will be the usual fairground and stalls, not forgetting of course the beer tent! Help in lots of areas would be most welcome -

**Please contact Charlie Grant, Fiona Stewart or Liz Stevens**

## Barbecue and Bagpipes

Killin's first outdoor wedding took place on Easter Monday on the lawn of the New Log Cabin, Pier Road, when Ben Shaw married Nicola Ward.

Ben told us "I've been spending my summer holidays here with my family since 1985 when I was 13. We used to leave Kent in the middle of the night to be here by lunchtime at the start of our fortnight's holiday. I learnt to sail at Croft na Caber (courtesy of Kate of Killin Outdoor Centre) and spent many happy weeks sailing, windsurfing and fell-running here."

Ben met Nix eleven years ago in Turkey when they both worked for a sailing company. After travelling the world together and getting degrees they settled on the South coast of England. He proposed to Nix on the finish line of the Ironman Triathlon in Switzerland last summer.

"When we thought about the sort of wedding we wanted there was only one choice for the location. It's a fantastic spot, so tranquil and very romantic. 43 friends and family joined us for a very informal and relaxed day. County Caterers provided us with a fantastic BBQ and Jim Brown played the bagpipes. Later we had a bonfire and fireworks. More than 20 of our guests had never been north of the border before and were so enchanted with the place they

have vowed to return."

Ben and Nicola are regular visitors to Oban where Ben's parents now live. The newly weds plan to move up to Scotland in the near future.

**The Nettleton family**

(See also centre pages)



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# WEDDING



Michael van Vuuren from South Africa and Lousie Christie from Inverarderan were married in Strathfillan Church Crianlarich on 2 April



Crawford and Amanda from the Tighnabruich Hotel married recently in the Killin Parish Church



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





# G BELLIES



Paul Lambert, formerly of Ardchyle Farm, Lochdochart, and Catherine Best were married at St. Georges Super Ely in Cardiff on 24 April. They now live in Bridge of Allan



Andrew Himsworth Riley and Jennifer Clarke, proprietors of The Tight Line Hotel in Loch Awe, were married in St. Conan's Church Loch Awe on 21 February

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## Activities

Once again we are able to offer local children the opportunity to take part in activities at Ardeonaig at a reduced rate.

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

For more information please contact Angela or Morag:

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Email: [AT@ardeonaig.org](mailto:AT@ardeonaig.org)

[www.ardeonaig.org](http://www.ardeonaig.org)



Spaces may be available for other children subject to availability and at our normal rate of £25.20 per day.



Ben Shaw and Nicola Ward married by Loch Tay pictured with Yvonne MacPherson Registrar. (See page 15)

# Killin Primary School

## Killin School News

The Calendar for the Summer Term is particularly busy this year. The Nursery children have been visiting the Primary School to ease their transition into Primary 1. Primary 7 pupils will make visits to McLaren ICT Suite and Breadalbane Academy as part of their transition to High School.

On Friday 30 April, pupils raised £1245.60 at a fundraising event to help the Children with Leukaemia Charity.

Thanks to Susan McRobbie and Elaine Turner all the pupils in Primary 5, 6 & 7 will undertake Cycling Proficiency Training. Primary 4/5 pupils have been swimming at McLaren Leisure Centre every Wednesday morning.

Killin, Strathyre and Crianlarich Primary School pupils had a "Fit for Life" day in May at Breadalbane Park where pupils had a chance to try lots of different sports and enjoy a Healthy Buffet Lunch.

Primary 4/5 pupils have been doing the Introductory Clubgolf Course and will get the opportunity to extend these at Killin Golf Club. There is a Football Festival planned

for Monday 7 June when pupils from Lochearnhead, Strathyre, Crianlarich and Killin will meet and play together in Breadalbane Park. The School Sports Day was Friday 4 June.

Primary 6/7 have a Health/Drama worker coming into school this term to help them make positive life choices related to Smoking and Nicotine Addiction.

On Friday 18 June, we're going Yellow for Strathcarron Hospice. Pupils and staff can come to school in yellow. All donations will go to Strathcarron Hospice.

The school no longer has the facility to accept aluminium cans. Thanks to everyone who has donated them in the past.

## Eco-School News

The Eco-School Committee have agreed the following action points; to encourage pupils to bring drinks etc in reusable containers; to develop a clear School Policy on litter and request additional litterbins for the playground; to buy where possible, paper products made from recycled fibre; to investigate diverting rainwater to water plants and maintain the school pond; to survey pupils and parents on

travel to school; to investigate installing a dry, secure cycle store; to investigate the possibility of the installation of a pedestrian gate at the back entrance to the school; to encourage healthy packed lunches; to develop the school grounds to include a mural and other art works, bird boxes, bird feeding station, zoned play areas and sheltered areas; to continue to promote the School Eco-Code which is to Keep Killin Klean, Recycle all Paper, Get more Active, Keep Feeding the Compo and Wormery, Find Five Fruits by Friday, Drink Water, Promote the Green Team and Reduce use of Electricity and Water.

## Gardening Club

Pumpkins courgettes and runner beans have been planted in the school garden area. The Wildlife Garden mural will take shape this term. Every pupil will get the opportunity to paint his or her own designs during school time as arranged with Mr Tindall. Watch as it grows over the weeks of the summer term.

2 Suffolk Planter Benches, 2 Picnic Benches and a "Buddy" Bench have been installed in the playground and plans to improve the School Grounds continue to bear fruit. Thanks to all who have supported this project to date.

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## Community Involvement at Killin Primary School

I would like to take the opportunity to thank the members of the Killin Community for their tremendous support this year. Over the years, the school has built many great partnerships with community groups and businesses – P.T.A., School Board, The National Trust, The W.R.I, The Golf Club, The Drama Club are a few of the groups supporting some great projects. As the new Headteacher,

this year in particular has been an interesting and uplifting experience. Individuals and groups have given of their time and expertise, not to mention financial support, to continue, expand and develop these partnerships even further. I would take up the whole newspaper if I were to mention every event and activity for which we have relied on community involvement but in particular - The Christmas Fair (with requests to repeat it!!!), The Christmas Party, The Eco-

School Committee, Green Team, Clubgolf, Fit for Life Event, Environmental Studies Projects, The School Show, The Healthy Tuck Shop, and so the list goes on. We've also had the welcome experience of the Brownies working on their badge work at lunchtimes in school. I truly believe in lifelong learning and teaching children life skills. Thanks to your support, hopefully we are helping develop future citizens, who will in turn, contribute in a meaningful way, to the community that they choose to live in. Primary 6/7 have already received two lovely letters from visitors thanking them for their contribution to the Nature trail, indicating that visitors are taking away a positive picture of Killin's young residents. Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to show my appreciation.

Sandra Logan, Headteacher



Back row James Lewis, David Lejniaks, Michael Farquharson, Siobhan Riddell, Rachael Shanto, Hanna Higginbotham, Naomi McLaren  
Front row Andrew Anderson, Josh Cox-Hyatt, Roisinn McLarty

**Youth Group**  
**New Drop In Evenings**  
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Do you need a new home in any of these areas?

Locheearnhead	Killin	Callander	Tyndrum
Strathyre	Balforn	Aberfoyle	Drymen
Buchlyvie	Kippen	Gartmore	Deanston

If so, Rural Stirling Housing Association may be able to help. The Association's aim is to support rural communities in north and west Stirling by providing and managing affordable good quality homes for people in housing need.

We currently have 310 homes for rent throughout the Stirling Council area

If you would like more details and an application form contact

**Rural Stirling Housing Association**  
**Stirling Road, Doune**

**Tel: (01786) 841101**

**E-mail: Enquiries@rsha.demon.co.uk**

# The National Park

Let's start with litter since there is always plenty of it around. Wouldn't it be lovely if we could just get people to take it home. I do think more and more people are getting the message but we are still a long way away from a litter free Park. Although litter collection is the duty of the Council, the Park Authority recognises that as the Park is a special place we have to make extra provision to clean up where we can, consequently we have taken on extra field wardens who will target the "hot spot" areas on a weekly basis. Clearly with 720 square miles to cover it is not possible for them to clear roadside verges but where there are exceptional problems we will arrange for emergency uplifts. Domestic collections remain the exclusive preserve of the Council.

At the end of April the Community Futures Network combined with the Business Network to engage the communities of the Park in the Park Plan. Meetings took place in each of the four areas of the Park. Balquhiddier Village Hall was the venue for the Breadalbane Area meeting. The officers involved in drafting the Park Plan were there to give

a short presentation of progress to date and to answer any queries. It proved a very productive evening with a considerable contribution from the community members.

What happens next? Under the legislation all agencies within the Park are required to take heed of the Park Plan. We will be having meetings with our partner organisations informing them of the proposed content and seeking contributions from them. In the autumn, with the Draft Plan in place, we will consult communities and the agencies who will have a final opportunity to influence the Plan. We hope to complete the consultation by November and submit the final Plan to the Scottish Executive for approval early in 2005.

With one Plan in place the Park Authority has to tackle another one. At present Planning applications within the Park are dealt with under the provisions of the Local Plans of each of the four Council areas covered by the Park. In Killin's case we have to use the Stirling Council Local Plan. The sooner we have a Park Local Plan in place the better. There are some areas in which we have been able

to standardise procedures.

One such area is Planning enforcement. At the May Community Council meeting the question was asked if planning permission was required for advertisement boards. The answer to that is yes. When an unauthorised situation is brought to the attention of the Park Authority, the Planning Enforcement Officer will pay a visit and encourage the individual to make the appropriate planning application. Planning is a statutory obligation and failure to comply can result in a court appearance.

If you have any problems concerning the Park, or have any suggestions, I can be contacted as follows: Taigh Na Bhuth, Lochearnhead or Tel 01567 830214

**Owen McKee**

Locally elected member of LL&TNP

## Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park Booklet

A Spring and Summer events booklet for 2004 is available. The events programme caters for everyone, from art workshops for children to guided walks for the grown ups. The booklet covers all events right through to the end of June and butterfly weekends, duck

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

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

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**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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displays, history tours to swan weekends, horse rides and a night walk around the village of Luss to track and observe bats. The booklets will be available from all National Park Ventres, Tourist Information Centres and local libraries. The full list can be seen on Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park website:  
Further information from

**Ruth Crosbie**

Public Relations Officer, LL&TNP  
Tel 01389 722016 Mob 07834 334108

## Wild about Killin

A recent article about Scottish Wildlife holidays in the April edition of the BBC Wildlife magazine, gave the 'top 10 mammals everyone wants to see' as:

- 1 Pine Marten
- 2 Otter
- 3 Badger
- 4 Red Deer
- 5 Minke Whale
- 6 Grey Seal
- 7 Red Squirrel
- 8 Mountain Hare
- 9 Roe Deer
- 10 Harbour Porpoise.

It's great to note that seven of these can be seen in and around Killin!

**John Wyllie**

## And still it goes on...

So much for the hope that recycling problems would resolve themselves quickly and the subject would no longer be a common cause for complaint.

Still the grumbles continue – and quite rightly too. In spite of visits from the 'Waste Infrastructure Development Officer' and 'Waste Collection Coordinator' and frequent calls to the 'Recycling Promotions Officer', collections of bins and boxes in many cases are not happening when they should and in some cases not at all. Maybe some places get regular alternate collections of green and brown bins on the expected days but others certainly don't. And as for the blue boxes, we are now told that the vehicle used for collection of recyclable material is "unable to operate on surfaces that are not tarmaced" (sic).

Now you would think that Stirling Council would know that they collect rubbish from a large number of rural areas where there are very many roads and tracks which are "not tarmaced", so who on earth decided to provide vehicles which couldn't cope with such terrain – and why?

Many ecologically conscious people without a blue box collection take the trouble to be their own binmen and take the contents by car to recycling centres, often miles away, but most people won't

be bothered and will put everything in the green bin and hope it will eventually be emptied. By the way, the smart little blue wheelie bins you may see around are designed for disabled people who cannot lift and carry full blue boxes. Can you lift a blue box filled with newspapers or bottles? Unless your collection point is right outside your door, you may be expected to. Wouldn't it have been a good idea, if only for health and safety reasons, to provide everyone with a blue wheelie bin?

**Victoria Meldrew**

### Killin & District Art & Craft Club Exhibition

This is to remind those interested in entering their art or craft for the Exhibition (4th - 7th August) that Handing In Day is the morning of the 3rd August 2004 at the Lesser McLaren Hall. We hope to make this exhibition a real success and can only do so with your art, your craft and your support. An Information Sheet will be available at the Newsagent, Post Office and other public places in the village and surrounding areas nearer the date.

**Betty Lumsden**

## Helping Rural Businesses



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# New Houses

Rural Stirling Housing Association's new development is on target and progressing well. Twelve quality new one-bedroom flats were completed on 7th May and the first of the delighted new residents have now moved in. The remaining 20 houses are scheduled to be completed by the middle of June. These will include:

- 6 two bedroom flats
- 6 two bedroom semi-detached houses
- 4 three bedroom houses
- plus a further 4 one bedroom flats.

Local people with a housing need have been given priority in the allocation of the houses. The Association developed a "Killin Local Lettings Plan" especially for this



**Fingal Wynd**



development and through this it has been possible to address many of the housing needs within the local community.

The properties are being let under the Scottish Secure Tenancy. The Association's affordable rents policy applies and rents for a two-bedroom flat average around £210 per month.

If you have any queries concerning this development please contact

**Tony Teasdale** Co-ordinator  
Rural Stirling Housing Association  
Stirling Road, Doune, FK16 6AA.  
Tel: 01786 841101

## Mobile Library Times

**Tyndrum/Crianlarich**  
Fortnightly Fridays  
Jun 18 July 2, 16, 30

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

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

**Benmore** 2.35 – 2.55  
**Suie Lodge** 3.05 – 3.25

**Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig**  
Fortnightly Mondays  
Jun 13, 28, Jul 12, 26 Aug 9

**Glen Lochay** 10.50 – 12.30  
**Ardeonaig** 2.00 – 2.45



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# Police Report

## Zebra Crossing

There have been several instances of vehicles failing to stop at the zebra crossing when people are waiting to cross. It is occasionally argued that this is because they are unfamiliar with the area but this is no excuse. The markings are clear and the orange globes are flashing (although they don't have to be). If drivers fail to observe the presence of a pedestrian crossing due to inattention or distraction, then accidents can easily occur. Concentration is an important aspect to driving on a road and failure to concentrate could entail trouble with the law or, worse, the serious injury of a child on your conscience. Police have been monitoring the crossing and will continue to do so but this cannot be carried out all the time. It's important to point out that police do not have to have witnessed the event for action to be taken against a driver. If you see someone failing to stop when someone is waiting then, if possible, note the number and description of the vehicle. If a description of the driver can be obtained even better. From an evidential point of view your observations are as credible as a police officer's. Statements can be obtained from the persons affected and action can proceed if necessary.

## Breadalbane Crime Prevention Initiative

The poster displays for June will focus on the wearing of seat belts and for July it will be drugs awareness.

## School Crossing Patrols

School Crossing men and women are employed by Stirling Council throughout the region. It might be a good idea to have such a person located at our zebra crossing when Primary school children are coming or going. If anyone is interested in volunteering to be involved in a school crossing patrol, please contact Stirling Council Roads and Transportation Department.

Andy Fleming

# S.W.R.I.

Mrs. M. Hunter, President, welcomed a good turnout of members and visitors who included Mrs. K. Imley, Chairperson of the Federation and Mrs. McNab from Dull, to the last meeting of the Season held in the Lesser McLaren Hall on Thursday 1st April.

Miss Sandra Batty, Head of Home Economics at Breadalbane Academy gave a very interesting talk on her handicrafts, showing examples of her work from Primary School days including a lap bag, Christmas Apron through to bead work and wonderful embroidery work in "Calico Garden" pictures - a very talented lady. Mrs. Jane Brown gave the Vote of Thanks. The new committee was voted in and Mrs. Hunter thanked the retiring committee for all their hard work and support over her 3 years as President. Mrs. Yvonne MacPherson was elected as new President.

The Points Cup was jointly won by Mrs. J. Huntly and Mrs. C. Reid. Best Trier Cup was won by Mrs. E. Stewart.

## Competition Results:

### Peg Bag

- 1 Mrs B White
- 2 Mrs B MacGregor

### Spring Flower Arrangement

1. Mrs C Reid
- 2 Mrs J Stewart
- 3 Mrs J Huntly

## Telephone Book

The current telephone book for Killin, Lochearnhead, Crianlarich, Tyndrum and Bridge of Orchy is available from the News First, Killin Post Office, Crianlarich Store & Post Office, the Killin Library and Brodies at Tyndrum

A must for all searching for local numbers and contacting local services

Price £3.00

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## 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](mailto:killinlibrary@stirling.gov.uk)



## Strathfillan - "By The Way"

### Strathfillan Community Development Trust



As the (not so) recently appointed Land Manager, this is my first stab at writing an article on behalf of the Trust and explains its environmental bias. First and foremost I would like to thank everyone who made me feel so welcome, especially in those first few difficult weeks. It really did make a difference.

Children, of course, are not concerned whether it's your 4th month in the job or your 40th as long as they're involved in something interesting. The kids at Crianlarich Primary School were no exception on May 11th when they were actively involved in the development of the school grounds, ably assisted by Gavin, Callum and Denise from the National Park and myself. Together

we planted butterfly-friendly plants, such as ox eye daisy, michaelmas daisy, yarrow and marjoram, in one corner of the playground, and planted potatoes in the raised bed which had previously been the tree nursery. The trees, mostly rowan, had already been transplanted into the Crianlarich Community Woodland by the children during April and made an excellent supplement to the self-seeded rowan already there. In the afternoon, taking advantage of the glorious weather, we went 'on safari' into the woodland in search of mini-beasts. Armed only with nets, collecting trays and a little (!) expertise, we grappled with huge caterpillars and a variety of beetles, weevils and spiders. The number of caterpillars we found on the rowan in particular makes me wonder if they might be taking management of the woodland upon themselves!

We (the Trust) have now settled into

Tyndrum Village Hall, a much lighter, roomier space to work in with wonderful views across Tyndrum and up Glen Lochy. We hope people will be more inclined to drop in and see us than before. Personally I would be very pleased to hear from folk who might be interested in re-forming a woodland volunteer group to get involved with practical management of Crianlarich and Tyndrum Community Woodlands.

**Darren Smith**

SCDT Office Tel: 01838 400545

### Strathfillan Community Path Network

We are about to embark on the first stage of developing a path network in and around Strathfillan. We need your help and input with regards to walking, cycling and horse-riding routes. Please feel free to drop in and assist us with a

## 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,

Business Development Manager

Telephone: 01786 445 757, mobile 07771 778594

### Mobile Banking Hours

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

Killin: Monday 11.45 - 12.40 pm & Thursday 11.45 - 12.30 pm

Stirling Retail Office, 2 Pitt Terrace, Stirling FK8 2EX

## The Royal Bank of Scotland

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mapping exercise. Saturday June 19th  
1pm-4pm Crianlarich Village Hall 6pm-  
9pm Tyndrum Village Hall. We are look-  
ing to establish a Path Group that  
includes landowners and representatives  
from the various local user groups in  
order to take this exciting project for-  
ward. If you are interested in joining this  
Group please let us know during the con-  
sultation.

Gavin Skipper, National Park Ranger  
Darren Smith, Land Manager, SCDT

## Singing in the Mod for Crianlarich Primary School

Robert Watson, Scott  
Atkinson and Stephen  
MacNab who will each be  
singing in Gaelic at the  
Perthshire and Angus  
Provincial Mod in Aberfeldy  
on 11 June



## Crianlarich P7 Leavers

Left to right:  
Stephen MacNab  
Leia Ferrall  
Sandy Pringle  
Emily MacMillan  
Scott Atkinson  
Mhairi Carson  
(Ian Armstrong  
not shown)



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Dr B Strickland BDS

# Miscellany

## The Round House

Just a note to voice my disgust at the deliberate desecration of the Round House in the Breadalbane Park. I used to feel that Killin Young folk would not be responsible for deliberate acts of vandalism, I fear someone has proved me wrong.

**Jean Henderson**



## Play the game, boys!

This is a direct appeal to the young people who play football in Breadalbane Park. No-one wants to stop your fun - but some of you are spoiling other peoples fun by using the Bowling Green for your games. You are ruining all the hard voluntary work put into keeping the Green in condition and it is the only place the Bowlers have to play. You have plenty of space in the Park and we ask the few who are guilty (some of whom have been seen in the act) please to play fair and consider other people.

**KN Committee**

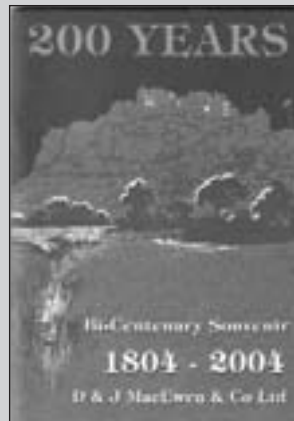
## Thank you

Killin Playgroup would like to thank everyone who supported our recent coffee morning. We raised £500, which is very much appreciated as we are losing a large number of our children this year as they go to school.

## Fingal Stone

At last, with the path complete and the new seats in place, we are beginning to see the Fingal Site taking shape. There is still much to do. Information about the Fingal legend will be put up on special boards and leaflets will eventually be available for tourists (who keep Kay in the Library busy with their questions!) Ongoing maintenance will mean that we will continue to raise money at our annual book sale which this year will be on 7th August, 10am-4pm in the McLaren Hall.

**Moira Meek**



## D & J MacEwen

A booklet *Bi-Centenary Souvenir 1804 - 2004 D & J MacEwen & Co Ltd*, compiled by Sheila MacEwen is now available locally. Starting from the original premises in Broad Street, Stirling the Company developed branches in Callander, Bridge of Allan, Crieff, Dunblane, Killin, Fort William, Aberfoyle, Doune, Comrie and Inverness. The booklet includes a photograph of the Killin shop that opened in 1895 and finally closed in 1985 in the location now occupied by the Co-op.

**WA**

## Bric-a-brac sale change of date

The bric-a-brac sale will now be held on Wednesday 11th August from 10am-4pm and we apologise for any inconvenience this may have caused. The venue will be the McLaren Hall. The hall will be open on the evening of Tuesday 10th August from 7pm-9pm to receive any contributions you may have for us. The cost of entry on the day will be £1 per adult and 50p per child under 12 years of age. The entry fee will include tea/coffee etc. We look forward to seeing you all on that day and there will be bargains galore for you. We are sorry but we cannot accept clothing, footwear or large pieces of furniture. We would also ask that all contributions be whole and in good working order. If you have any queries please phone

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

## Save our Keepfit!

Numbers for the Monday morning classes of Killin Keepfitters have been inexplicably low since Easter. Where is everyone? The session is suitable for all ages - the older and less fit simply do things at a more gentle pace - but, unless numbers rapidly improve, the class will have to be discontinued. So we ask all those who used to attend to make the effort to come back and also look forward to welcoming new members. Please come along to the McLaren Hall from 10-11a.m. on Monday mornings

**Killin Keepfitters**

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# What's on in Killin and District

## June

- 5 Killin Golf Club Ladies Open  
 5 St Angus Church Bazaar Lochearnhead 2pm  
 6 Crannog Centre Come and try Underwater Archaeology  
 7 School Football Festival Breadalbane Park  
 10 Green Team School Pond  
 11 Cancer Research UK Cheese and Wine McLaren Hall 8pm  
 12 Wildlife Walk Tyndrum Community Woodland  
 16 Herb Society - Scottish Plant Collector's Garden Pitlochry 6-9pm  
 20 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band Falls of Dochart 2pm  
 20 Crannog Centre World of Woodturning  
 24 Green Team School Pond 6pm  
 27 National Park Event Glen Ogle Guided Walk to book Tel 01567 830430  
 27 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm

### Bowls

Monday and Friday  
afternoons Tuesday  
evenings  
Bowling Green

### Junior Golf (age 8 and over)

Fridays  
Killin Golf Club  
Starts 5pm  
Beginners start 6pm

### Football

Thursdays  
Sports Pavilion 7pm

### Keep Fit

Monday 10 - 11am  
Tuesday 7 - 8pm  
Circuit training 8.15 - 9pm  
McLaren Hall

## July

- 3/4 National Sheep Shearing Competition and Ceilidh Lochearnhead  
 4 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm  
 8 Green Team School Pond 6pm  
 8 Crannog Centre Concert 7.45-9pm  
 10 An Comunn Gaidhealach Meur Thaobh Loch Tatha (Ceilidh) Fearnan Village Hall 7.30pm  
 11 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band Falls of Dochart 2pm  
 11 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm  
 14 Crannog Centre Stone Carving Event 11am-4pm  
 15 Crannog Centre Concert 7.45-9pm  
 17 Killin Community Compost and Recycling Fair Lesser McLaren Hall 10am-1pm  
 18 Auction McLaren Hall viewing 11am to 2pm Sale 2pm  
 18 National Park Event Guided Walk round Killin to book Tel 01567 830430  
 18 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm  
 21 National Park Event for 8 - 14 year olds For info Tel 01567 830430  
 22 Green Team School Pond 6pm  
 22 Crannog Centre Concert 7.45-9pm  
 24 Balquiddher, Lochearnhead & Strathyre Highland Games Lochearnhead  
 24 McCallmans in Concert McLaren Hall  
 25 Cancer Research UK Boreland Garden, Killin open 2-5pm  
 25 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm  
 28 Church Sale & Coffee Morning 10am McLaren Hall  
 29 Crannog Centre Concert 7.45-9pm

### Line Dancing

Thursdays  
Lesser McLaren Hall  
7pm

### Playgroup

Fridays  
Lesser McLaren Hall  
9.30am

**Please let us know of the details and dates of events during August, September and October for inclusion in the next issue**

## August

- 1 Alloa Bowmar Pipe Band Falls of Dochart 2pm  
 1 Balquiddher Summer Music - Balquiddher Church 7pm  
 1-22 Underwater Archaeology Field School Loch Tay  
 4 Killin Highland Games  
 4/5/6/7 Arts & Crafts exhibition and sale, Lesser McLaren Hall, Killin  
 5 Green Team School Pond 6pm  
 7 Book Fair McLaren Hall 10am-4pm  
 7 Killin Golf Club Gents Open  
 11 Bric a Brac Sale, McLaren Hall 10am

### Tiddlers and Toddlers

Fridays  
Church Hall  
9.30am

### Youth Group

Wednesdays  
Lesser McLaren Hall  
7pm

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# Killin News

**DEADLINES Issue 81 : Advertising 9 July, Copy 16 July**

## Editorial Comment

### 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.

In this edition of the paper you will see we are approaching the time when big changes will be made to the Emergency Out of Hours medical cover, a move which has the potential to reduce the quality of care for the residents of Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum unless our local GPs obtain the contract from the Primary Care Trust. It is important that local residents make their opinions heard at the public consultations, Community Councils and by public representatives.

Killin Primary School is undergoing a metamorphosis. The murals and gardens are an outward sign of exciting changes taking place. The Healthy Eating Tuckshop and opportunities to try a variety of sports, together with cycle proficiency training are now a part of the childrens' school activities.

Killin is not immune to the cycle of increasing house prices which continue to marginalize those on low salaries. We welcome the new housing which gives an essential opportunity for some of our community to have their own home within the village.

### Production Committee

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# Obituaries

## Isabel C. Robertson

My Mother came to Killin in 1937, the year that she and my Father were married. They stayed in the Killin Hotel while looking for a house and, when Crom-alt came on the market, it seemed the perfect place to them. They were there during the war years, when my Father was with the Observer Corps in the village and my Mother settled into village life. I was born during the war but I can still remember my Father getting up during darkness to go on duty at the Observer Corps hut! My Mother kept the house running and this was her major pride all through her life. I have so many happy memories of the kitchen fire burning to heat the oven for the baking for so many Church sales of work or coffee mornings. My Mother was very involved with the Women's Guild and sewed constantly towards sales of work or other causes. She was Presbyterian Secretary for the Dunkeld Presbytery of the Women's Guild for over 17 years. She was involved with the Drama group in the village for some time and also with the Gaelic



choir. She was also a keen enthusiast in setting up the Art Group in the village, which gave her a real interest after my father's death and she spent many happy hours painting under the guidance of Ada Hall. My Mother's strong anchor was the Church and she taught at the Sunday School for many years. My Father fought in the Great War and their personal act of remembrance was to do the Church flowers on each Remembrance Sunday. This was a practice that my Mother kept up for as many years as she could, as well as taking her turn doing the flowers on other Sundays. Their garden was their everlasting joy and this took all their free time. The real sorrow was that my

Mother could not end her days at Crom-alt, as she was so independent. However the last 20 months of her life spent near me, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren were, I like to think, among some of her happiest times. Her party for her 100th birthday, with so many friends from Killin and all the family, was a wonderful day that none of us will ever forget – and neither did she.

**Margaret H.H. Fyfe**

## Catherine Rew

It was with much sadness that on 15th March 2004 Cathy lost her long and courageous fight against cancer. Bill, Jean and Patricia would like to extend their thanks to all friends and neighbours for their many cards and kind expressions of sympathy during this sad and difficult time. They were most comforting and very much appreciated. Heartfelt thanks to Killin Medical Practice, especially Dr. De Laat, Dr Turner and the community nursing staff. Without their compassionate care and attention Cathy would not have been able to fulfil her wishes to remain at home. Bill would like to say a special thanks to everyone who attended Perth Crematorium and contributed so generously to the collection in aid of Cancer Research. **The Rew family**

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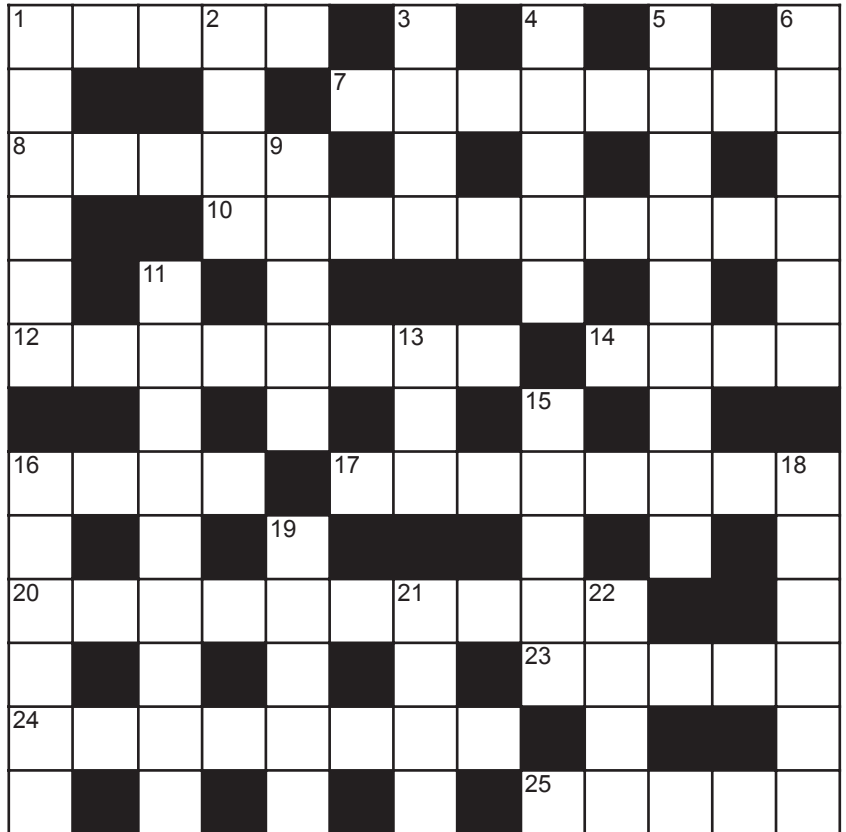
# Crossword by Scorpio

## Across

- 1 Quick, intelligent and rather cutting (5)  
 7 Deliberations (8)  
 8 Sour sort of melon (5)  
 10 Feel in the passing, but it could be risky (5,3,2)  
 12 Vague (8)  
 14 Looking natural could hold a biting insect (4)  
 16 Narrow minded and a thief (4)  
 17 Double sight or is it separation? (8)  
 20 They had a penchant for apples (4,3,3)  
 23 Total I bid held proof of innocence (5)  
 24 Interminable end in gun confusion (8)  
 25 See 13 down.

## Down

- 1 Of a serious or glum nature (6)  
 2 A class of vegetables (4)  
 3 Little fowl has lost the king but remains elegant (4)  
 4 Pertaining to the moon (5)  
 5 A novel concerned with murder or crime (9)  
 6 If going to new Core St. take a companion (6)  
 9 Aristocratic manner in which bambino blew bubbles (5)  
 11 Baldie got upset when he found he was duty bound (9)  
 13 & 25 across One line of poetry or the whole of mankind (8)  
 15 Persil vaguely holds regional trees (5)  
 16 Ornamental or inscribed plate (6)  
 18 Beginner is completely free of evil (6)  
 19 Indicators (5)  
 21 She reversed to eat (4)  
 22 Different seal (4)



## Solution to Crossword 79

Across 4 absorbs 8 chance 9 beneath 10 rotate 11 kitten 12 broccoli  
 18 legalise 20 dances 21 dralon 22 watch it 23 menace 24 attacks  
 Down 1 scarabs 2 caution 3 acetic 5 breaking 6 oleate 7 bother 13 oilslick  
 14 mislead 15 seances 16 basalt 17 acacia 19 agreed

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## Across the Globe



**On or off the piss piste?**



**Milo and his support group**

Dani and Milo would like to thank everyone who sponsored them on their Great Glen walk. They raised £455 for DEBRA - Dystrophic Epidermolysis Bullosa Research Association

### One of Killin's oldest families celebrates five generations



**Mrs Annie Allan, 99 this year**

Annie has lived in Killin all her life. She was photographed in Killin on Monday 3rd May with four generations of her direct descendants:- daughter Isobel, grandson Graham, great-granddaughter Laura, and great-great-grandson Daniel. Daniel was 9 weeks old at that time. Isobel and her family now live in Arbroath; her sister May lives in Killin

Report by May Graham. Photograph by David Mardon



**Rachel Louise**

born 1st January 2004

to Andrew and Jayne Lewis of Capercaile. Seen here on a recent holiday in New Zealand with big brother James and sister Sara

### Cheerio Charlie



Retiring from Central Scotland Fire Brigade after over 21 years service in the retained fire station at Killin, Leading Fire-fighter Charlie Grant above is being presented with a plaque on behalf of the fire master from Divisional Officer Tommy Mann. To mark his retirement, personal from Tyndrum Callander, Killin and Headquarters joined Charlie and Trish in the Falls of Dochart Inn for a meal followed by the presentation. Charlie will not be completely giving up what has been a way of life to him for all those years, he will be coming back later on in the year to run a new fire cadet group to be set up at Killin Station on a voluntary basis.

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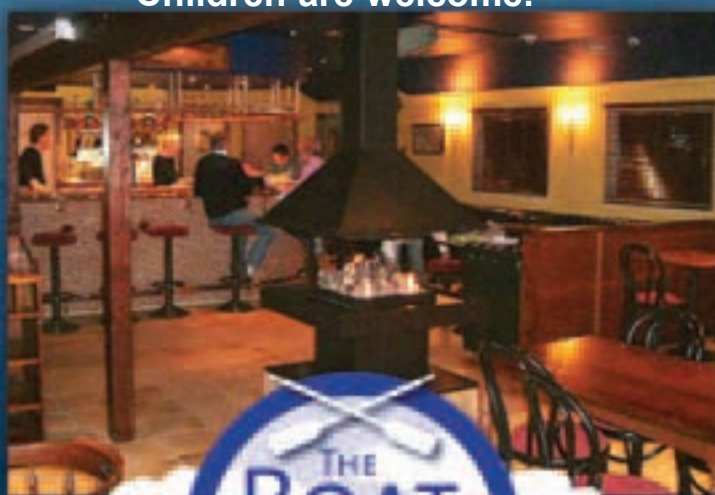


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