

KILLIN NEWS

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KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER Issue 81 August 2004

Scottish Football Association Schools Event



Forth Valley Health Board Plans For Out-of-hours see pages 3, 4, 11, 24, 27.

Congratulations



Georgia Crook and Andrew Warwick are pleased to announce the birth of their son, Innes Emyr Chisam Warwick, on 9th June at Stirling Royal Infirmary. A brother for Bea.

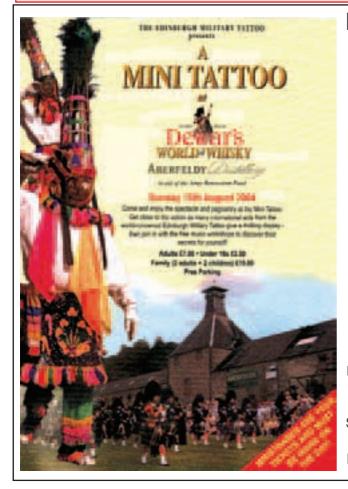
A wee brother for Ashleigh and Cara. Paul and Shona (formerly Hunter) Honeyman are delighted to announce the birth of their son, Thomas Alexander, on 15th June. Latest grandson to Mary and George Hunter Fingal Road.





Duncan McDiarmid, born 30 January 2004 to Peter and Marjory McDiarmid, Balbeg Farm, Lawers, pictured with his big sister, Anna.

Apologies to Vicky and Graham for Issue 80, Caption should have read:- Caitlin Isobella Grant was born on 27 March 2004, weighing 6 lbs 14oz. Vicky and Graham would like to thank everyone for the cards and presents.



Programme of Events

12 midday Gates Open 2pm - 3pm Flying Falconry Display 3pm - 4pm Mini Tattoo 4pm - 5pm Childrens' workshops

Bouncy Castle Children's Entertainment Country Food Court Free admission to Dewar's World of Whisky and whisky tasting (adults only!) Special Whisky promotions in the Brand Store **Event finishes 6pm** Mobile Library Times

> Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays Aug 13, 27, Sep 10, 24, Oct 8 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 Aug 9, 23, Sep 6, 20, Oct 4

Glenlochay 10.50 – 12.30 Ardeonaig 2.00 – 2.45

and a local statistic tests to the

Shutters Restaurant and Coffee Shop



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Out-of-hours Developments

After the meeting on 8th July the following letter was received by John MacPherson, Chairman of the Killin Community Council Dear John,

Thank you for helping to set up the very useful meeting in Killin yesterday (22 July) with GPs, Ambulance and Community Council colleagues. As was said at the Consultation meeting, we do want to find a solution for the Killin area which the public has confidence in, and we agreed we would work with the Community Council to outline what this might look like. The proposal we discussed with you today is essentially as follows:

work towards a paramedic-centred solution to out-of-hours over time

to recruit additional paramedics who will be based in Killin 24 hours a day, 365 days a year (different from current arrangements)

to extend paramedic skills further to deal with minor ailments/injuries in the lead-in period

to work with GPs to phase this in over a six month period

The phasing would allow paramedics to be recruited and trained up, work alongside GPs, and in the last two months, take the lead role while GPs would step down but still be available.

This would facilitate a managed hand-over and allow us to resolve problems.

It is proposed that Gareth Davies, Medical Director would take the lead in bringing together a small group involving the GPs in Killin and Callander, and Ambulance Service colleagues to prepare the detail of this and he will go ahead and set this up quickly.

Secondly, it was proposed that the group which met this morning could act as a stakeholder group to work over the next six months to oversee this process on behalf of the NHS Forth Valley GPs and the community. One of the early activities would be to prepare a question and answer paper for the Killin News to address some of the perceived problems that were raised at the meeting two weeks ago. (8 July)

The meeting was extremely constructive and, as you know, the GPs are supportive of this approach and I hope we can move forward together to work on this.

Yours sincerely, **Fiona Mackenzie Chief Executive, Forth Valley Health Board**

See also pages 4, 11, 24 and 27

O-o-h what a meeting!

NHS Forth Valley Health Board held a "Public Consultation" in the McLaren Hall on 8 July. The hall was filled by more than 300 residents from the area between Tyndrum and Strathyre, almost a quarter of the population, emphasising the strength of feeling about the future of the out-of-hours medical services. Fiona MacKenzie, the Chief Executive of FVHB, chaired the meeting surrounded by Health Board and Ambulance Service representatives. The presentation by Dr Gareth Davis, the Medical Director. addressed many points including the siting of Community Hospitals in Clackmannanshire, Stirling, Falkirk, Bonnybridge and Larbert (all of which seem very remote from Killin). Also mental health issues and temporary changes to existing hospitals during the transfer to the new hospital at Larbert. Out-of-hours medical cover for the rural areas appeared very low on the list of FVHB priorities but was a matter of great concern to local residents as was demonstrated by questions at the meeting. Two options were proposed for the new out-of-hours service. Firstly three centres based in Falkirk, Stirling and Alloa and

secondly, one centre based in Falkirk. As Stirling is a good 80 minutes drive from Tyndrum, choice between two such improbable options seemed illogical from here

The public made many valid points most of which were left unanswered. Dr Syme, supported by the audience, spoke with emotion about his concerns. Issues raised by members of the public included transport problems, doctor response time, paramedic cover and training.

Some Health Board responses appeared unsure and unrehearsed. It seemed that, as with the siting of the new hospital in Larbert, rural problems had not been taken into account. Reassurance from FVHB was in short supply.

Moira Meek invited those of us with concerns to make representation to our elected representatives.

Promises were made by the Health Board to re-consider the issue and ensure a safe out-of-hours system during the transition period, until the new system is up and running. As always, our views would be "given careful consideration" (See letter page 3)

W۸



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Tee-off In The Park

The National Park Golf Pass and Challenge On Wednesday, 7 July, at Callander Golf Club.

Gillie Thomson. Convenor of the Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority, purchased the first 'Tee-off in the Park' Golf Pass and a commemorative sports shirt embroidered with the Pass logo. Thereafter, Gillie and a representative of each of the participating Clubs as well as members of the Press completed a round over the Callander Course and registered their scores for the 2005 National Park Golf Challenge. In accepting his Pass, Gillie welcomed the new initiative. "I am delighted to be here today and wish this exciting new venture all the very best. I really do hope it's a great success. It's a fantastic idea and one, which I hope, benefits local businesses in and around the Park. I'm a keen golfer myself and can't wait to enter the challenge. We have some stunning courses in the park with fantastic scenery. I would encourage every golfer to take this opportunity, buy a pass and enjoy playing in Scotland's first National Park."

> **Ruth Crosbie** Public Relations Officer Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park

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Heart of Scotland **Herb Society**

After a satisfactory conclusion to our regular meetings we move on to summer outings



and visits to gardens in Fearnan, Ross and Fife. It is always good to view the plants discussed throughout the year in their natural habitat and progressive growth through the different seasons. Thanks to

all our members who have supported and made this another very successful year for the society. Next season includes culinary, medic-



inal and horticultural sessions. Anyone interested in joining us as a member/guest at any meeting or for early 2004-05 syllabus details contact either

Patty Hope at 01567 820408 or Judy Forster at 01567 820298.



1st Killin Brownies

Brownies will restart after the summer holidays on September 13th

2004 at 6.30 pm in Killin Church Hall.

Fiona & Julie

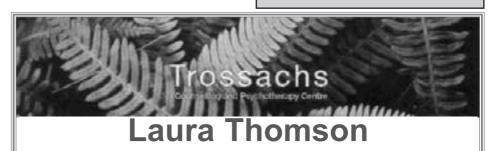
Any girl who is 7 already, is eligible and very welcome, to join 1st Killin Brownies now. If you would like to become a Brownie or are just thinking about it, you can come along a week before your 7th birthday and join in the fun. We meet from 6.30pm to 8.00pm every Monday night and do all sorts of fun activities e.g. games, computing, crafts, outings, golf, canoeing etc. We look forward to seeing you there.



Charity Fair

Very many thanks to all who supported, donated and helped our Charity Fair in Lynedoch. We raised £2,200 for Children's Hospice Association, Scotland. Thanks to John Grant for collecting unwanted pennies around the Park and McLaren Hall, which amounted to £35.50. You were all very kind in supporting us each day for a week which was most enjoyable and very much appreciated.

Morag MacNee for Killin & District



Bsc (Hons) Psychol, MPhil, Dip couns, T.A Psychtherapist (in TA training as a transactional analyst with clinical specialty) Counselling and Psychtherapy for individuals, couples and groups Ancaster Business Centre, Cross Street, Callander. Tel: 01877 339393 www.tcpc.org.uk

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Frost Report

Northern Exposure

As I write in the middle of July, the sunshine of Summer has not yet been very noticeable. Hopefully, by the time that you read this, we will have had some warmer, sunnier days. If it has been disappointing for us, then it has been worse for some of the birds. House martins and swallows, seem to have lost their early broods, some chicks being found dead under nests from cold and damp. Let's hope they will succeed with a second brood as there are fewer migrants about these days . Plovers, oyster-catchers and sandpipers all seem to be scarcer than a few years ago. I don't think the decline is due to their bird table food being stolen as happened recently. You may have heard or noticed that woodpeckers are utilising nut feeders as there are several places locally where they do this. The poor bird who began this at Boreland found himself chased away by a red squirrel. The squirrel's language sounded as though it should be bleeped out! I am writing this in Sutherland overlooking the track to the lodge where we lived 30 years ago, which was a hazardous journey with many stops for the "little leopards" (the yellow and brown spotty golden plover chicks) to trot safely

across the track. Yesterday on the same track there did not appear to be any. It is still another world up here, watching from the window to see the stags lying chewing the cud and the hinds chivvying their calves around. At least they seem to have done well, with about 40% calving from what we have seen so far. This is considered a good number. Some were



lug-tagged in their first few hours of life to provide valuable information such as accurate ageing so that, when the beast is shot later in life, wear on teeth etc. can be studied. From the beginning of June the stalker keeps a lookout for a hind moving off on her own to feed her calf. Then he can mark the spot and creep down to quietly cover the calf with a landing net.

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Even at two days old the calf will easily bolt with a surprising turn of speed, so it's best to try in the first 24 hours. At this estate they managed to tag one on

June 4th and 6 on the 7th. The calves must not be handled as mum may not accept them if human scent is detected.

Further down the strath a crofter in his 4-wheel drive sits in a lay-by waiting for a deer to stray over his march (boundary) onto his land so



that he can shoot it. The locals estimate that he has spent the better part of 20 years doing this. He may be a little too elderly or stiff from sitting in the jeep to get many and it must surely put the price of this venison quite high per hours spent. Speaking of slightly more mature stalkers; some of us have been taking to homework and tests again after many years away from school. This was in order to gain the comparatively new Deer Management Oualification. All who stalk as a profession or as a hobby, both young and old, should try to gain this as proof of knowledge and proficiency. It may become a very necessary piece of paper to gain a firearms certificate for stalking.

Firearms legislation has recently brought together the British Association for Shooting and Conservation (B.A.S.C.) and Mothers Against Guns. These two unlikely partners are uniting to lobby for reduction of gun crime on our streets caused by illegally held guns. Mothers Against Guns has no objection to lawabiding shooters and hope that co-operation with responsible organisations may help to find some new answers. A post-script on the heather beetle - at the recent Scone Country Fair, questionnaires were issued by The Game Conservancy, The Heather Trust and Scotland's Moorland Forum to try to find the true extent of heather beetle spread. On a brighter note – anglers in the North have been having some success catching trout on imitation heather beetle flies. Wonder if flying fish could be used as a control?

For Sale

Olympus 35mm SLR OM2 N 50mm F1.4 lens, 35mm F2.8 wide angle lens, 200mm F4 telephoto lens, complete with case, filters and original packaging Offers over £200.00 Contact Trevor 01567 820652 day 01567 820870 night



Celtic Scots and Irish often have the

criticism levelled at them that one of their failings is the tendency to keep looking backwards into history for support and guidance. The same might be said of some weather forecasters, amateur or professional. So often we see in newspapers or other journals the references made to weather patterns of previous years and the ensuing sequences of events and basing on these a progression of expected conditions for the current year. Sometimes this may prove correct, or may possibly be wishful thinking!

While the Spring of 2004 was broadly in line with that of 2003, Summer so far has proved to be more in allegiance with the somewhat disastrous efforts of 2002. As we are now past the Summer Solstice of 21st June, if we are to be blessed with an improved late Summer, things had better hurry up. Often in the past it has been an Indian Summer in September that has "saved the day" for belated hay makers on the hill. But as always, falling into the old trap of looking backwards, a poor May and June has been known to relent around mid July and favour us with at least a spell of acceptable weather conditions. One must I'm sure, as in most other situations, consider the glass half-full rather than half-empty!

Those farmers that indulge in silage have been pushing ahead between the showers. For hay makers however the season hasn't really started and as usual with a damp early Summer, grass is prolific, the question is "Will we get weather to harvest it?"

Although at time of writing – 7th July – some patches of old snow remain in the corries of the Cairngorms and other high places further north. A little contest has taken place recently between Ben Lawers, Ben More and Beinn Heasgarnich (between the heads of Glen Lochay and Glen Lyon) as to which could

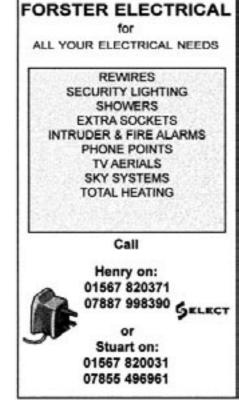


hang on to its remaining snow patch the longest. By the 19th June both the Ben Lawers patch on the north east ridge and "The Cuidhe Crom" (crooked wreath) on Ben More had vanished, Beinn Heasgarnich with a small patch in Coire Ban Mor won the day by keeping this small bit until 22nd June. In 2003 all visible snow had vanished from the Breadalbane hills by 15th June.

In the years 1933, 1959 and 1996 all known snow beds in the UK disappeared. In 2003 this also occurred but earlier than had been previously recorded - 27th August 2003. Climate change is obviously biting. The question is, has this happened before, and if so, when?

> Mervyn K. Browne Ardtalnaig





Farming Matters

It was over 50 years ago that my Mother started farming in Glen Dochart and I am positive that in those days farmers did not have the paperwork that we have in this day and age. It seems that any 4-legged beast has to have a piece of paper before it can put one foot in front of the other and all this can take up a lot of time which could be spent on maintenance on the farms and estate.

So enough of moaning. As a family, we were brought up in a farming environment both here in the glen and between Doune and Dunblane. There my Father had two dairy farms and two hirsels of pedigree Blackfaced sheep. As children, my brother and I spent a lot of time up at the farm, helping, in the dairy, sealing the milk cartons, making butter or feeding the young calves. One big treat was to ride the Clydesdale horses back to their paddock after a day's work. They were used for ploughing etc., but were also shown in harness at various agricultural shows, a canny and handsome breed. The summers were spent at Auchlyne and the move up wasn't just a jump into the car and off. The cattle float arrived at the front door and into it would go my parents' desks, the silver chest, various suitcases our bikes and other paraphernalia, last of all, the hens and the pony. I also

seem to remember occasions when the beehives, complete with bees, came as well!

As soon as we were old enough, we were roped into helping with the haymaking. Summers must have been better in those days! Not one of my favourite jobs, as I suffered from hayfever. The job I did enjoy was packing the wool at the clippings. The wool bag was strung up on ropes from the rafters, so I had to climb into the bag and then whoever was rolling the wool threw it up to me and I packed it in the bag. The bags were quite deep so, until there were quite a few fleeces inside, I couldn't see out. When I was older, I rolled the wool and was also in charge of the tar. This was smeared on to any cuts that the sheep might get while being clipped. Now, 30 years on, I am still doing the same job!

There are many reports these days of our diminishing birdlife, so it is great to see the house sparrows and starlings making use of the farm buildings as nesting sites – add swallows and swifts and the buildings are noisy places. Earlier this year, a pair of redstarts nested in a wall at the sheep fank and were quite happily flying to and from the nest with tasty insects to feed their young, while the men worked with the sheep. One bird whose numbers



have diminished in this area is the red grouse. Weather may be one factor but, in the last 5 to 6 years, heather beetle has taken its toll on the heather. This spring we saw swarms of thousands of beetles emerging prior to mating, laying eggs which would hatch out ready to ravish what heather is left. Not only will this affect the grouse population, but also winter grazing for sheep and deer.

Emma Paterson

Killin and District Agricultural Society

Sheep Shearing Competition was at Kennock Farm, Glen Lochay, on Friday 2nd July 2004 by kind permission of Mr J Cameron.

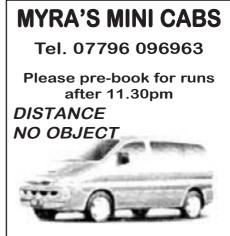
Machine Section - Judge - Mr A Telfer Open

- 1 Ewan Cameron
- 2 Sandy Taylor
- 3 Donald MacKenzie
- Local
- 1 Sandy Taylor
- 2 Donald MacKenzie
- 3 Angus Webster
- Hand Section Judge Mr W Shaw
- **Open** 1 Donald McColl
- 2 Peter McDiarmid
- 2 Peter McDiarmid
- 3 Gordon Stewart
- Local
- 1 Peter McDiarmid
- 2 Gordon Stewart
- 3 Willie Taylor
- 21 and Under
- 1 Stewart Kennedy
- 2 Richard Lewis
- 3 Adam Mitchell

Oldest Competitor - John Taylor **Youngest Competitor** - Stuart Grant **Stockjudging** - Isla Shaw

The Killin Show

Saturday 21 August Marquee Dance after Show from 9pm. Tickets £4.00 beforehand - £5.00 on the night. Band - The Gallavanters - Bar and Raffle.



What Happens to the contents of your blue recycling box?

Your plastic milk bottles, and other type 2 plastic containers, are squashed into bales and granulated into flakes; washed; dried and then made into plastic 'geoblocks' used for landscaping. Some flakes are manufactured into a wide range of useful goods - including playground equipment, garden furniture, signposts; home compost bins and even kerbside recycling boxes! Other types of plastic - such as type 1 (which at the moment Stirling Council is unable to collect) - are reprocessed differently and can be made into items such as fleece jackets. So what starts life as an Irn Bru bottle can become a winter jacket. Glass, which is infinitely recyclable with no deterioration in quality, is separated into different colour compartments on the recycling truck and transported to Alloa where a huge factory melts it at temperatures of around 1500 degrees. The molten glass is then blown into new bottles. Your whisky bottle is quite likely to be made of recycled glass from Alloa.

Paper goes to a large processing works near Kilsyth where it is sorted, baled and sent on to various paper mills for reprocessing. So the newspaper you read last week could be recycled into the one you will be reading next week. Steel cans, which make up almost 4% of our household waste, are taken to steel works for reprocessing into new steel products. Aluminium foil and drinks cans are reprocessed in Warrington. Like glass, aluminium can be recycled indefinitely. Finally, discarded textiles are sorted in Denny. Clothing and footwear in good condition is sent overseas to people in need and torn or damaged textiles can be used as rags.

Not only does recycling allow reprocessing into new materials, but it saves significant amounts of energy and resources and reduces the need for landfill sites. Recycling aluminium brings potential energy savings of 95% and each tonne of recycled glass replaces 1.2 tonnes of raw materials so reducing sand and limestone quarrying. Buying recycled products such as recycled paper and plastic products - helps 'close the loop'. Stirling households have recycled 9,150 tonnes of waste since April 2003 (an increase of 100%). Thank you for recycling your waste and please keep up the good work so that your waste is not wasted.

> Caroline Crawford Community Waste Planning Officer

Killin Highland Games Auction

The committee held it's first fundraising auction on the 18th July. A large selection of lots was on offer, kindly donated by members of the community and auctioned by Peter Wood of United Auctions. Over £500 was raised and this will be used to fund some of the events on Games day, 4th of August. Thanks were expressed to Peter, and to Chris Sharp and his wife, who assisted with the important matter of collecting the cash. After this fantastic result the committee decided to have this event as an annual fund raising exercise. So all take note next year we will again be looking for support and goods to help fund the Killin Highland Games. Many thanks to all who donated items and all who helped.

Fiona Stewart



Computer Corner

BROADBAND UPDATE

There have been discussions about rural broadband at the highest levels within the Scottish Parliament, with the Enterprise Minister, Jim Wallace, announcing a plan that will ensure that all areas in Scotland have access to Broadband Internet by the end of 2005. Mr. Wallace said: "The Executive has made it clear that economic growth is our top priority. By providing all communities in Scotland with access to broadband technology and the huge benefits it brings, we are putting in place an important business tool to facilitate this growth."

This hopefully means that all homes and businesses within our area will have affordable fast Internet access for Christmas 2005. For people near to the village centre, there will be broadband via the telephone line, and those outside the centre of Killin, alternative solutions will be provided. It is unclear what these alternative solutions will be, but my best guess is some form of wireless service with Internet signals being sent via radio waves.

BROADBAND FUNDING? SOME HOPE!

Late last year the Scottish Executive announced plans to fund take up of broadband for businesses throughout Scotland – a grant of £300 was made available for businesses to install and use broadband internet – which would cover much of the installation charges and in many cases most of the first year's rental. Many companies in and around the central belt have taken up this offer, and have already been paid their grant. A recent condition of this grant is that broadband has to be installed by the end of March 2005 – and of course we will not have broadband available to us until at least July 2005. We have been offered a grant to install satellite broadband, but even with this grant, a small business would have to pay over £1000 rental per annum just to get access to fast internet connections that our suburban friends enjoy for almost free. I would like to ask the Executive why the deadline cannot be extended in line with the BT activation dates of rural communities?

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The best way of voicing our opinions is to canvass our MSP, Dr. Sylvia Jackson, via email at Sylvia.Jackson.msp@scottish.parliament.uk

FROGSPAWN WEBSITE

I have now established a website which will contain helpful information about virus protection, prevention from hackers, and tools to help deal with spam. The web address is www.frogspawncomputers.co.uk and the site's aim is to help the community with computing issues. Feel free to browse the site, and to send an email if there's anything you'd like to see on the site in future. Please also note my change of email address.

Mark Lincoln

mark@frogspawncomputers.co.uk

Killin Keepfitters No classes over the summer. Back in September Look out for the posters



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

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Gill Hunt

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Killin Community Council Meeting 13th July

Breadalbane Park Gate behind School:

The gate is believed to be the property of the Council and appears to have been locked apparently illegally without any authority. Mr W. Hamill of Stirling Council Community Services, who was at the meeting, was asked to have it unlocked as soon as possible. He said that through 'custom and practice' this road could be a right of way and he would seek legal advice about the gate, the ownership of the road and the area at the front of the main park gates. Skip: Suggestions were made about getting a second skip just for industrial waste and opening the garden compost site for the same times as the skip. **Coach House Hotel Car Park:**

Questions were asked about this area being used as a camping site as campers were often using the riverbank as toilets. **School speed limit:** The 20 mph limit could be in place 2005/6.

N.H.S. 24/Out-of-hours Medical care: The recent NHS meeting was attended by around 300 people and their concerns were clearly made known to the panel. The Council would send a letter * to the Health Board and consider placing a questionnaire into the Killin News. Discussions between Forth Valley Health Board, GPs, and adjacent Community councils were still going on but if, after various discussions with the parties concerned no progress had been made on out-of-hours health cover, it was unanimously agreed to consider a petition to the Scottish Parliament. Next meeting: 14th September in Killin Primary School at 7.30pm

*Extract from the KCC letter to FVHB

It was deemed that a number of the proposals outlined at the consultation meeting in Killin on 8th July were unacceptable and unsafe. Much of the fear raised stemmed from the rural nature of the area, plus the distance from Stirling.
 The proposals are that Paramedics will be the means of getting hands-on treatment during the out-of-hours period. It was pointed out that in Killin the ambulance service is on a part-time basis. It was unanimously agreed that the Community Council should continue to lobby for full-time Paramedic Ambulance cover, based at Killin.

3. Concern was also expressed about the medical cover to be provided. Despite the assurances given at the meeting on the 8th, they are not totally convinced that a Paramedic, who we understand is trained

in a matter of weeks, despite their best efforts, can give the same level of confidence and care that a GP who has had years of training and experience. The Community Council asks that every effort be made to maintain the level of care as it is at the moment, and that negotiations take place with local GPs to ensure that this will happen.

5. It was generally agreed that the proposals appeared to be offering the residents of the community a second class medical service, which was not acceptable. It was also agreed that if the proposals remained as they are, then a petition to the Scottish Parliament should be given serious consideration.







Strathfillan - "By The Way"

Strathfillan Community Development Trust

If life can be likened to a game of snakes and ladders, when it comes to the Kickaround in Mansefield, it feels like we've just been swallowed by a snake, and find ourselves near the Start again. The design we've been working on had become too ambitious, too expensive and we are very concerned about the drainage on the site. Stirling Council is helping us to get test pits dug and analysed to get the ground properly drained and re-seeded. Meantime, Darren Smith from SCDT strimmed the rushes to try to make what's currently there playable. Many thanks to the five households who returned the questionnaire about the planned Youth Group. Jo Polak, the Council's Youth Worker will be talking to the youngsters (8 to 18 years old) once they return to

school, and we hope to have the Group running once more, once a week, over the winter months.

The Breadalbane Virtual Learning Centre is now "opening its doors" and we in Strathfillan would like to thank Julie Rhys and Suzanne Player for the months of work and negotiations that have got us to this point. We are thrilled that Tyndrum is to be the first of several community facilities with satellite broadband, and look forward to the incredible learning opportunities this, and the new laptops will bring.

Sue Wyllie SCDT Office Tyndrum Village Hall Tel: (01838) 400 545

Message from the Minister

The schools are out, the world is green, lots of visitors are here - it must be Summer! Appearances can be deceptive. She is pretty, always well dressed, has a good job, and loads of holidays. She must be happy. He is slim and muscular,



BOOKINGS ONLY REQUIRED FOR LARGE GROUPS Tel. 01567 820436

jogs every day and seems always to be in control, people admire him. He must be successful. The truth is she needs her regular therapy session with her psychologist to enable her to cope with the family breakdown that turned her life upsidedown. He runs and is constantly thinking up things to do - anything that will take his mind off all his financial and other worries.

Social and moral rules for living are not invented by somebody - the church for example. Nor are they there to beat us over the head and take away our happiness. Rather they are the accumulated wisdom that grows out of the experience of past generations learning to live at peace with themselves and each other. It's easy to worry too much about appearances and about what might happen tomorrow. I think it is well summed up in these few words - "Love God with your whole being, and love your neighbour as yourself." It must have been Jesus who said that!

Reverend John Shedden The Manse, Dalmally



Woodland Activity Event & Car Boot Sale Tyndrum Saturday 14th August

The Strathfillan Community Development Trust in partnership with Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park is holding a Woodland Activity Event in the car park adjacent to the Tourist Information Centre in Tyndrum. Activities include: demonstration of felling and horse logging by local Clydesdales in Tyndrum shelter belt (opposite Little Chef): demonstration of charcoal burning: green wood turning and local craft stalls

Activities start at 10:30. Anyone interested in having a stall please contact Darren at the Trust office.

A Car Boot Sale has been organised on the same Saturday, also at the Car Park by the Tyndrum Tourist Infromation Centre, by the Crianlarich & Tyndrum Tourist Association and SCDT in aid of The Derek Wilkie Memorial Fund. Funds raised will go towards a dedicated picnic bench to be sited adjacent to Tyndrum Village Hall in memory of Derek. Any surplus funds will go to Derek's favourite local charity. Pitches for the car boot sale will cost £7.50 and can be booked in advance or turn up on the day. Selling starts at 10:30 am.

For further information, booking etc. please contact the Trust office on (01838) 400545

Virtual Learning Arrives!

With all the funding now in place, the Breadalbane Virtual Learning Centre is ready for business. New laptop computers are being purchased with up-to-date software and wireless connections to the printer. Satellite broadband is about to go into Tyndrum Village Hall, with access in Killin and Balquhidder planned for the near future. Gordon Gaughan from Crianlarich has been employed as the Coordinator for the project. Training will be flexible and can offer tuition to Small Groups or on a One-to-One basis in people's own homes if necessary - individuals can choose the tutor, times and the kind of computing skills they would like to learn. For group training, village halls, schools and other venues will be used throughout the area from Strathyre to Killin and Tyndrum.

Charges will be reasonable and concessionary rates will apply to senior citizens and those in receipt of benefit.

Courses Available

Digital Photography course for 3 weeks x 2 hours in August. This is full already but if you would like to do this course at a later date, it can be repeated. **SAGE** – this will be available in Nov/Dec

Small group training for Businesses eg Designing menus We will be working

with Clackmannan College to provide a full programme of courses from September. so, if you want to learn something on the computers

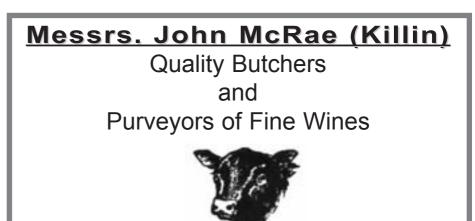
PLEASE LET US KNOW.

Internet access There will be internet café set ups in Tyndrum on a regular basis. People will be able to use the computers for any purpose at a minimal cost. Times will be advertised during August. This will be repeated throughout the area where internet access is available.

Laptop Hire You will be able to hire a Laptop computer if your own breaks down and you need one for work, for holiday use, or for hospital stays. This is a facility for local people, run by local people so PLEASE MAKE USE OF IT!

Phone Gordon Gaughan 0779 542339 to book or for further information.

This project is funded and supported by Leader+, Carnegie UK Trust, S.C. Local Community Development Fund, Direct Grants, Awards for All, S.C. Community Grants Scheme, Clackmannan College and S. C. Communities Team



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Breadalbane Area Network Meeting

The Loch Lomond & Trossochs National Park Community Partnership held a meeting on 22nd June in the Village Hall Crianlarich. Following various presentations those attending were split into 4 groups to discuss the issues raised. The following points were the main items presented by the groups: Poor communication between agencies Lack of integrated transport Concern for the safety of children walking to school in Crianlarich Fears about changes in care for patients overnight and at weekends when the local GPs are not on duty Poor signposting to Killin for Tourists Volume of paperwork a disincentive to tradespeople taking on apprentices Lack of wet weather activities for visitors Litter on road and lochside Concerns that decision making does not involve young people in areas that affect them Apprenticeship schemes need an element of social contact as well as providing a challenge to the participant Lack of affordable housing in Strathfillan Cost of public transport.

When asked to summarise the most popular issues, the following list was presented Health Services Roads and Transport Communications Meaningful consultation Employment

Seaplanes, could this affect Loch Tay?

Members of Loch Lomond & The **Trossachs National Park Authority** agreed a policy presuming against the use of seaplanes on Loch Lomond at their meeting in Crianlarich on Monday 14 June. This was the outcome of a discussion regarding seaplane use on Loch Lomond through a byelaw proposed at the Authority's last meeting in March. The original proposal for a byelaw requiring prior consent of the Park Authority for the use of Loch Lomond by seaplanes would be judged against the four statutory aims of the National Park. But recent events led the Authority to take a much stronger line. While the Air Navigation Order 2000 does not discriminate between land and water aerodromes in the need for a licence, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has not yet produced detailed guidance on licensing water-based aerodromes. Legal advice to the Authority suggests that regular use of the loch for landing and taking off would not only constitute the use of the loch as an aerodrome but may also be a material change of use requiring planning permission. The Park has been in discussion with one

particular operator for some time. The operators have submitted an application for a certificate of lawfulness to establish whether planning permission is required. This describes a service to begin in July that would operate from a variety of places around the loch to suit their customers. Park officers are seeking an urgent meeting with the head of aerodrome licensing at the CAA. Park staff have also been monitoring seaplane activity and have noted a sharp increase recently, with more than one craft regularly landing and taking off, and the authority has received complaints from the public about noise and disturbance. Convener of the National Park, Gillie Thomson said "Any potential operator will have to demonstrate that their activities will not have either immediate or long-term cumulative impacts on the special qualities of Loch Lomond. We can't allow seaplane operators to land and take off wherever and whenever they please in such a sensitive area.

> **Ruth Crosbie** Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park

Scotland's first National Park has appointed three new members to the Park Authority. They are: Councillor Alasdair Beaton, who represents the Trossachs ward on Stirling Council: Councillor Denis Agnew of West Dunbartonshire Council and Councillor Martin Rooney. The appointments will be for three years from July 8 2004 to July 7 2007

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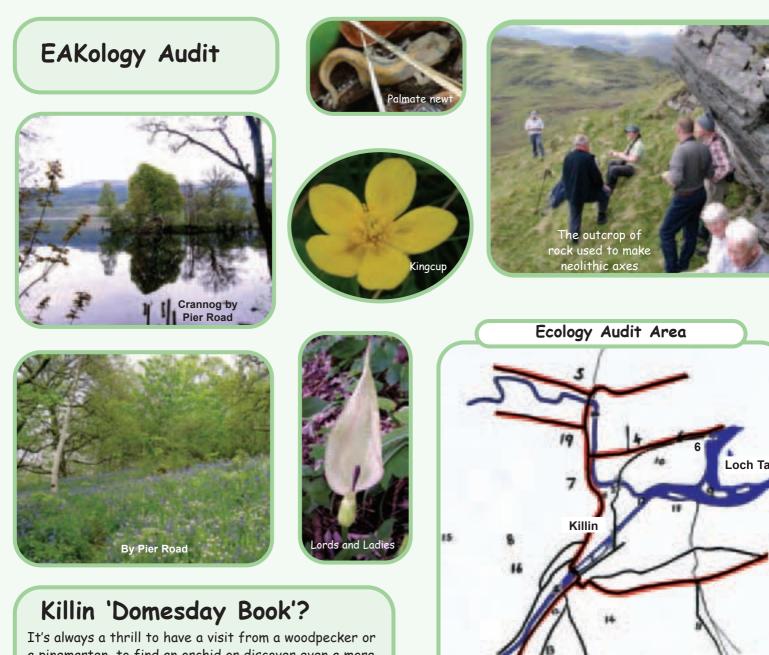


for Homebaking **Snacks**, Lunches **Evening Meals** Special nights coming soon Parties Welcome 01567 820302

Cheese and Wine

The Killin Committee for Cancer Research UK held a cheese, wine and tombola evening on 7th June and raised £768. Thanks to all who participated and provided the excellent food.





a pinemarten, to find an orchid or discover even a more ordinary plant appearing where it hasn't been before. But are these occurrences more or less common than we think? What exactly can be found in and around Killin? And how often? And where?

EAK has embarked on an exciting and ambitious project to collect such information and would welcome help and information from anyone interested of any age or expertise.

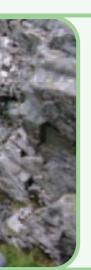
The EAKology Audit will survey a number of sites in the area and create lists of the plant and animal life found with the aim of simply recording what is there but not influencing what happens to it. But wherever else near the village you see anything of interest - garden, farm, hill or burn - the Audit team would also like to hear about it. This will be an on-going project and not only will we get to know what is here, but future generations will be able to see how the various species have fared in the constant changes that life brings. So, who knows, maybe you will be contributing to a Killin Domesday Book. Contact Tel: 01567 820238 for further information.

MM

Areas considered for EAK visits and recording. Your contributions are important and welcome



Some results of the audit will be available at Clanscape on 7 August and in a folder in the library



Perthshire Archaeology week

The Heritage Society joined in with two of the activities guided by archaeologists. On 2 June we visited the 'Axe Factory' and on the 3 June the ruins of Lawers Village









Grand Opening of Community Composting Site

The Community Composting site is now officially open The launch in the McLaren Hall on Saturday, July 17, 2004, was supported by a Community Composting and Recycling Fair organised by Environmental Action Killin (EAK), Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park and Stirling Council's Waste Services. The Fair featured an excellent presentation from Lochaber's Environmental Group Compost Officer Alison Devey on the development of 4 community composting sites in the Fort William area, and Jemma Morgan promoting the 'Nicer Nappies' washable nappy library. Anna Beswick from Waste Aware Forth Valley discussed kerbside recycling and David Riggle of Stirling Council Waste Services addressed best methods for home composting.

Children had great fun at a Creative Waste Workshop from Sustainable Communities Initiatives Fife and made lots of interesting items from used plastic bottles. There were displays from Killin Primary School, Environmental Action Killin and Stirling Council on their new recycling scheme, composting, peat alternatives, worms, waste awareness, and alternative energy sources. We were very pleased to welcome Mr Alistair Lamont, Chair of the Chartered Institute of Waste Management who was holidaying in Kenmore. He has great expertise in composting schemes and was very interested in our development. He discussed the importance of retaining nutrients in the soil and how local composting schemes can help to ensure this. The ribbon at the new composting site was cut by John MacPherson, Community Council, Elaine Turner, EAK and Alistair Lamont. Visitors then had the opportunity to look around the site and see the Bob-cat in action.

The site is now open to accept local garden waste from 12pm to 4pm every Saturday.

For further details contact Stirling Council's Waste Service's Co-ordinator David Riggle on (01786) 442873

New Face at the Post Office



Paul and Dee Melia, and their children. Luke, Clare and Adele, moved into Corriegorm and Paul now runs the Post Office. Paul and Dee arrived in Killin 6 years ago and lived in Fingal Villa while renovating Drumbuie, which they eventually moved into as a family home. Paul, was a Regional Manager in the retail catering division of a company called Compass, and travelled up and down the country, leaving early and returning late at night -not an ideal situation, especially with a young family. So when the Post Office came up for sale, it seemed time to re-think life and venture on a new learning curve. Paul went to catering college in Blackpool and had no Post Office experience. The closest he had come was having friends who had the Post Office in Inverary, when he lived and worked there – which is where he and Dee met. After a 2 week intensive course in Glasgow and an assistant for a week, he is now on his own and feeling confident. Paul has no intention of making changes to the P.O. other than adding some new stock. The very best of luck to you in your new venture.

Ian and Frances, who ran the P.O for 11 years, moved to Crieff – I think so that Ian could be closer to the golf club! All the best to you both in whatever you do next. **DG**

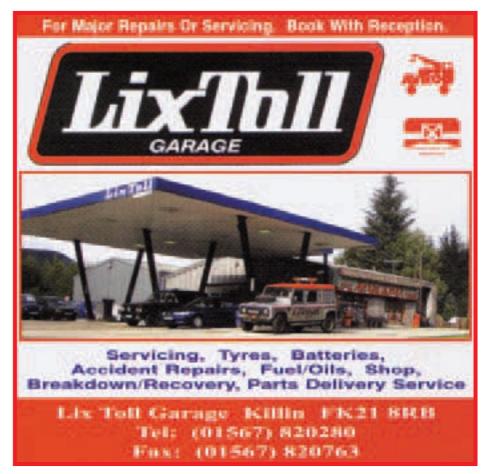


'Spirit of the Tay' progresses





Killin Ladies Open Champion Rhona McColl, who only started playing golf last Summer, with her trophies. A well deserved achievement



Killin Golf Club Results

Mixed Open 29th May

Scratch.

1st D. Brown & H. Dalgleish (King James) 78 2nd G. Smith & C. Fenton (Killin) 83 (BIH) 3rd M. Tinker & D. Tinker (Strathmore) 83

Handicap.

1st G. Fergusson (Killin) & Lisa Byrne (Helensburgh) 64 2nd D. Lewis & J. Henderson (Killin) 64.5 (BIH) 3rd I. Ramsay & A. Weaver (Killin) 64.5

Bill Mitchell Salver (Best Killin score)

D. Lewis & J. Henderson

Best Killin score not winning major prize

J. Ingram & E. Ingram

Magic twos

W. Sinclair & M. Sinclair (2)
S. Birnie & A. Birnie (Carrickvale)
D. Brown & H. Dalgleish (King James)
G. Smith & C. Fenton (Killin) (2)
A. Smith & V. Woodburn (Crieff)
A. D. Hill & F. Hill (Taynuilt)
Liz Stevens Killin Golf Club

Ladies Open 6th June

Killin Cup (best overall handicap) Rhona McColl (Killin) 62 Bridge of Lochay Salver (best local handicap) Rhona McColl 62 **Dochart Trophy (best overall scratch)** Morag McQueen (Largs-Kelburn) 75 **Silver Division Scratch** 1. Morag McQueen (Largs-Kelburn) 75 2. Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 79 3. Karen Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 82 **Silver Division Handicap** 1. Angela Morford (Dunkeld & Birnam) 67 2. Susan Hutchison (Dunkeld & Birnam) 72 BIH 3. Linda Cullerton (Carrickvale) 72 **Bronze Division Scratch** 1. Lisa Byrne (Helensburgh) 87 2. Denise Wildblood (Pitlochry) 92 BLH 3. Liz Stevens (Killin) 92 **Bronze Division Handicap** 1. Rhona McColl (Killin) 62 2. Lyn Bartlett (Killin) 69 BIH 3. Lisa Gowrie (Dunkeld & Birnam) 69 Silver Longest Drive - Morag McQueen (Largs-Kelburn) Bronze Longest Drive - Karen Michie (Strathtay) Nearest the Pin - N. Thornton (Callander) Silver Sweep - R. Gowrie (Dunkeld) Bronze Sweep - Audrey Weaver (Killin) **Magic Twos** Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) Helen Dalgleish (King James) Jill Stewart (Oban)





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Advanced Gardening

How much earlier garden crops have become over the years, with new varieties of plants and heavier quantities of fertilisers. I started gardening in 1941 because of the Dig for Victory slogan during the war, when families in the North East of Scotland got free seeds through the schools. My father worked on farms and we got our main crop tatties (always Kerrs Pink) free – 15 cwts for the year. I remember him growing 2 rows Dukes, 2 rows Sharpes Express, 25 cabbage, 25 kale, a couple of rows carrots, 1 row beet, 1 row of peas and that was it. Lettuce was never heard of then. I don't think salad would be very filling for a Farm Worker loading dung with a graip (fork)!

Together with milder winter, fertilisers now bring everything on a lot earlier. (I hope organic believers don't read this!) This year I planted red Duke of York tatties on 12th February and got the heaviest crop I have ever grown by 24th June first boiling 3rd June. The second planting went into the same ground on 28th June. I also grow Spring Cabbage. One variety, Spring Hero, did very well with two heads weighing 4 and a half pound each on 28th May. I thought another variety (Durham Early) had all bolted but it turned out to be oil seed rape - I need to see if Bunty has a class for it in the Killin Show. That would definitely be a first!

This year I have planted 77 rows of potatoes of 14 different kinds, 600 leeks, 300 onions, and 8 rows of peas. What a difference in 63 years – there is no end to improvement.

Hector Hall Novice Gardener Finlarig



Graham Wilson came to Killin – from Callander – at the age of two and later attended McLaren High School in the days when pupils lodged in Callander from Monday to Friday. (He says this experience was useful when he joined the Navy). He later went into the family retail business, running a shop in the Old Mill (now the Tourist Centre), the Bridge End Shop and helping with another in Callander, until he retired 14 years ago.

40 years ago Graham was invited to become a JP and in that time has provided an essential service to people in Killin. JPs signatures are required on many legal documents and applications and also on warrants allowing police to search premises for drugs or stolen goods. Many passport applications nowadays are for babies and applications for shotgun and firearm certificates have become more important since the Dunblane tragedy. Another job is helping people fill in all



Killin JP 'Retires'



sorts of forms which Graham says even he sometimes finds complicated.

Having decided it was time to retire as a JP, Graham notified the Council but was told that he couldn't retire – he would have to resign. He did so in June and received a letter of thanks from the Scottish Executive Secretary of Commissions for 'this remarkable period of public service'. We second those thanks on behalf of Killin.

MM



Adult Learning

A range of adult learning classes, set up by Stirling Council's Community Learning and Development Team in partnership with Clackmannan College, will begin in the Autumn and during the summer members of the team will be in the Killin area seeking views about adult learning opportunities.

Please contact the tutors for further information on the following courses planned for September:

European Computer Driving Licence (ECDL)

Killin Primary School Tuesday September 14th 7pm-9pm Tutor Julie Rhys Tel: 01567 820851 Art

Killin Primary School Tuesday September 14th 4pm-6pm Tutor Joyce Russell Tel: 01838 300220

Upholstery

Killin Monday (20th) 10.30am-1.30am Lochearnhead Village Hall Tuesday (21st) 12pm-3pm Tutor Catriona MacGeoch Tel: 01877

384259 or e-mail sula.mail@tiscali.co.uk Oil Painting

Lochearnhead Scout Station Wed. 9.45am-12.45pm & Wed. 1pm-4pm Tutor Ardell Morton Tel: 01877 384 356. Gaelic

Classes at beginner, intermediate and

advanced levels will again be available. Venues (previously Lochearnhead and Killin) have yet to be decided. The tutor is particularly interested in getting new learners from the Crianlarich area or further north, east or west even! Tutor Chas MacDonald on 01786 442057

Proposed new classes: Current Affairs

These classes have been extremely popular in Stirling and the tutor is interested in starting classes in rural areas. The classes are "discussion groups" and members will be encouraged to take part in lively discussion led by the tutor, examining a range of issues of current political concern. The venue (possibly Killin, Lochearnhead, Balquidder or Callander) will be decided once sufficient interest has been expressed. Please state your preference when making enquiries. Tutor David Bytheway Tel: 01259 216044

First Aid

It is hoped to start courses in First Aid in Killin and Balquhidder if there is sufficient interest.

Contact: Ed Gibbon, Senior Community Worker in Stirling Council's Adult Learning Team Tel: 01786 466454

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Killin Community Futures Community Groups Forum

The third CGF took place on Saturday 3rd April with over 15 local groups represented. Each group gave an update on their activities and plans which included: Progress of new hall for Ardeonaig Real nappy trial led by Gemma Morgan Opening the community composting site Fingal's Stone path and seats with interpretive boards Insurance for Floral Society Heritage Society archive catalogue complete and available in library Making safe of Finlarig Castle Broadband connection Paths network. Killin-Strathfillan cycleway now looking for funding Community council plans to enlarge cemetery car park National Park apprenticeship scheme.

This was an enjoyable and interesting morning and all those present agreed that the Community Groups Forum should continue. Next Forum to be held in October. For details please contact:

> Suzanne Player Rural Development Worker Tel: 01567 820154 email: players@stirling.gov.uk

Helping Rural Businesses



E-mail: step@stirling-enterprise.co.uk www.stirling-enterprise.co.uk Killin SWRI Annual Outing 13th May



The ladies of the Killin SWRI spent a most enjoyable day visiting Gleneagles Hotel which included a tour round the kitchens, restaurant and wine cellar, given by Head Chef Andrew Fairlie. After lunch in the Dormy Clubhouse Restaurant, the ladies travelled to Perth to shop and take High Tea.

RSVP Expand their Schools Project

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Programme launched its Schools Project in Stirling last year and it proved a great success. Over 30 volunteers are now in a number of Primary Schools, helping with reading, writing and numbers in the classroom. Some Schools have also asked for more specific talents such as piano playing at a school show, teaching simple healthy cooking or teaching youngsters how to knit. Volunteers bring a bonus, the experience they have accumulated over a long life time. Several have said that helping in schools was the best step they have made since retirement. All of our members are finding this activity great fun and very rewarding. We are now expanding the project into the rural areas and would welcome anyone who has a few hours to spare to work with children. No qualifications are necessary just a sense of humour and a little patience. We already have people from Doune, Callander, Killearn and Crianlarich. Our members are involved in a wide range of activities including helping at the Oncology Clinic, Riding for the Disabled, inspecting footpaths helping people recover from mental ill health, Knitting clothes for premature babies, delivering library books to the housebound and more. We are also looking at new projects such as Reminiscence Boxes and Telephone Befriending. To find out more contact

Stan Sanderson

RSVP Stirling 4 King Street Stirling FK8 1AY Tel 01786 475800 e-mail rsvpscotstirling@csv.org.uk

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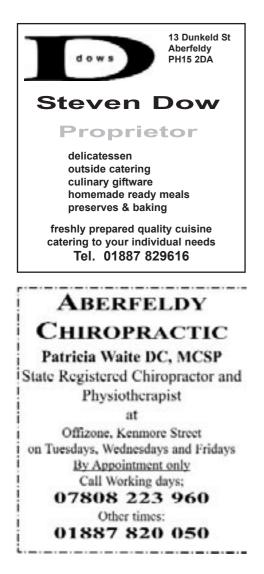
> Comric Perthshire Phone: 01764 670424/5 Fax: 01764 670419

Good News for Killin and Crianlarich Nursery and Out of School Care

The staff team at Killin and Crianlarich Nursery and OSC are proud to share with the community the excellent reports we received from our Care Commission Inspections.

Parent consultation plays an important part in the development of our unique, innovative and ever-evolving service.

The nursery caters for approx. 55 children aged 0-5 years and 16 primary aged children in OSC, with a catchment area of approximately 250 square miles. We have been operating since 1996. In August 2000 the addition of a satellite nursery in Crianlarich reduced travel and provided a local facility for 26 children. Killin Nursery was inspected on 17th March and Crianlarich on 21st March.



The report acknowledged the following: The nursery has a warm, welcoming, inclusive family ethos where staff embrace the ethos of the centre and actively promote the aims and values in all aspects of the service. Children present during the inspection were happy, relaxed confident and motivated. The nursery staff have worked hard in developing links with the community. Children regularly enjoy outings to the local shops, library, park and into the surrounding countryside. Partnership with parents are found to be appropriately encouraged in relation to their child's progress or any problems arising. Interactions with colleagues, children parents and staff were consistently

respectful and considerate. The approach to children was calm considerate and natural. Children were listened to and heard, they were also encouraged in independence and in taking responsibility. Nursery activity was also very well portrayed with documented evidence supported by photographs and observations. The following recommendations were made:

to share our good practice with others there are no requirements for change

We would like to thank all the families who use the nursery for your support.

Killin and Crianlarich Nursery Team



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

Locally based Health and Safety Professional

John Morris

Dip2OSH MIOSH MIIRSM MInstLM AMIQA

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Tel: 01567 820787 Mobile: 07866 514033 e-mail: john.morris787@virgin.net

Stirling 15 - Rural Districts 0

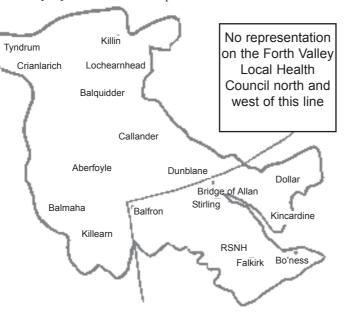
I am a member of the Forth Valley 500, a group set up by Forth Valley Health Board to seek the views of local people

on the NHS and to use the results to help shape future health services in Forth Valley. In 2003 I was involved in discussions about the prospect of building a new hospital, and during the 'consultation' period, it became obvious to me (and many others) that a decision to locate this new hospital at the **RSNH** site at Larbert had already been made before any public consultation on its location took place.

It was with this sham in mind, and the realisation that we in Lochearnhead, Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum needed someone to make FVHB aware of our unique health issues, that I (and other villagers) applied for a voluntary position as a Member of Forth Valley Local Health Council (they had 2 vacancies and can have 15 Members). This is a group whose remit is to assist the public to

LETTERS

express any concerns about healthcare, and to make recommendations to Forth Valley NHS Board on the health services which are planned. I was unsuccessful in



my application and was later stunned to discover that no one from our area had been appointed – in fact the nearest Member lives in Stirling with the other 14 being from places such as Alloa, Falkirk and Dollar. As a result, there is no one to voice our concerns over the ambulance and 'GP out of hours' situations to FVHB.

FVLHC, who should be listening and

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Phone Carlotta Fraser for brochure 01567 820999 or 07712 435465 (mobile) Ardlochay Lodge, Killin lobbying FVHB on our behalf, have failed in their remit.

FVHB pay us 'lip service', then ignore us as we are only a small percentage of the overall population, even though we form the largest geographical area. We cannot sit back and trust FVHB – they ignored us before – they will do it again. Linda FitzGerald

Care in the community – what a joke!

The so-called consultation on 8th July was more a "fait accompli". We find we are catapulted into NHS 24 on 10th August and worse still emergency evening/weekend cover starting in September is left to the docs in Stirling who don't even answer emergencies in Bridge of Allan. It's time someone without a Falkirk District bias came out of the woodwork and promptly supplied a reasonable case for our community. £30 million have been spent on this convoluted scheme- so pay our Doctors a financial incentive whatever it takes now. Our Ambulance Service is already overstretched and underpaid and we have lost our battle to save our hospital in Stirling (a City without a hospital - shame on you!) Already we have a round trip of 120 miles to attend various consultations



in Falkirk – what next? Open your eyes, there's lots of green fields between Doune and Callander where a cottage hospital could easily be sited. Is there anyone in the Scottish Office or our socalled Forth Valley with a modicum of common sense? I doubt it. £500million spent on the new Parliament – what's a few million more? Yours in disgust,

Margaret Wilson

Heather Beetle

I was interested to read the article by Tim Frost in the June edition of your paper. As Director of The Heather Trust, I hope it will be of interest to your readers if I comment further on the heather beetle situation.

Heather beetle is a serious threat to heather and, in a more general sense, to moorland. Very large numbers have been seen in the north of Scotland this year and I note Tim Frost's comments about sightings in the Killin area. We do not know enough about the life cycle of the heather beetle and what causes the devastating outbreaks that appear to be occurring more frequently.

As a member of Scotland's Moorland Forum, The Heather Trust is working with 21 other organisations across the

whole of Scotland to respond to the heather beetle outbreak by establishing the extent of this year's outbreak and commissioning scientific research and a management trial. Every owner and manager of moorland is being encouraged to fill in a questionnaire, even if they have not seen a heather beetle. All information will allow researchers to build a picture of what is happening. When the extent of the outbreak can be seen, the Forum will be able to promote the beetle problem further and help ensure that funding is available for the research work, which we hope will allow it to start this season. The aim of the management trial is to find ways of managing moorland to reduce the risk of a beetle attack and restoring the heather cover as quickly as possible after an attack.

Until the results are available, the best advice to counter the beetle is to manage moorland in a traditional manner. Patch burning will produce heather with a variety of ages and this will provide the best chance of heather surviving the beetle attack.

Further information is available on our web site (www.heathertrust.co.uk) and I would be pleased to hear from any of your readers with specific queries. The questionnaire is available from our web site and also the Moorland Forum's web site (www.moorlandforum.org.uk).

S.P.R.Thorp Director The Heather Trust

Spirit of the Tay and Railway Rebirth

The Referendum question should have been in two parts.

 Do you favour rebuilding the railway link from Killin to the head of the loch?
 How much money from your own pocket would you give to support the project?

When people are asked fantasy questions, they give fantasy answers. In the real world businesses go bust, fantasy budgets become millstones (eg Holyrood Parliament building), culprits seek scapegoats and hide from the truth. Unless in this case there is someone out there with a bottomless pocket, determined to prove me wrong, and is not called Mr Taxpayer!

Incidentally, I am heavily against the railway rebuild on environmental grounds, but don't want my hard-earned tax to fund an enterprise which could be seen as financially unsound from the start. Has anyone come up with a budget?

John Allen



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From Ceilidh to Orchestra Tour

Gilbert Christie Memorial Ceilidh

Local lasses Siobhan Anderson (fiddle) and Kirsty Somerville (trombone) play in the McLaren High School Orchestra. This year the orchestra ambitiously planned to travel to Lake Garda in Italy and the trip was to include various outdoor concerts around that area, including Verona. This was to be funded mostly by parents but, to stage all the outdoor events and allow visits to Venice and other places of interest, extra funds were required and parents were asked to help in anyway they could. As traditional ceilidhs seem to be a thing of the past, this was the ideal opportunity to reintroduce the format and it made good sense to involve the youngsters' talents alongside a well-experienced Dance Band. Whilst organising this event, the Christie family thought it appropriate to hold the ceilidh in memory of Gilbert, as there was nothing he loved better than good music and a cheery night out. In true Killin style lots of people offered help from making soup and sandwiches, setting up the Hall, (and tidying up after) to gathering raffle prizes. The night was

ably compered by Jim Cushley, who added his own brand of humour and made a great job of ad-libbing - especially when he successfully disguised a technical hitch in the band by getting the children in the audience to sing and dance. There was a wide variety of Scottish entertainment, ranging from an accordionist, fiddlers, Gaelic Singer, Highland dancers and a Clarsach player. These talented pupils were supported by the Alan Doig Danceband so the audience had a chance to do the occasional dance. The night went with a swing and from the wee ones to the over 80s, all thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The amazing amount of £1500 was raised - way beyond our expectations and delighting the McLaren High Orchestra. A special thank you to all the pupils who performed so well and all who helped in so many different ways. It is occasions such as this which show what a generous community we have in Killin.

Jane Anderson

Orchestra Tour June 2004

We are very grateful for the fundraising ceilidh organized by Jane Anderson. The

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money raised went towards day trips to Venice and Verona which were great fun. We were away 9 days and performed 4 concerts around Lake Garda, 2 in Bardalino, one in Verona and one in Garda Village. These included performances by the orchestra, the concert band, string groups, choir, swing band and junior jazz band. After each performance we held ceilidhs to keep with the Scottish theme. These went down very well with local Italians who were very enthusiastic in their dancing! When we weren't playing music we visited Venice, Verona, a water park, a theme park and Garda, which was great because it gave us time to see Italy and it also gave a rest from playing! The weather was amazingly hot with only one tropical rainstorm - a bit different to what we are used to at home! We would like to thank everyone who attended the ceilidh in Killin or supported us in any way. It was an experience of a lifetime. We were both very privileged to have been able to take part.

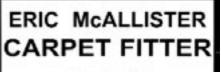
> Kirsty Somerville (trombone) Siobhan Anderson (violin)

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DEADLINES Issue 82 : Advertising 10 Sept Copy 17 Sept

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.

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Editorial Comment

Emergencies Matter

The Forth Valley consultation exercise held in the McLaren Hall on the 8 July about the future of the emergency and out of hours services demonstrated that local people were yet again being given a fait accomplit without the courtesy of a proper presentation of the reasons for the change or the way in which their concerns would be managed. Consultation does not seem to imply any need for action on the information obtained. This was our experience over the siting of the new hospital where our anxieties were not considered. We feel ignored. The nearest representative on the Local Health Council that guided Forth Valley in the planning stage lives in Stirling(see page 24).

The Highlands have plans that result in their remote areas, especially those with population numbers approaching Killin, having much closer access to a centre staffed by a doctor and include transport arrangements where necessary. Their web site is well worth a visit.

(http://www.show.scot.nhs.uk/nhshighland/)

The UK is one of the last countries to abandon doctors emergency visits. In other countries this is the role of paramedics who are trained to manage all emergencies. We hope that locally this will be adequate and comprehensive as your life may depend on it if you collapse in Tyndrum or are injured in a road traffic accident by Lix Toll. Paramedics will need to have the complicated diagnostic and treatment skills of the doctors they replace in order to prepare patients for a 90 minute journey to hospital. As a patient or patient's representative, you will have two important decisions to make. Is it an emergency? Then call 999. Will it wait until morning? See your doctor first thing. If unsure, you ring NHS 24 where a nurse will give advice or arrange an ambulance. This system will be imposed, of that there is little doubt, but the placing of doctor manned centres, transport and paramedic arrangements are the responsibility of NHS Forth Valley. We must make every effort to assist them to provide a safe system for this area, acceptable to all. Judging by the conciliatory letter (see page 3) from Fiona MacKenzie the Chief Executive of NHS Forth Valley the first step in that direction has been taken. It is very important for us all to let our Community Councils know of our particular concerns so that they know what to bring up in their discussions with the Health Board.

WA



Postal Address: Main Street, Killin FK21 8UW **Telephone Office:** 01567 820014

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Obituaries

Duncan Clark

Duncan Clark was born and educated in Stirling but his connection to Killin was inherited. His father's family, originally from Ardeonaig, were tenants of Wester Lix Farm for many years and he spent his school holidays there. He recalled the Spartan way of life, going barefoot and washing in the burn, as a good toughening up regime. The cairn which stands on the hill behind the farm was built by him and a boy visitor.

In May 1932, he started work with Live Stock Marts in Killin as a Junior Clerk and began his training in Auctioneering. Attending sales in Stirling was part of life very soon and he went to night school there, obtaining his 'Fellow of the Institute of Auctioneers' qualification. In 1940 he volunteered for the R.A.F., serving in North Africa, Sicily, Italy and Yugoslavia. On return to civilian life, he was appointed manager at Killin, making the village his home for the rest of his life.

Duncan's career took in major sales at Stirling and Oban and he was in at the formation of Ben Nevis Auction Mart. He was appointed a Director of the two marts in 1970. At the height of his career, he was reckoned to be one of the fastest selling auctioneers in the country. Hours at a time were spent in the 'box' and he travelled thousands of miles every

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year. His 50 years' service to the same company and to the farming community was honoured by two separate presentations.

He was Registrar during the time of 'The Scheme' and was on the local Education Committee. He was also Treasurer of



Left to right Arthur Dent, Johnnie Willison, Douglas Willison, and Duncan Clark

the Golf Club for many years and Captain for a period. In retirement he continued to take an avid interest in what had been his career.

He had a fantastic memory and probably knew more about Killin's history than people realised. An ardent football fan all his life, he had been a member of Killin Football Team in his youth. The last years of Duncan's life were blighted by the pain of rheumatoid arthritis, which eventually confined him to 'barracks'. A very independent man, he strove to maintain this independence to the last. He passed away in his sleep on 17th May 2004 at Perth Royal Infirmary. He would have been 89 on 3rd August and, as an only child, was the last of the Clarks' long association with Killin. We, his middle-aged daughters, he kept in order right to the end. Due to his very busy life, we only really knew him as adults. Our mother died 3 years ago and he missed her greatly, as we and their 5 grandchildren and 6 great-grandchildren miss them both.

We would like to take this opportunity to say how delighted he was with Joan MacKenzie's article on the February Sales. Thank you to everyone who saw him to his final resting place, after a life well-lived, overlooking the village and chosen by himself.

Anne and Moira Clark

Winifred Bennett

Winifred Bennett (Freddie) was born at Midgen Green, near Newbury, Berks. One of six children, she had two children herself – Patricia, who lives in New Zealand, and Peter, who lived and died in America.

In her early years she lived in Ascot and later in Slough, before emigrating to Canada for a few years.

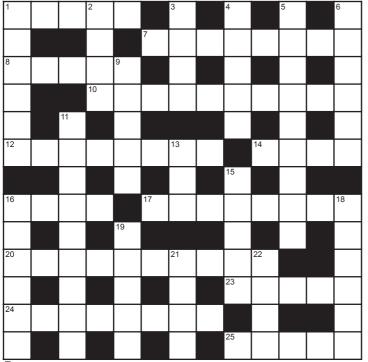
Later she returned to live in Killin, where she found much happiness, friendly and caring neighbours and friends.

In her later years she was a patient at the Dalnaglar Nursing Home, where she was very well cared for. She felt comfortable and often spoke of the kindness there.

Josie Tull Sister-in-Law



Crossword by Scorpio



Down

- 1. Surname of Fred's flinty friend Barney (6)
- 2. One can become a S. American Indian (4)
- 3. Leans against a hesitant objection (4)
- 4. The whole lot at once (5)
- 5. Permission or sanction (9)
- 6. Honest and very personal advice (2,4)
- 9. Could be rainbow coloured (5)

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Across

- 1. A roarin' boy (5)
- 7. Total and complete (8)
- 8. Not quite a true leaf (5)
- 10. Craft instructor uses theatre car (3,7)
- 12. Being a master of repartee (8)

14. Remove a point from mountain debris and expose an Indian (4)

- 16. Equine appendage (4)
- 17. An instruction to make light of things (8)
- 20. A non polite confused gentleman from Italy (10)
- 23. If you go there you might be taken away (5)
- 24. Adam n' Ken strangely suffer from the same kind of exposure (5,3)
- 25. One has it (5)

Solution to Crossword 80

Across 1 sharp 7 thoughts 8 lemon 10 touch and go 12 nebulous 14 gnat 16 prig 17 division 20 adam and eve 23 alibi 24 unending 25 verse

Down 1 solomn 2 root 3 chic 4 lunar 5 who dunn it 6 escort 9 noble 11 obligated 13 uni 15 silva 16 plaque 18 novice 19 hands 21 dine 22 else

- 11. Unhappy people (4,5)
- 13. Maiden name held by the genuine equestrian (3)
- 15. Small tree bearing sweet scented flowers (5)
- 16. Members of the C of E (6)
- 18. Soily nature of the ray (6)
- 19. End of a sonata (5)
- 21. A form of rain much in the news (4)
- 22. Animal, place or thing (4)





Local Folk Graduate





Ross Hilditch of Pink Cottage Killin, former pupil of McLaren High graduated Master of Engineering (Aeronautics) with 1st class honours. The 5 year course at Glasgow University also included a 6 month project at Milan University. Fluent in Italian, Ross will be returning to Milan to seek employment in the aircraft manufacturing industry. John Smith graduated from the University of Abertay on the 8th July with a BSC Hons in computing (games development)

Janet Kennedy, with her sister Kirsty and mother, Fiona, after graduating at St. Andrews with an M.A. Hons in Psychology





Across the Globe





Harris Bickerton on holiday in Yorkshire with dad Tommy



Cristina Campbell of Cruachan visiting her family in Mexico for the first time in 9 years "The Killin News made me feel I had a bit of my adoptive Scotland with me"





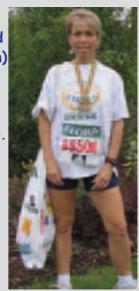
Paul Begley and Elizabeth Howard from the Bridge of Lochay Hotel were married in the South of France on 28th May



Married on 30th April at Glenspean Lodge Hotel. Marie only daughter of Johan and the late Calum MacDonald of Killin to Calum only son of Donald and Janet Cameron of Fort William

LONDON MARATHON

Julie Stafford (nee Bickerton) following the London Marathon April 18 2004. "I would like to thank all my family and friends from Killin ho sponsored me for the event and



particularly A.C. Fraser, Lix Toll, Costcutters and News First for kindly collecting sponsors I completed the course in 3hrs 52 mins and raised over £2200 for the charity Children With Leukaemia. A big thankyou Killin! Great North Run next"

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