

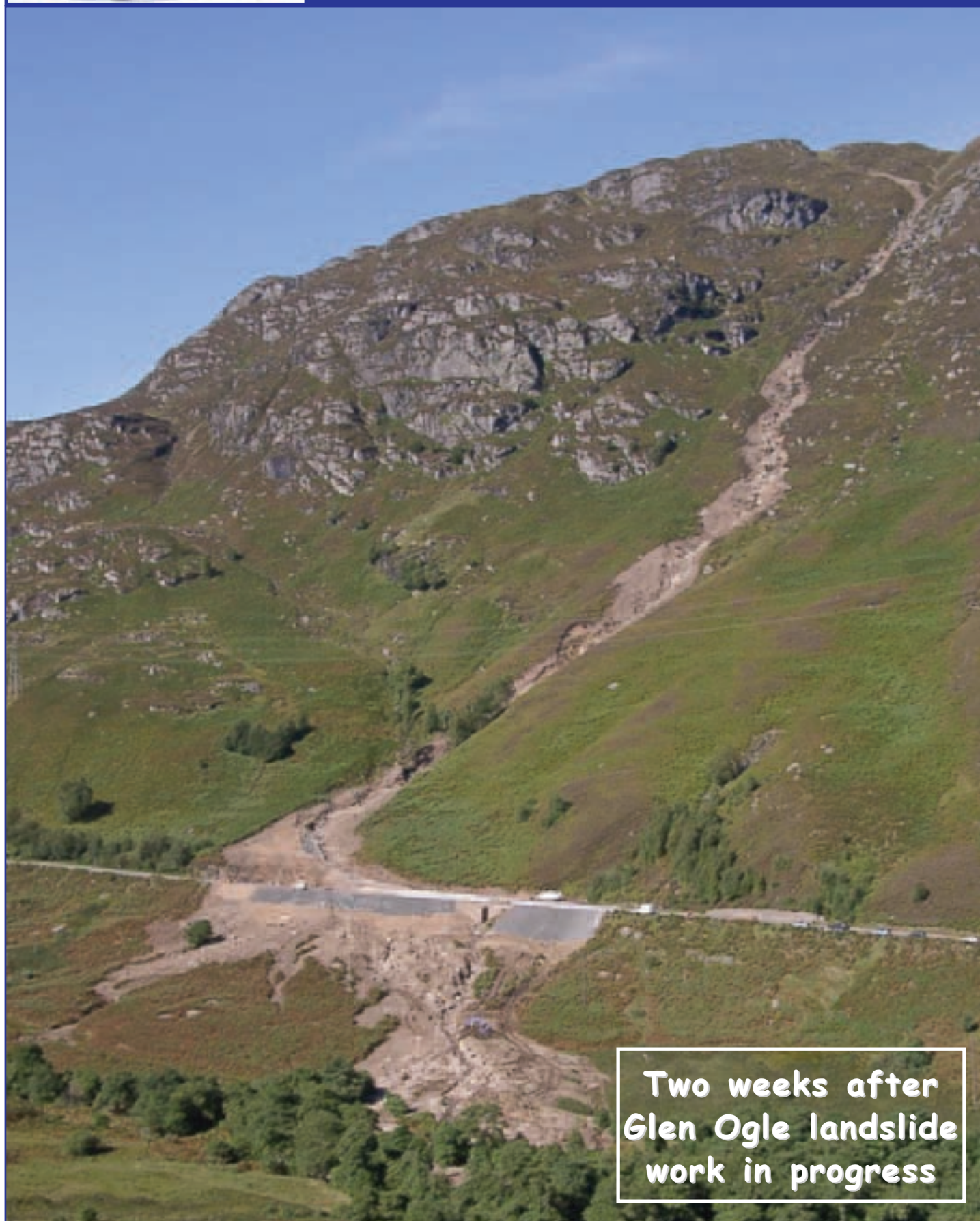


PRICE £1

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Issue 82 October 2004



Two weeks after  
Glen Ogle landslide  
work in progress



# Congratulations



Julia Bates graduated BSc(hons) in environmental biology and was awarded the university medal for outstanding performance. Seen here with husband David.



Mark Grindlay, Leskine Farm, former pupil of McLaren High School graduated H.N.D. and N.V.Q. Level 3 in Marine Engineering, also passed a combined steam and motor certificate of competency.



David Riddell and Kirsteen MacDonald married on 28th August in Oldhamstocks church (East Lothian)



Laura and Gordon Bates in Dubai celebrating her MSc in Marine Mammal science with distinction. She is working there as a marine biologist specializing in loggerhead turtle and coral conservation.



Olivia Sonia Helen Frances Geddes born 21st April to Gary Geddes and Sonia Cull of Crianlarich, with her big sister Rebecca.



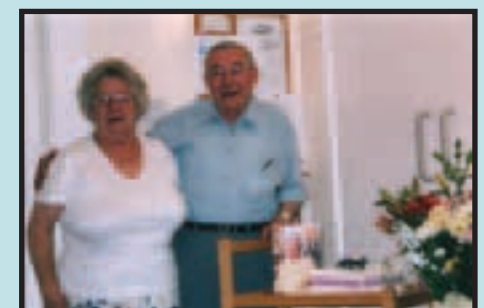
Jackie Simpson and Adrian Bremner were married on 7th August at Killin Parish Church.

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On Thursday 8th July Ann and Bob Kirk celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary at Kirk Care. The following Sunday they renewed their vows in the Glasgow church where they were married and celebrated with family and friends.

# 18th August – A Day to Remember

It is a wet day – nothing unusual in Killin. The villagers get on with their usual everyday lives never dreaming that in a few hours time Killin will be hitting the headlines in newspapers and television stations throughout the British Isles and beyond. Many people leave the village for work or school. The Community Bus leaves for a shopping trip to Glasgow.

During the day the rain becomes torrential and thunder and lightning intensifies. At 3.00 the Community bus leaves

Glasgow and drives through storm and floods in Callander and Kilmahog.

At 5.00 Killin Fire Engine is called to flooding in Lochearnhead and Killin policeman Ian Donaldson finishes work for the day (he thinks!).

On Glen Ogle the heavy rain washes rocks and water on to the road. Traffic to Lochearnhead continues over the rubble and meets a second landslide which blocks the way. Cars turn and go back but the first landslide is now also impassable. People in cars and a coach are trapped as more of the road collapses, taking one vehicle with it. Emergency services are called and helicopters mobilised.

In Lochearnhead the Community Bus is stopped by flood near South Loch Earn Road and eventually retreats to Kings House Hotel for much needed refreshment for the shoppers.

Just after six Ian Donaldson is called to the scene of landslip where he liaises with helicopters and the airlift begins.

The initial airlift is to Lochearnhead which is cut off on all sides so Killin is selected as rescue destination.

At this point a lot of things happen very quickly.

Colin McRae is rung by Ian Donaldson asking for the McLaren Hall to be opened. Relieved that Marion and Katy have got home safely just before the landslide, he opens the Hall and rings Bunty MacGregor to ask if the WRI can organise food and drink for people.

Bunty makes two phone calls and ladies from all over Killin begin to arrive at the Hall with supplies.

At Lochearnhead the Edinample Bridge and cars are washed away into Loch Earn. Killin Fire Crew, having rescued a family from a car and pumped out various premises in Lochearnhead, are called to Glen Ogle where they climb over land-

slip with rescue equipment.

In Balquidder the Community Bus has another crisis. One of the passengers is diabetic and isn't carrying her insulin. An ambulance takes her to Callander for urgent treatment.

Back in Killin Willie Stitt hears of the slip from Michael Halliday and rings Stirling Police HQ to see if the Mountain Rescue Team can help. He, Michael, Dave Syme and Jim Beattie prepare to go to the scene but are asked instead to ferry those rescued from the Helicopter station to McLaren Hall.

Community Council Chairman John MacPherson hears the helicopters and is told the news by Dee Melia at the Post Office. John informs Stirling Council and goes to the Hall, which is laid out as if for a coffee morning. As the rescued people arrive they are given soup from the Killin Hotel and a hot drink, toast and biscuits by numerous helpers. They are not particularly distressed – more excited or in some cases quiet. One group feels the need to get going on a bottle of whisky. Policeman Andy Fleming takes names, addresses and car registration numbers.

Other people in the village have heard the helicopters, think it must be a Mountain Rescue Exercise and take no notice, but one of the helicopters is from Sky News and soon newspaper reporters and television crews begin to arrive in the village, anxious to speak to anyone involved.

Those who turn on their televisions quickly find that Killin is headline news and over the next 24 hours many Killin faces and voices are seen and heard in all the media.

People arrive home via Crieff, Loch Lomond or Ballinluig, tired and fed up but relieved to be back.

A special bus arrives at the Hall to take stranded coach passengers back to

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Edinburgh. Beds are offered to the remaining car passengers, who gratefully accept.

At 11.15pm Colin closes the Hall. Willie Stitt goes home after making sure the helicopter crew is looked after.

At 11.30pm the Fire Engine and the Community Bus get back to Killin via Crieff.

#### Next day

6am John McPherson is woken by reporter asking whether people have slept well - one example of the many disadvantages of being Community Council Chairman!

10am Jimmy Gauld agrees to drive people back to their cars in the Community Bus. He makes 2 trips with 15 people, 2 dogs, various reporters and TV crews. The bus funds make £25 from the media folk.

Pictures of Glen Ogle and interviews with local people appear in all the newspapers but village life goes back to normal.

There is a general feeling of relief that no-one has been injured and that the community, not surprisingly, has responded well. Glen Ogle is closed for the next few days.

M M

## Tea was a washout

I only went out for a cup of tea, because the power was off at home for line repairs. I decided to visit my friend Chris Hall at Edinample Lodge, Lochearnhead. Across the head of the loch from the main village, this cottage sits at the gate to Edinample Castle, looking across to an old mausoleum with a magnificent waterfall plunging into the depths behind it. A stone bridge carried the road over the burn that normally ran far below. It had rained heavily all day until about 2.30 p.m. when the sun came out long enough to tempt me to walk Chris's collie, Idris, up the track beside the river, talking to the usual crop of walkers and tourists on the way. I even met a couple from Lochearnhead U.S.A. and directed them to the waterfall, warning them that it was frightening in its power.

At the first rumble of thunder we headed back, and Chris and I drank tea and chatted while the real deluge raged outside. Eventually we looked out to see streams foaming through the garden and rainwater inches deep running down the drive. Then we noticed the burn, now an angry brown river, beginning to spill over its bank above the bridge. We were debating whether to paddle out and move our

cars, when the water surged up over the parapet of the bridge in a huge dark whaleback and swept down the drive. I watched helplessly as my faithful old Rover slid backwards out of sight. When we peered through the hedge, we saw that Chris's beloved Volvo had also vanished. The neighbours' wheelie bins swam past like a family of ducks. We watched all evening as the torrent carried away the bridge, the road, and the very place where my car had been parked. Huge trees were picked up and whisked away. The mausoleum was now standing in the middle of the waterfall, the river having gouged a new channel round the front of it, scouring away everything down to the bedrock. Two neighbours made a heroic journey by Toyota pickup and on foot to check on a housewife from a remote house up the afflicted glen, last seen picking up her little girl from school and now out of contact. She had managed to get home just in time but her phone line was down and her husband was rescuing stranded motorists from Glen Ogle. When the water began to subside at last, the whole familiar landscape was unrecognisable. The battered remains of huge forest trees stood up where the bridge had been, and a long section of the road beyond had fallen into the gorge. Chris's cottage is almost too near the

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edge for comfort. We found the sad wreckage of my car covered in debris and blocked by lifted tarmac, perched on the



edge of the gorge on what remains of the drive down to Edinample Castle. The Volvo had been carried down the water-fall, taking with it Chris's camera and brand new laptop. It was located the next day right out in Loch Earn.

My troubles were not yet over. Some friends working at what they now call the Lochearnhead Underwater Sports Centre came to pick me up when the floods subsided enough and we drove to our homes near Killin via Aberfeldy, a 60 mile journey instead of the normal 10 mile trip over Glen Ogle. It was a strange and rather unnerving drive through floods and debris, dazzling lightning displays threatening us with further downpours. Weirdly, on a lonely road at midnight we passed someone burning a mountain of bin bags left by campers. We were too weary even to comment.

When I arrived home my kitchen floor was swimming in mud where the small burn that runs through the garden had overflowed and come under the back door. It had also swept through a small fishpond and carried away my fish, and a mother guinea pig with five small babies had to be rehoused because the shed had flooded.

**Lindsey Campbell**

## A Long Wait for Tea

I was one of the people trapped in Glen Ogle the day 'the hill fell down' as one little chap succinctly put it. When the rain started, in the heaviest torrents I have ever witnessed, I decided to close my shop in Killin and head for home. Once I had negotiated the 'dip' at the top of Glen Ogle, where the water normally gathers after heavy rain and which was deeply flooded that evening, I thought I would shortly be home enjoying a nice cup of tea. How wrong I was.

Coming down the road the traffic in front of me was edging along and when I got round the corner further down I could see why. There was a virtual river spewing out mud and boulders across the road. In hindsight the sensible thing to do then would have been to turn back but, like the others in front of me, I decided to press on and bumped and crashed my way over the stones. A few hundred yards further on the traffic was at a standstill. The rain was as heavy as ever, high wind, thunder crashing and huge streaks of lightning flashing across the sky. Heading up the road was a road maintenance vehicle. I opened the window and the driver stopped to tell me there was a landslide further on and I would be better to turn back to Killin, so I managed with some difficulty to turn and follow him. As we approached the road where the boulders etc. were, it was obviously much worse and there was no hope of crossing there.

I was sitting at this point considering my options when Stuart Webster (known affectionately locally as Tipper) hurried up and told me to get out of the car immediately as the hill was about to go and he went to warn others. Spying a gap in traffic further back at the side of the hill I quickly reversed my car into the space and immediately got out and ran down the road. At that point the hillside gave way with a mighty roar and Tipper's lorry was swept down the hill in a split second, striking a power line on the way which produced a flash brighter than any firework. It was extremely frightening and those people who had been warned to get out of their cars - some of whom were understandably reluctant considering the terrible weather - very quickly jumped out then and ran. At this point I should like particularly to pay tribute to Tipper who, after having escaped certain death by a matter of seconds and saved the lives of others by his timely warning, continued without regard for his own safety to assist and shepherd people to stand where we hoped there would be no more landslides, but in truth nowhere was safe.

Another hero of the day was Alex Murray of Drummond Fisheries. Everyone was standing in the lashing rain and thunder and lightning, children were crying and no one seemed sure what to do next, just presuming help was on the way. It was Alex who phoned the emergency services to warn of the terrible danger we were all in and urged them to get assistance to us

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as quickly as possible. I gave up thinking about how long it was taking as by this time I was shivering with the cold as I had no protective clothing whatsoever and was dressed in a light cotton top and thin summer trousers as the day was nice when I left home. Chris McLarty one of our local firemen, saw my distressed state and immediately started to take off his jacket to give me. I refused as I could not get any wetter and he would have a long night ahead of him trying to assist everyone. A few minutes later one of his colleagues offered his jacket and again I gratefully refused.

When the helicopters arrived, Tipper and Chris and their people, with no thought for themselves, organised everyone, ushering the children, then the elderly and then the rest of us to be hoisted into the helicopters. Goodness knows when they themselves were lifted to safety. These are the people to whom we owe our gratitude and thanks. How lucky we are to have such brave men in our community. I for my part ended the evening very well. After the airlift to the McLaren Hall, my very good friends Jim and Sheila Ferguson of the Tarmachan Tearoom whisked me off to their house where I had a long hot shower, dry clothes followed by a few glasses of wine and a delicious hot meal, then eventually a nice cosy bed. Bliss.

Eileen Fashae

## The Teasmaid

The evening of the landslide I got a call to help organise ladies to serve food in the McLaren Hall to the unfortunate people who had been trapped in Glen Ogle. I made 2 phone calls and then left for the Hall. Within 30 minutes the kitchen was full of volunteers mostly young mums bringing toasters, bread, butter, tea, coffee, shortbread, biscuits and milk. It was amazing. The hotels offered soup and sandwiches, shopkeepers offered anything we needed, the chip van offered chips. Then came the accommodation, they all offered beds although many of them had young families. All the ladies and gentlemen were so appreciative for everything that had been done for them, but it just shows us that Killin will always come up trumps.

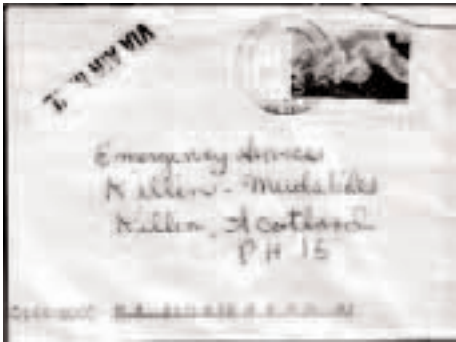
Bunty MacGregor

### Thank you

Please pass our thanks on to everyone in your village who rallied around and gave us hot drinks etc. on 18th August. We were moved by the kindness shown to everyone who was stranded. You live in a beautiful part of the country and we will always remember our holiday in Killin for lots of reasons.

Jean and George Bethell

## Well done, postie



### Dear Townspeople of Killin

I want to thank you for your warmth and kindness that you showed on the evening of August 18 2004. My husband and I were among the many people airlifted to your town because of the mudslides at Glen Ogle. Throughout Scotland my husband and I found Scottish people who go above and beyond in helping out fellow travellers. Just as the Scottish countryside is beautiful, so is the soul of the Scottish people. Thanks again for your generous spirit shown to us.

Diann LaRosa,  
Winthrop, MA, USA

### To all the Villagers of Killin

We would like to send our sincere thanks for your hospitality on the evening of Wednesday 18/8/04. Everyone was very helpful and the cups of coffee were very much appreciated. We have visited Killin before and we love the area and will look forward to returning in the future. Thanks you again.

Mary and Pete Davies  
(in the Caravan)

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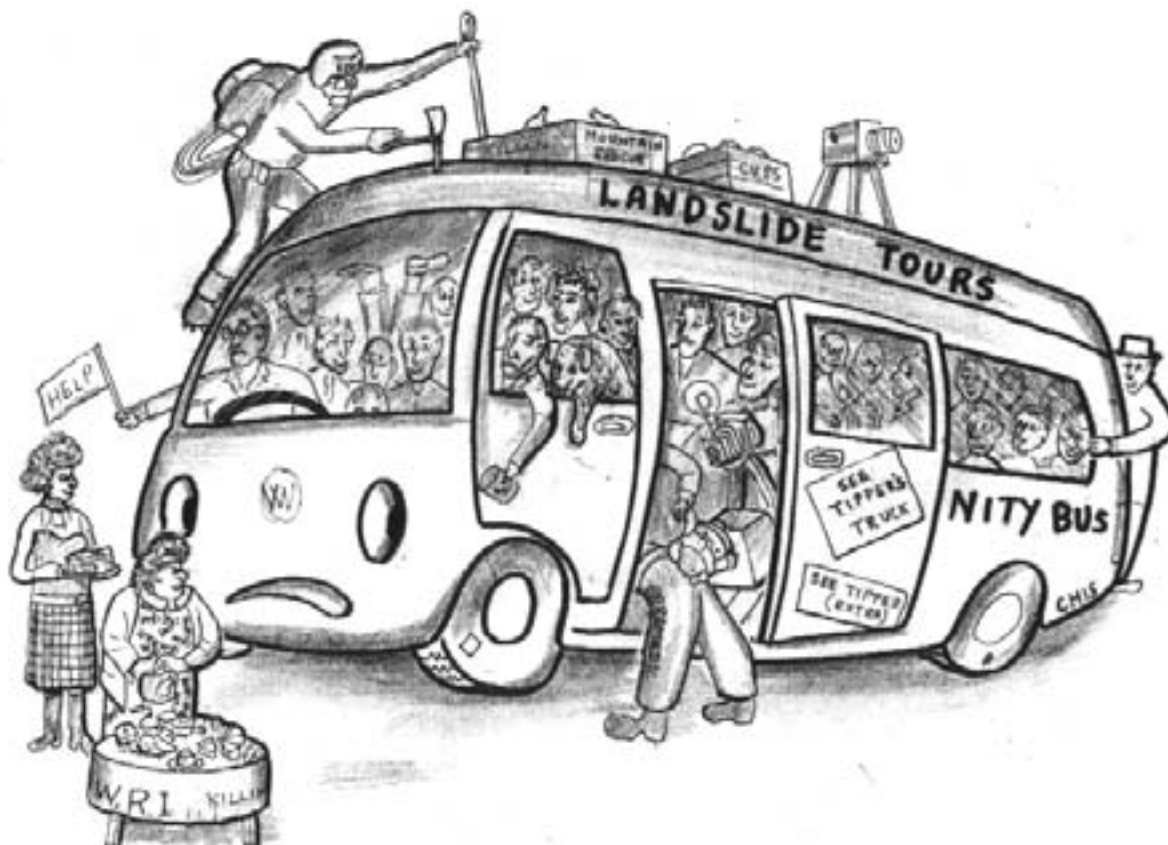


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# Police Report

The difficulty in situations like a landslide is the logistical and geographical problems of getting people to the scene. In this case 'mutual aid' in the form of police officers from Strathclyde Police and Northern Constabulary were called in to assist.

Where large numbers of people are involved, it is important to ensure everyone is accounted for. First priority is life-saving, which was achieved by the heroic efforts of the crews of the RAF and Navy SAR helicopters. 15 of those evacuated were taken to Lochearnhead, which was found to be unsuitable due to the muddy floodwater seeping over the road from Glen Ogle burn and another place had to be found at short notice.

The McLaren Hall was opened and Killin locals turned out in their droves to render assistance. The MRT Land Rover, driven by Willie Stitt, was used to shuttle 42 people from the helicopter to the hall. Further problems were caused as a few families became separated and the next important task was to account for the whereabouts of people. Names had to be recorded and linked to the vehicles stranded on the hill - not easy when trying to spell many foreign names. It was clearly a very serious incident as the two BEAR men know only too well, as their truck was bundled off the roadway by tons of mud and rock and it was still unclear whether there were fatalities. Infra red sensors on police helicopter cameras were used during their monitoring of the glen.

The following morning a call came from a man who had waded his way through the waist deep mud after abandoning his stranded car. Fortunately all vehicles and people were accounted for. The 42 people included 2 children (9yrs, 11yrs) and

people from Britain, Spain, USA, Canada, Ireland, Switzerland, Germany, Denmark, Poland, Austria and Cyprus. During the course of the night the national media began to appear in the village. The impact of such events, from a personal point of view, is not always apparent because you are so involved in your specific task. It is only when you switch on the TV news that you appreciate what a huge event it was. It has been said numerous times before, but it is on occasions like this that communities pull together. To see community spirit in action close up is very special. Thanks to all who assisted and offered beds for the night.

**Constable Andy Fleming**

## Then and Now - Global Warming?

"The most extraordinary flood or spate ever witnessed in the district in the memory of anyone now living in the locality occurred on the 7th of August 1856. The stage coach between Callander and Aberfeldy, *via* Killin, &c., left Killin for Aberfeldy crowded with passengers. The

streams next the Killin end of the district had apparently come down first, the extraordinary water-spout on the mountain slopes high above moving eastwards. I believe the Tiraster Bridge was the first to be swept away, just immediately after the coach had passed, careering at full speed, with its heavy load, and one bridge after another was swept away as far as Carie Bridge, around which the land is comparatively level to that further west. When the coach reached Carie the bridge was covered with the swollen torrent, the top of the ledges only being visible. The coachman, "Big Jamie Anderson" - than whom a better driver never handled whip or rein - pulled up his steaming foaming team of four greys, and stood for a moment irresolute whether to halt or venture across the raging current. He determined to go on, and fortunately managed to get safely across. Several eye-witnesses have told me that the coach had not got more than 20 or 30 yards past the bridge when the arch was swept away, and carried almost entire for some distance down with the current.

A few miles further east there was no rain - a fine clear day. The area over which the unusual and extraordinary deluge of rain fell probably did not exceed five or ten square miles.

As far as I can remember, there were either six or seven bridges carried away between Killin and Lawers, most of them consisting of one arch, but several of them of considerable height, I daresay 30

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or 40 feet. The one at Morenish, which crosses a deep glen, was much higher, its abutments on either side springing from a jutting rock, sufficiently high to admit any ordinary river to flow underneath it. But I believe the chief cause of the sudden destruction of bridges, especially those that spanned the three largest streams, was the immense number of huge stones, some of them weighing from 5 to 20 tons, which were hurled down pell-mell like pebbles with the raging avalanche of water along the steep, rocky shelving bed of the stream, making a noise, as graphically described by an onlooker, resembling the rumbling roar of distant thunder, and dashing like giant battering rams or cannon balls against the abutments of the bridges, and in a few minutes the whole fabrics were smashed to shivers as if built of pasteboard. At some sharp angles of the channels below the bridges a lot of these huge boulders of stone were hurled right outside the channel and stowed tapselteeie, tier above tier, where they are very likely to remain undisturbed for ages to come. In some places the torrent cut out a new channel, along which the streams now flow."

Extract from  
"Rambles in Breadalbane" 1891  
by Malcolm Ferguson

## Church Guild

The Guild resumed on Sunday 12th September with a dedication service. The September meeting took the form of a talk and slide show of the passion play in Oberammergau by James and Betty Houston. In October Miss Cynthia Johnson will be speaking on our sunflower project. This is based at Simpson House in Edinburgh to support children whose parents misuse drugs. November we travel to the Holy Land with a talk and slide show by Mr Campbell Crawford from Gargunnock. December is our Christmas afternoon when we will be entertained by the Balquhidder trio and singers. The meetings are held in the Church Hall on the 3rd Thursday of each month at 2 pm. New members are given a very warm welcome. A date for your diary - the church is running a whist drive in the in the Church Hall on Friday 8th October at 7.30pm Everyone welcome.

Bunty MacGregor

## Killin Lochside Development and Feasibility Study Summary

A study by Jura Consultants was sponsored by Argyll, the Isles, Loch Lomond, Stirling and the Trossachs Tourist Board; Killin Community Council; Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park Authority; Loch Tay Steamship Company; Scottish Enterprise; Forth Valley and Stirling Council.

They looked at the feasibility of the railway and steamer proposed for the Killin end of Loch Tay in view of the need for public sector investment. The advantages gained from the Falls of Dochart and the Breadalbane Folklore Centre could be enhanced by developments elsewhere in Killin to encourage visitors to spend more time in the village. Important local initiatives, the expansion of walking and cycling routes and plans to develop local heritage assets, buildings and environmental assets, are also under consideration. While the combination of the steamship and railway is very attractive and would bring visitors through the village, it was not deemed to be financially viable for the purpose of public investment.

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# 1st Killin Brownies

During the summer the older Brownies had four kayaking sessions at Firbush with Kate, one of the summer instructors. They all did really well and on the last night, were able to paddle from the Killin Hotel back to Firbush. They had a fantastic time and all nine girls passed their Watersports badge. We would like to say a big thank you to Kate for her patience and to Firbush for lending us their kayaks & equipment. On Saturday 4th September, Julie and four girls attended Stirling District's 90th birthday celebrations at Stirling University. Over 500 girls celebrated 90 years of Brownies – it was very noisy. Some of you may have seen the article in the Stirling Observer. Any girl in P3 who is already seven is eligible and very welcome to join Brownies now. We meet from 6.30pm to 8.00pm every Monday night in the Church Hall and do all sorts of fun activities e.g. games, computing, crafts, outings, golf, canoeing etc.



**Christmas Post:** After the huge success of our Christmas Post service last year, we will be repeating the service. During December (until Saturday 18th) you will be able to hand your Christmas Cards to the Post Office or the library along with 10p per card. These will be delivered for you on Saturday 11th & 18th. Please note that we can only deliver local cards i.e. to those houses within reasonable walking distance around the village. We are unfortunately unable to take them to Hong Kong as some people thought last year!

**Fiona & Julie**

**New Guide Company:** Is there anyone out there who would like to help us start up a new Guide Company? We are now 11 years old and sadly too old for Brownies. Brown Owl and Snowy Owl are allowing us to stay with the pack because we enjoy being part of the group. Although we like Brownies, we would love to become Guides, as they do more activities for girls of our age. If you can help us please contact Fiona Mitchell 820122

**The older 1st Killin Brownies**

## Country & Western Buffet Dance

The McLaren Hall and Killin Church will once again be hosting a night of Country & Western music with a buffet and dance, in the McLaren Hall. Paul Donnelly and his band will entertain with traditional and modern country music until 11pm on Saturday 23rd October. The night kicks off at 8pm. A wine/beer bar will be selling drinks in the hall. Tickets are available from committee members and McRae's butcher shop, at £12.50 each. Please buy a ticket and join in the fun. Proceeds will be divided equally between the McLaren Hall and Killin Church.

**Colin J McRae**

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## New Owners The Capercaillie Restaurant



Stuart and Myra Patterson who came from Stirling, have known Killin as hill-walkers and were keen to find a business associated with the catering trade in the area. This is their first venture in the trade and so far they are delighted with the amount of business they are getting. The coach tour custom is increasing so giving them a steady throughput during the day. They are hoping to build up their evening trade and are grateful for the recommendations given by the B & B owners. All food is prepared on the premises from fresh top quality ingredients - they are not using ready meals from other suppliers. Welcome to them both and we wish them luck in their new business.

GA

## Highland Dancing

Medal tests took place in Crianlarich Hall on 20th June. 29 pupils participated. The examiner was Maureen Barr from Crieff.

**Introductory one** - Anna Holden, Drew Riley, Georgia Third, Carys Burton - all Highly Commended

**Introductory Two** - Nicola Craig, Iain Fisher, Ishbel Hayes, Ella Jackson, Catherine Thomas, Lois-Anne Townsley - all Highly Commended

**Introductory Three** - Iona Pritchard - Highly Commended

**Introductory Four** - Pamela Watson - Highly Commended

**Bronze** - Katie Holden, Adele Melia, Ailsa Taylor, Lauren Third - Highly Commended

Roisin Owen - Commended

Adelle MacLean - Pass Plus

Amy Armstrong. Lynsey Armstrong - Pass

**Silver** - Ishbel Taylor, Siobhan Riddell.

Leia Ferrall - Commended

Emma Christie, Adelle MacLean.

Catriona McLennan - Pass Plus

**Silver Bar** - Lucie Ronald - Commended  
Emily MacMillan - Pass Plus

- Gillian Ross - Highly Commended

Many of the children have been dancing around the country at various venues and it is rewarding to see them enjoying their interest in Highland Dancing.

Congratulations to Gillian on reaching the Premier section. She collected several medals and did particularly well at Pitlochry this year. Our new pupils are, Anna Holden and Georgia Third who join their big sisters in the class, Drew Riley and Carys Burton from Crianlarich and Catherine Thomas and Pamela Watson from Tyndrum. They have all done very well.

**Details from Aileen Fisher**

Tel 01301 704283

## Killin Keepfitters

Help your health and fitness. Tuesday night Keepfit classes are under way in the McLaren Hall. From 7-8pm there is an Aerobic workout with Vicky and from 8.15-9pm Circuit training with our new instructor Susan. Each class is £3.00 per session with a reduction if both are taken. Due to the lack of support, Monday morning Keepfit & Wednesday night Yoga are postponed until further notice. As the running cost of the classes are ever increasing - insurances, music licenses etc are legal requirements - we need your support to keep them running and you healthy. If you have any ideas or suggestions to help increase the health and fitness of the village population, please contact: **Norma Lang:** 820 646

**Susan Fraser:** 820 816

between 10am-8pm.



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# Dig, Dig, Dig

The slopes of Ben Lawers were once occupied by thousands of people and is testament to how people lived during the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries in highland Scotland. The purpose of this project is to study this landscape so that we may better understand those who inhabited it. The work this season focuses on two of the land divisions, Tombreck and Kiltyrie.



## Tombreck

Excavations at Tombreck are a continuation of work carried out in April. The area is one of 3 structures and a possible kailyard. The most recent structure is a rectangular building probably nineteenth century in date. A patch of cobbled floor has been found. This building partially

overlies a second earlier structure with an earth floor. Excavations in April revealed the hearth accompanied by a small pit capped with a flat stone with a hole in the centre. This was filled with embers of the fire and may have been used to make charcoal. Alternatively the embers from the fire could have been placed here to relight the hearth the next day. A linear gully filled with small stones capped with

large flags suggests a possible third structure. At a second site at Tombreck a homestead with paved stone flooring with evidence of timber posts supporting a roof has been exposed. No date has yet been established. Finds have included a number of worked stone tools-hammer stones, rubbing stones and an abundance of struck quartz fragments. None of these indicate

a prehistoric site. Stone tools are known to have been used in the Scottish Highlands for a variety of purposes well into the historic period. The absence of eighteenth and nineteenth century pottery would suggest that the building was occupied possibly in the early medieval period.



## Kiltyrie

The work here has uncovered a hearth filled with charcoal, pieces of burnt bone and several postholes which may be evidence of supports for a cooking pot. Radiocarbon dating of the finds should make a valuable contribution to the understanding of this settlement.

## Thistle Camps

Next year will be our last year of field-work. The camps will run from 2nd-16th April and 28th May-25th June 2005. If anyone is interested in taking part they should get in touch. More information can be found on the website [www.ben-lawers.org.uk](http://www.ben-lawers.org.uk)

**Derek Alexander**

Archaeologist West

National Trust for Scotland

Tel 0141 616 5120

## Killin Hotel & Riverview Bistro



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Once again the Crannog has proved to be one of *the* visitor attractions in the area, with an appreciable increase in attendance figures over previous years. The various concerts have been tremendously popular, with 'House Full' notices nearly every evening – very gratifying for all concerned. By public demand the season had to be extended. The 'hands on' fun events attracted many visitors and

another attraction was a boat cruise up the Loch with Nick Dixon to look at crannogs.

In August the Crannog Centre was once again presented with an 'Investors in People' award and a splendid plaque now hangs in the entrance hall. The Lawers underwater and shorewalking survey continued in 2004, bringing the total number of sites observed to about 300. A snorkel survey of shallow waters and diver examination of crannogs in the area added a number of interesting sites which will be examined in the future. Cup-marked rocks, stone alignments, possible logboats and objects such as a large anchor and early agricultural implements were found. Four of the five crannog sites produced timbers for radiocarbon dating and organic material for analysis was recovered from three. These samples could add significantly to our understanding of the way of life of the people who lived on the crannogs. Analysis of earlier samples taken from Milton Morenish, Morenish and Tombreck gives clear evidence that they were inhabited, with both Morenish sites having cereal grains, seeds of blackberries and raspberries and also cloudbberries at Milton Morenish. The Crannog will be open until the end of October and at weekends only in November. See 'What's On' for remaining 2004 events.

Colin Scott

## Computer Corner

Mark Lincoln

### The Dangers of not Backing Up Data

I often hear people telling me that they do not have any important information stored on their computer systems, so do not need to backup their data to a safe place. Then, after a lightning attack, which destroys all the information on their system, major panic sets in. As well as not being able to remember the computer's settings for internet access, email, address books, online banking and shopping settings, they lose vital e-mail messages. Every time the local area gets hit by lightning, at least one person's computer breaks down and data is lost and at other times at least one person per month has a "disc crash" and is not able to access data. I have seen small businesses fold because they have not bothered to back up their data and then suffered a computer crash, resulting in the loss of their customer and supplier account details. It really takes very little time to copy data daily to a removable device, e.g. floppy disc, CD, or Memory Stick. The potential savings are huge. So, please take my advice and spend some time backing up your system.

### Protecting from Lightning Strikes

Every computer that is attached to the telephone system is at risk of damage each time there is a local thunderstorm. Electrical surges travel along the telephone cables, and short out components within the computer. Not only are you likely to lose data, but you are also likely to have to pay out a lot of money to fix the system. By simply buying a surge protector (rough cost £30) you can protect your system against lightning.

### Broadband Update

BT has recently announced the lifting of certain restrictions regarding broadband availability. This means that when our local exchange is enabled with broadband technology (currently scheduled for July 2005), all subscribers attached to the Killin exchange "should" be able to receive broadband.

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## A Milestone for the Curling Club

The Breadalbane (Killin) Curling Club with funding of £5,000 from the Awards for All scheme, and generous donations of £400 from Callander Round Table and £598 from the Safari Supper has completed renovations to the Acharn Pond. The levels and banks were adjusted to decrease the volume of water to freeze. This was done by Stitt Bros, Tom Murphy, Douglas McRobbie, Brian Hibbert, John Sinclair and club members. The pond was re-opened on 19th September by Dr McColl and President Chrissie Fenton. Weather permitting the club will now be able to benefit from curling on one of the last remaining outside ponds in Perthshire.



## Opening of the New Houses



The new houses at Fingal Wynd were officially opened on Wednesday 8th September by Sylvia Jackson MSP, who unveiled a plaque and John MacPherson symbolically planted a tree. The ceremony was followed by a street party.

## THE ALBERT HALLS, STIRLING

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Based on the novel by Stephen King  
8PM  
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#### **Wednesday 13 REELIN' & A ROCKIN'**

The Greatest Sixties Show Ever!  
8PM  
TICKETS £15

#### **Saturday 16 ROBINSON CRUSOE**

Family Show  
2PM  
TICKETS £8/6 FAMILY (4) £22

#### **Sunday 17 COUNTRY LEGENDS**

With special guests The Everly's Show  
7.30PM  
TICKETS £12.50/10.50

#### **Sunday 24 KINGS OF SWING**

The music of Frank Sinatra, Tony Bennett,  
Dean Martin and many more.  
7.30PM  
TICKETS £12/10

#### **Thursday 28 HOT AUGUST NIGHTS**

Stars in Their Eyes, Gary Ryan as Neil Diamond.  
7.30PM  
TICKETS £12.50/11

#### **Friday 29 MODS & SODS**

OASIS & STEREOPHONICS TRIBUTE  
8PM - LATE  
TICKETS £12.50

#### November

#### **Sunday 07 BEYOND THE BARRICADE**

7.30PM  
TICKETS £13.50/12.50

#### **Friday 12 DEAN PARK**

8PM  
TICKETS £12.50

#### **Friday 26 CLASSIC CLAPTON**

Performed by 'After Midnight'  
8PM  
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# 11th Killin Highland Games



Champion  
Dave Brown



Charles Grant



## Killin Produce Show

The Killin Agricultural Show  
was cancelled  
due to the weather



**Handicraft Cup** Elizabeth Lumsden  
**Homecraft Cup** Jill Higgins and  
Sheena McColl  
**Baking Cup** Bunty MacGregor  
**Produce Cup** Margaret Inglis  
**Vegetable Cup** Hector Hall  
**Flower Cup** Muriel McNicoll and Ian  
MacGregor  
**Floral Art Cup** Helen Taylor  
**Girls Cup** Emma Aitken and Hazel Wyllie  
**Boys Cup** Calum Wyllie, Donald McAskill  
and Donald Taylor

## Overall Games Champion

Dave Brown USA

## Piping Competition

Champion Gordon McReady  
18 and under George Stewart

## Hill Race

**Gents** 1st Jamie Johnston Loughbrough  
27 mins 47 secs

**Ladies** 1st Deidre MacLennan  
36 mins 08 secs

**Juniors** 1st Alan Cherry Ayr  
13 mins 50 secs



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## Heart of Scotland Herb Society

It is time to begin a new season of events with topics that are varied, unusual, and of interest. Please join us for another year of using and learning about herbs while having some fun along the way.

### Programme

**20 Oct** Vegetarian Cooking by Steven Dow, Aberfeldy Town Hall 7pm

**17 Nov** AGM Mulled Wine and Herbal Quiz, Molteno Hall, Fortingall 7pm

**19 Jan** Deliciously Herbie Cookery demonstration by Calum and Delphine Kier, Aberfeldy Town Hall 10.0am

**23 Feb** Wild About Herbs, a film with Roger Tabor, chairman of the National Herb Society. Com-Com Centry, The Square, Aberfeldy 10.0am

**23 Mar** Holiday Herbal First Aid, Beryl Pointer, Aberfeldy Town Hall 7pm

**20 Apr** Eastern Herbalism and work at Bristol Cancer Centre, Jenny Boys, Herbalist, Aberfeldy Town Hall 7pm

**25 May** Unexpectedly Edible Wild Food and Herbs, Margaret Lear, The Village Hall, Ballinluig 7pm

**22 Jun** Midsummer Magic Open Day, The Herbalist's Garden, Pitnacree, time to be announced.

All regular meetings are open to the public. Should anyone require further details of events or information about the society please contact either **Patty Hope** 820408 or **Judy Forster** 820298

## Clanscape

With a 9 o'clock start the members of the Scottish Crannog Centre gave the public an opportunity to try their hand at drop spinning and stone drilling. The Killin Mountain Rescue displayed climbing equipment. National Park and Stirling Council Ranger Service, along with the National Trust for Scotland staff members and volunteers, manned their stalls. I was soon helping set up a model Earth Education village brought by Elspeth English. Children made inhabitants and buildings from clay and wood for the ever-expanding village. By the end of the day, the little town had fields, animals and its own forest! The rain held off and the sun made a few brief appearances. I was thankful that it didn't shine for too long as I was dressed as a Neolithic man, demonstrating the ancient skill of flint knapping, a new activity which I found interesting and challenging. Others demonstrated various crafts, including dowsing, making clay pots, green wood-working, making oatcakes, felt making, natural dyeing, coracle building and wilderness methods for starting fires. The day was busy, and about a thousand people took part in the various activities provided. Certainly one of the most popular stalls was that of National Trust Ranger Andrew Warwick and his tradi-

tional brewing techniques. Other stalls included a fascinating display of bees and beekeeping by the Fortingall and District Beekeepers Association, real hands-on archery with staff of the Abernethy Trust and a display by the Killin Heritage Society, of cultural sites in and around Breadalbane. Paraig MacNeill spun his tales of local folklore and history, his audience seated on straw bales, Duncan Twigg skilfully demonstrated fly tying and casting, and a natural history display was provided by Environmental Action Killin which added colour to the day. Gus Lennox and John Woodcock of Eat, Sleep and Carve cleverly crafted wooden figures of animals, and Jim Galloway, a local crook maker, demonstrated another rural skill. Linda Anderson demonstrated spinning and natural dyeing. The Heart of Scotland Herb Society had a stall providing culinary and medicinal remedies and catering was provided by Yvonne Gall. The day was a success for all concerned and we trust that Clanscape will become an annual feature.

**Simon Whitworth**

Seasonal Countryside Ranger  
with the National Park

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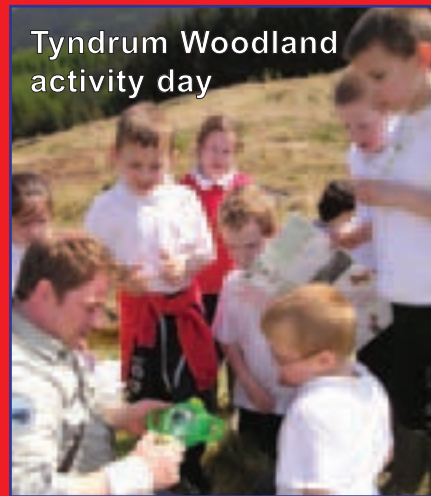
**DISTANCE  
NO OBJECT**







## Clanscape



Tyndrum Woodland activity day



Children's sunflower competition  
Above: largest bloom 24cm  
Emma Aitken  
Right: tallest sunflower 230cm  
Douglas Petrie



Crianlarich Primary

School walk from Bridge of Orchy to Tyndrum raised £630 for school funds



Tattie Planting



Community Woodland Tree Planting



Crianlarich Nursery Fun Day



Willow planting





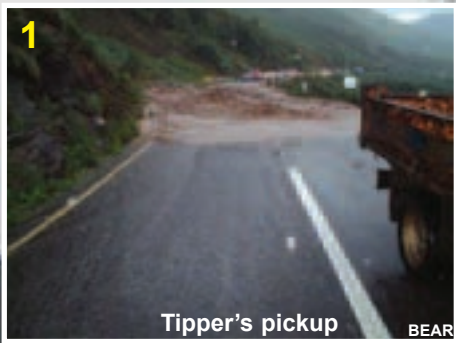


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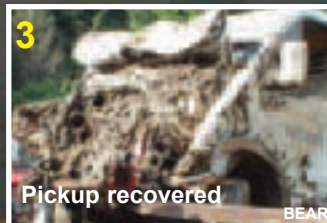
Same scene minutes later

BEAR



Tipper's pickup

BEAR



Pickup recovered

BEAR







Saturday 21st  
rock is being placed  
to support the roadside

BEAR



Friday 20th August

BEAR



Clean up continues

BEAR



Thursday morning, 19th August

BEAR





Mairi Hunter  
and her  
prizewinning  
sunflower

## Primary One intake 2004



Killin

**Back row:** Robbie Player, Euan Lang, Emma Aitken,  
Max Menzies, Tegan Dowling  
**Front row:** Jack Forsyth, Jenna Forster, Luke Hibbert



Crianlarich

**Back Row:** Natalie Christie, Megan Pease  
**Front row:** Steven McKillop, Lois Anne  
Townsend, Chelsea Watson, Nicola Craig



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## Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Saturday 14th August had a feel of fun and celebration in Tyndrum, the sun brought many out to enjoy our Woodland Activity Day and car boot sale. The Clydesdale from Strathgryd did demonstration work in the woodland shelterbelt bought by the community last year. The National Park Rangers activities included a charcoal burner and making musical instruments from woodland resources. A green woodturner and craftswomen demonstrated wool spinning and carding. The local Tourist Association organised the car boot sale. It was loads of fun, and it's not often that we have an event here in Tyndrum. It was conceived by Derek Wilkie before he passed away, so was held in fond memory of him. Monies donated and raised from the car boot sale will go towards a picnic area to be created outside Tyndrum Village Hall in Derek's name. We are grateful to Scottish National Heritage for their financial help for the Woodland activities. Representatives from the 'Rural Voices' project met with the Doctors in Killin to pass on the overwhelming wish from the Strathfillan community for a branch surgery in Tyndrum or Crianlarich. With the apparent contraction of services in the health service there is neither the energy

## Strathfillan - "By The Way"

nor resources to pursue this at present. The one remaining opportunity is to try to make it easier for people to get to Killin. We are doing all we can to put our needs at the top of the agenda with the National Park and the 'next steps/action' which we anticipate will follow their recent Transport Survey.

The sun shone again when the TV cameras revisited Strathfillan to record some of the work of the Community Council and Community Development Trust. A film is being made on the twelve finalists in this year's Calor Gas Community of the Year Awards (the same competition that Killin Community Council won last year). When the cameras first visited the weather was wet and wild. This time they got great pictures of the primary school-children enjoying the Crianlarich Community Woodland. It will be intriguing to see if we recognise our story when the programme is shown in October or November (under the title of Rising to the Challenge).

**Sue Wyllie** SCDT Office

Tel: 01838 400 545

New email: strathfillancdt@onetel.com

### Message from the Minister

In the days before the wall came down and the 'Iron Curtain' was, in biblical language, 'rent asunder', the old communist regime had political teachers called Commissars. A major task of the

Commissar was to discredit religious belief and national conferences were held for that purpose. At one such conference, near to Easter, an Orthodox Priest asked if he could address the conference. This was not normally allowed but when he said he only wanted a few seconds, it was thought he could do no harm and permission was granted. The Priest stood up before the packed conference hall and simply intoned the central words of the Easter Gospel, "CHRIST IS RISEN". There was an immediate and thunderous response: "HE IS RISEN INDEED!" The priest sat down.

All the pressure and repression in the world could not and cannot suppress the joy of faith and the mysteries of the spirit within God's creatures. Sunday worship is just such a joy. When I greet a congregation on a Sunday morning with the words 'Good Morning' (meaning, God be with you this morning) and there is a ready response, I know our worship is going to be a communion with God and each other. It is, in the words of the old catechism, 'our duty and our joy, at all times and in all places, to give praise and thanks to God', but I must say that worship on Sunday mornings is my inspiration for the week ahead. I hope the same is true for you, or that you will give it a try.

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

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5 weeks from Wed 20th October  
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1pm - 3pm £30

### Labels for Xmas Cards

3 weeks from Tues 2nd Nov  
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10.00am to 12pm £20  
and  
3 weeks from Mon 1st Nov  
Killin Church Hall  
10.00am to 12.00pm £20

### Computing for Beginners

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**Julie Rhys**

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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

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# ervyn's Weather



Should they take the title of this article seriously, any new readers might be forgiven for attributing the abysmal summer weather of 2004 to the writer thereof! Yet there is nothing "new under the sun". We are told that August 1912 was wetter than the month just past. Those of us who were around in 1948 may remember the disastrous floods of August 11th/12th when in particular SE Scotland recorded many road and rail bridges being swept away. East Lothian and Berwickshire suffered badly. The poor summer of 1948 followed on the glorious late summer of 1947. Another noteworthy time was May 1953, when many landslips and washouts occurred throughout the west Highlands.

Landslips are in fact regular phenomena in hilly or mountainous districts, but it is only when they involve roads, railways or populated areas that they hit the headlines. Opposite Ardtalnaig, across Loch Tay, on a ridge known as Sron Mhor of Meall Gruaidh, almost annually, when a sudden thaw and heavy rain follows the build up of a snow cornice, this results in a quite substantial landslide which goes unnoticed to all but those directly involved.

"Global Warming" has become the whipping boy for almost every environmental and ecological event or perceived change and departure from normality. In the September issue of The National Geographic Magazine many pages are devoted to "The warming up of the world". The old saying that "Facts are chieftains which will na ding" seems to be increasingly applicable to this subject. "The Geograph" highlights many instances of Eco-signs which are irrefutably factual. The general trend of this warming-up process would appear to apply mainly to remote and colder areas where glaciers are retreating with increasing rapidity. Annual snow and ice melt is taking place earlier in the season, so rivers and streams so fed are drying up by summer in the Alaskan Highlands, the Andes and the Alps. In the Glacier National Park in Montana in 1930 there were an estimated 150 glaciers. Now there are fewer than 30 and these of much reduced area. The famous snows of Mt Kilimanjaro have shrunk by 80% since 1912, as have many Himalayan glaciers. Permafrost has thawed out in many sub-Arctic regions, causing road subsi-

dence and "leaning" forests, while Arctic and Antarctic ice shelves are disintegrating, causing rising sea levels, which are of future concern to more than one hundred million people who live within 3 feet of mean sea level. Conversely large inland lakes or seas are fast diminishing. Lake Chad in NE Nigeria has shrunk to 10% of its early 1960's area and is being replaced in part by seasonal wetlands. The Aral Sea is another such example. All in all these articles in "The Geograph" make fascinating reading to anyone so interested, and throw some light onto the cyclical patterns over millennia of global climatic fluctuations. Nearer home the fluctuations of our "nominal" summer have at long last simmered down somewhat with the TV forecast even suggesting four days "sort of" dry. Hay mowers are out in force on Loch Tay side but, as these notes are being written, yet another weaker front has had the audacity to sail through the predictions of the pundits.

Mervyn K. Browne, Ardtalnaig

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



# The Angling

## Killin and Breadalbane Angling Club

**C  
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2004 has been a successful season for the club so far, with new members and a good turn out at competitions.

The local anglers have been joined by people from as far away as Hastings in Sussex, and lots of new blood in the form of the juniors. These up and coming anglers are keen

to learn from the stalwarts of the club.

The Killin anglers hosted the annual visit from the Loch Lomond Club and the reciprocal visit to them resulted in a good day's fishing for Angus MacLennan who won the Stewart Gillies Cup with the heaviest fish.

Other outings included visits to Lawfield with Angus MacLennan winning the day. Donald McLarty and Ian Downie won the pairs cup on Loch Tay. Ian also won at Swanwater in Stirling and the Pike competition with a 21 lb Pike, beating Alex Stewart into second place with his 11 lb Pike. The club organised a fun day for the juniors to Loch Fyne to catch Mackerel. Roisinn McLarty won with 9 Mackerel and 2 Pollock. Camilla Tigwell

came 2nd with 7 Mackerel. During the summer holidays the club organised two competitions for the enthusiastic junior members of Killin where tuition, advice and help with fly casting was given by the senior members. The first competition was won by Jonathan Campbell. Calum McLarty won the second, Calum was the overall winner for the season, Iain Campbell second, third was Jonathan Campbell and fourth Adam Mitchell. Although the Killin Show was cancelled, the Angling Club still held their fly casting competition and had a good turnout from members, locals and visitors to the area.

The overall winner of the Douglas Simpson Memorial Cup was Ian Downie. The Junior Competition winner for Trout Rod distance and the target was Calum McLarty and Roisinn McLarty for accuracy.

The Ladies competition was jointly won by Alex Tigwell and Maureen MacLennan.

A big thank you to News First, Gun & Tackle (Glasgow) and the hotels in Killin who donated prizes for the casting competition.

**Grant Tigwell**

## Members to Note

In late July, the angling club was informed by Tay bailiffs of two separate cases of illegal fishing – on the Dochart and on the Lochay. Given that the club has put considerable time and effort into supporting the Tay Protection Order and has worked closely with the bailiffs to counter illegal fishing, it was particularly disappointing to note that both incidents involved club members. Fortunately for those concerned, the bailiffs chose not to pursue either case on condition that the club took appropriate disciplinary action (this has been done) – but the bailiffs made it very clear that they are unlikely to take a similarly lenient approach next time. Members (and non-members) are reminded that under the Protection Order, fishing without written permission (i.e. a permit) is a serious offence (in these two instances, the bailiffs could have raised prosecutions against the individuals in question). Members should also note that most of our club waters are made available to us at the discretion of local landowners - any incident of illegal fishing by club members puts that resource at risk for the whole membership. In view of this, the club will take a very serious view of any further incidents involving club members.

**Gerry McCarron**  
**KBAC Secretary**



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### Childrens' Fun Fish Day

Just a few words of thanks to all who contributed to a rather damp but very enjoyable Childrens' Fun Fish Day. Special thanks for the use of the island at the head of Loch Tay go to Group Capt Dowling and family. Two marquees were erected and three barbecues fired up providing an impressive array of food, plenty for the 40+ people who attended. Thanks also to the Co-op and the girls at Costcutters for their support. As for the fishing, Antonia Dowling (see above) was one who was highly delighted when, on her first cast, she caught her first ever fish, another angler in the making. It was good to see the old and the many new faces that turned up to help and to fish. Same again next year?

Gregor Macaulay

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# Loch Tay Ospreys

For two consecutive years a pair of ospreys have nested and fledged chicks on Loch Tay. My first sighting was on Easter Monday 2003 and Pat Sandeman phoned in great excitement some days later to report that indeed a pair was resident on our doorstep. Since then we have noted all the comings and goings from the end of March right through to August, when both adults and young leave the area to migrate southwards for the winter. We wish them well, and yearn to see them back next year.

I hope we can all feel the need to leave their habitat undisturbed. Recent wildlife protection law supports this and the Tayside Police Wildlife Liaison Officer, Alan Stewart, provided notices warning intruders throughout the period. Inadvertent, careless, negligent or reckless behaviour can disturb them, making the parents fly up and call out, and even leave the eggs or chicks to perish from cold. They have enough to contend with from adverse weather, other predatory

birds (eg crows and gulls), and eggers. In 2003 one chick and in 2004 two chicks were fledged. With two growing chicks the parents had to work harder this year, yet always looked fit and strong. It is remarkable that a diet composed solely of fish provides everything they need for the young before and after they fly, and adults. They are no threat to other birds providing they keep away, however ospreys will kill birds that threaten them, as I witnessed when a heron got too close.

Perhaps we enthusiasts should avoid approaching too close on land or water. It is best to stay some distance, say 200-300m, since the birds in the nest cannot be seen from below. A rocking boat is an inferior platform for viewing but, providing you have binoculars or a fieldscope, the site across the loch or high on the ridge on the north side are good alternatives. Anyway, we must now wait till next year!

John Allen, Morenish

### Green Bowlers Against Indoor Bowlers

The annual outdoor contest between the Green and Indoor Bowlers was held at the Village Bowling Green on Sunday 1st August, when the weather could not have been more favourable for an outdoor encounter. Although numbers were slightly down on previous years, there were 4 rinks and a total of 23 people taking part. As always, in the end the physical strength with longer jacks took its toll and the Indoor Bowlers were clear winners, but an enjoyable afternoon was had by all. The winter indoor match is eagerly awaited.

Jill Higgins

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# What's on in Killin and District

## October

7 SWRI Illustrated Animal Sanctuary talk McLaren Hall 7.30pm  
 8 Guild Whist Drive Church Hall 7.30pm  
 17 Crannog Bracken Festival 11am - 4pm  
 17 Gun Club Shoot Luib Stance 1pm  
 20 Herb Society Vegetarian Cooking Aberfeldy Town Hall 7pm  
 21 Church Guild Church Hall 2pm  
 23 Boys Brigade Coffee Morning McLaren Hall 10am - 12pm  
 23 Country and Western Night McLaren Hall  
 31 Crannog Annual Celtic Samhain Festival 5.30 - 8pm (tickets only)

## November

4 SWRI Virgin Cosmetics McLaren Hall 7.30pm  
 5 Heritage Meeting Lesser McLaren 8pm  
 6 SWRI Whist Drive for CHAS McLaren Hall 7pm  
 7 Crannog Weaving with Wood 11am - 3pm  
 9 Community Council Meet 7.30pm School  
 14 Gun Club Shoot Luib Stance 11am  
 17 Herb Society AGM Mulled Wine and Quiz Molteno Hall, Fortingall 7pm  
 18 Church Guild Church Hall 2pm  
 21 Crannog Annual Wild Harvest Food and Drink Fair 11am - 3pm  
 27 Cancer Research UK Christmas Coffee Morning McLaren Hall 10am - 12pm

### Oil Painting

Wednesdays  
 L'head Scout Station  
 9.45am - 12.45pm  
 & 1pm - 4pm

### Playgroup

Fridays Nursery  
 9.30am-11.30am

### Tiddlers & Toddlers

Fridays  
 Church Hall  
 9.30 - 11.30am

### Art

Tuesdays 4pm - 6pm  
 Killin Primary School

### Brownies

Mondays Church Hall  
 6.30 - 8pm

### Computer Class

Tuesdays 7 - 9pm  
 Killin Primary School

### Gaelic

Mondays  
 Beginners Suie Lodge 2 - 4pm  
 Intermediate Library 5 - 7pm  
 Advanced Library 7 - 9pm

### Boys Brigade

Fridays Killin School  
 Juniors 6.30pm  
 Company 8pm  
 All welcome

### Badminton

Mondays McLaren Hall 7pm  
 Starts 11 October

### Carpet Bowls

Mondays Lesser Hall  
 7.30pm

### Highland Dancing

Tuesdays Crianlarich Hall  
 5.15 - 7.30pm  
 various classes contact  
 Aileen on 01301 - 704283

### Line Dancing

Thursdays  
 Church Hall  
 7.30 - 8.30pm

### Keep Fit

Tuesdays McLaren Hall  
 7 - 8pm  
 Circuit Training  
 8.15 - 9pm

### Upholstery Class

Mondays Killin 10.30am - 1.30pm  
 Tuesdays  
 Lochearnhead Village Hall 12pm - 3pm

### Youth Club

Wednesdays Lesser Hall  
 7.30 - 9.30pm S1 - S6

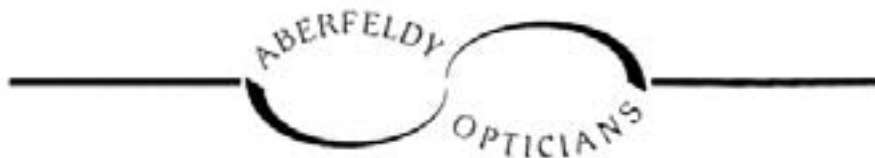
## No longer on

From 2nd October there will be no doorstep milk delivery in Killin. D & D Dairies have decided to end the service for financial reasons.

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# Killin News



**DEADLINES Issue 83 : Advertising 5 Nov Copy 12 Nov**

## 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.

We congratulate the emergency services on their management of the devastation following the landslide on the 18th August, and are pleased that no injuries were reported. Members of the local community from all age groups gave spontaneously of their time and resources. The community bus and Mountain Rescue Team were called into service, and those with the well-practised skills of catering for charitable events were used to supply food and drink for the survivors as they were ferried and airlifted in to the McLaren Hall. What a team, we are proud of them. True traditional Highland hospitality. We congratulate them too. Surely this must be a measure of a community's health and wellbeing. **WA**

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### Production Committee

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

### 90th Birthday



On Saturday 15th May Mrs Mary Cameron celebrated her 90th birthday with family and friends at Trust sheltered housing (Kirk Care). A surprise gift arrived in the form of her younger brother, whom she had not seen for about fifteen years, who came down from Shetland.

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# Killin Golf Club

## Gents Open 7th August 2004

### Scratch:

1st R.A. Clark (Erskine) 67  
2nd E Lindsay (Rosemount) 71  
3rd D Campbell (Taymouth) 73

### Handicap

1st J Ronald (Killin) 64 BIH  
2nd D Howie (Pumpherston) 64  
3rd C Forsythe (Killin) 65 BIH

### Nearest Pin Category 1

J Munroe (Whitemoss)

### Nearest Pin Category 2

G Milton Jnr (Killin)

### Longest Drive Category 1

R.A Clark (Erskine)

### Longest Drive Category 2

J. McGivern (Renfrew)

### Magic 2s:

R.A. Clark (Erskine) H.Robertson  
(Pumpherston) E.McGregor (St  
Michaels) J. R. Guild (Killin)  
D McLeod (Dalmally) S Bergin (Killin)  
G Ferguson (Killin) A Hill (Taynuilt)  
I Pearson (Cochrane Castle) J Anderson  
(Taynuilt) D Lewis (Killin)

## Senior Ladies' Open 15th September 2004

**Scratch: Silver:** Margaret McRae  
(Pitlochry) 76 ( shield)

**Bronze:** Sheilah McMorris (Campsie)93

**Handicap: Silver:** 1st Sylvia Haddock  
(Callander) 71 BIH

2nd Moira Hogg (Old Ranfurly) 71

3rd Meripe Dunlop (Old Ranfurly) 72

**Bronze:** 1st Maureen Gauld (Killin) 68  
(shield)

2nd Helen French (Campsie) 69

3rd Louise Lauder (Pitlochry) 71

**Veteran's Handicap:** Helen French  
(Campsie)

**Longest Drive: Silver:** Pat Shields  
(Cowglen)

**Bronze:** Mary Marshall (Cowglen)

**Nearest the Pin:** Morag Gardiner  
(Cowglen)

**Sweep: Silver:** Elizabeth Ingram  
(Killin)

**Bronze:** Rachel Hunter (Schawpark)

**Magic Twos:** Moira Hogg (Old  
Ranfurly)

## Club Champion

20 year old Kenny Campbell won the Killin Golf Club Champion cup again this year. Kenny is also a member of Taymouth Castle Golf Club. He was Club champion at Taymouth last year and retained the cup when he played in the final again this year. The photo is taken at Turnbery where he competed at the Champion of Champions.



## Junior Golf

**Beginners:** Camilla Tigwell

**Category 4:** Scott Thomson

**Category 3:** Victoria Campbell

**Category 2:** Adam Mitchell

**Category 1:** Colin Woods

**Best Beginner:** Oliver Dowling

**Most improved:** Clare Melia

**Junior Club Champion:** Colin Woods

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# Clubgolf



Jinny Dowling,  
Lucie Ronald,  
Gordon Hamilton  
Camilla Tigwell

The Clubgolf initiative, which ensures that all 9 year olds in Scotland have an opportunity to learn golf, has been coordinated in Killin by Mark Lincoln, Laurence Brown, Tam Bolton and Liz Stevens, who all now hold PGA qualifications to teach the level 1 course. 12 Juniors were awarded Level 1 certificates this year and several others have attained adult handicaps. A junior scratch league against Auchterarder, Murrayshall, Blairgowrie and Pitlochry was attended by juniors from Killin. Stuart Laurence managed a hole in one at one match. Colin Woods and Donald MacAskill were the finalists of the Junior Championship which went to the 18th hole and was won by Donald. On 13th August an Adult and Junior competition was won by Douglas McRobbie & David MacAskill.

Junior Golf is supported by many members and parents and thanks go to them and those who walk the course, to coaches including Allan Knox from Crieff, Allan McHenery, Inga, Shona and Helen for their work on Friday nights, Gordon and the Golf Club committee for all their help. L S

## Killin Floral Association Awards 2004

Judging took place in July and August. This was the fairest way as for many gardens the season began quite early, whilst others were going to "bloom" later in the summer. The poor weather has had adverse effects on many of the plantings in the village. All credit to those who managed to sustain displays of colour throughout the summer and keep the plants looking good.

### Results

**Hanging Baskets:** 12 Ballechroisk

**Highly commended:** Top Floor Flat, Dreadnought Place

**Window Boxes/Wall Containers/Hay Racks:** Rowanbank, Dochart Road

**Highly commended:** 3, Pier Road; Falls of Dochart Cottage

**Tubs/Containers:** Joint Winners: Top Floor Flat, Dreadnought Place and 3, Dochart Road

**Highly commended:** 12 Ballechroisk; Burnbrae, Aberfeldy Road; 9 Ballechroisk

**Overall Display in Containers:** Top Floor Flat, Dreadnought Place

**Highly commended:** 3, Dochart Road; 12, Ballechroisk;

**Garden with summer colour:** 6 Dochart Road

**Highly commended:** 1 The Glebe; 3 Pier Road; 12 Ballechroisk

There are many other gardens around the village that are a delight to see whether for their summer planting or hanging baskets, tubs and other containers. Well done to all who put a great deal of effort in to their gardens and brighten up the village, not only for their own enjoyment, but also for other residents and the many visitors who spend time in the village during the summer months.

### Commercial Floral Frontage Display in Containers

**Retail/Café etc.:** Shutters Restaurant

**Commended:** Antique Shop; Killin Outdoor Shop; Killin Golf Club

**Accommodation:** Invermay House

**Highly commended:** Dall Lodge

**Commended for their efforts this year:** Drumfinn House; Falls of Dochart Inn; Bridge of Lochay Hotel

Well done to all the other businesses who brighten up their properties with colourful floral displays.

## Reflexology

**In Reflexology the feet are a map of the body**

**Working these reflexes with alternate pressure from the thumb and forefinger stimulates the body's own healing system and thus holistically rebalances the body for better health**

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

**Gill Hunt**

**Member of the Association of Reflexologists ;  
Member of the Scottish Institute of Reflexologists  
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e-mail: gill@westerlix.co.uk  
www.westerlix.co.uk/reflexology.htm**

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## Book Sale

### The Good News

August 7th was even busier than usual with several events on one day. As always, the Book Sale depended on an ever increasing number of volunteers who seem to find the sale a fairly lively social event! We sold books to a mix of local people and visitors from "a' the airts". Foreign language skills were put to the test a few times. The cafe kept busy and the home baking was certainly appreciated. Thanks to everyone involved, we raised almost £700!

### The Bad News

On the Saturday before the Book Sale, Fingal Stone was damaged, probably during an outdoor drinking session. The small stone was knocked down and left



lying on the path. We spoke to the police, local contractors and the Stirling archaeologist. The stone was to be replaced quickly but, unfortunately, it was not removed for safe keeping and it has gone missing. It is hard to stay posi-

The improvements to the school playground have been ongoing this year. Due to a generous grant from Forth Valley Food Links we were able to construct a small child-friendly vegetable garden in the front area. The results have been amazing and many local households have benefited from the produce. Many thanks to the two dads with chainsaws who helped construct the raised beds, and to Gavin Skipper for sourcing the lovely 'sleepers'.

One of the most eye catching changes has been the fantastic wildlife mural painted on the front wall of the building (See page 35) The previous art teacher, Mr Tindall, worked with every child in the school to produce this magnificent piece of art work. It certainly brightens up a dreary building – Thank you Mr Tindall and all the kids.

Changes have also been happening around the back of the school. We now have six large colourful games painted on the tarmac. A lady from the Chest Heart & Stroke Association came to

tive when so much hard work is undone by vandalism. However, the Stone will be repaired and the site completed but we are now having to think in terms of next tourist season.

**Moiria Meek**

## Playground Development

teach the children how to play with these games and, in return, we raised money for her organisation. There was enough money to purchase two picnic tables and three lovely benches for the kids to sit on, two of which have planters at each end. These were planted up by the children before the summer holidays and are still flowering profusely.

Some dads and a local Joiner fought rain and wind to erect a pergola against the paper shed. This is made from recycled plastic and looks fantastic. The children will plant some climbers and more plants in tubs around the bottom of the upright sections. This team put up our new notice board at the front of the school. Please 'notice' it each time you walk past.

We would like to thank Stirling Council Community Grants Scheme, Stirling Landfill Tax Trust and the Co-op for generous grants towards all this work.

**Playground Committee**

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## Charity Cycling



James Stewart, Ali Brown, Jamie Murphy Adam Mitchell and Iain Campbell cycled from Killin to Balquhidder and raised £300 for the Killin Sports and Social Club in order to extend its opening hours



Tyndrum Fire Station raised £471 for the Anthony Noland Trust by cycling between Tyndrum and Callander Fire Stations



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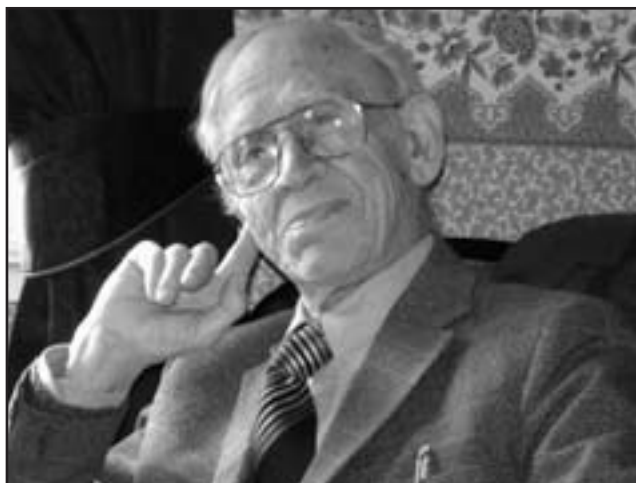
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## Obituary

### Frank Thompsett



Some thirty years ago it was Frank and Hilda Thompsell's good fortune to opt for early retirement from local government service and move from Coventry to Killin to be closer to their daughter and son in law Janice and Sandy Chisholm. The years have indeed been happy ones, thanks in no small part to the very warm welcome they received from new friends and neighbours in Killin.

They first moved to the Glebe which they ran for a few years as a B&B, later selling up and moving to one of the cottages at the top of Glen Ogle head but finding this too remote, they moved back again to the heart of the village at Craignavie Road.

Frank was the youngest of a large family of ten and left school at 14. He served as a dental auxiliary during the Second World War, stationed at Bodmin in Cornwall. After the war he gained employment with Coventry Corporation, working in his later years for the Severn Trent Water Authority. Frank, who had trained at Art School, continued his landscape painting, exhibiting at local shows, until his sight failed him in later years.

He was fond of reading, chess and bridge and in his early years in Killin continued to be a keen vegetable gardener. Despite frailty and the decline of sight

and hearing, he remained in good spirits and bright wit right up until his death on 3rd August this year when he was taken by a coronary seizure at the age of 92. His was a good, long and fulfilled life. He was survived by Hilda\* to whom he was married for 64 years and leaves behind a son and daughter-in-law, Gordon and Birgit, and daughter and son-in-law Janice and Sandy and five grandchildren, all of whom appreciated his eccentricity and mischievous sense of fun. Hilda was moved by the very many expressions of condolence she received and attendance at his funeral and was grateful to all those in the village who contributed to their well being in recent years, particularly Jessie McLeod for her care and good company, Isa Chisholm, Bill Stitt and the "Crossroads Ladies" Mrs Fenton and Mrs Hunter.

Hilda wished any contributions in memory of Frank to go towards the work of the "Crossroads" charity which gives support to the housebound and their dependants.

**Gordon Thompsell**

\*Sadly Hilda died very shortly after Frank. See next issue.



**Laura Thomson**

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# LETTERS

## Coach House Camping

I read with great amusement some cowardly unnamed comments in a recent issue of the Killin News re my riverbank. I would like to know how this tasteless act was witnessed and by whom. Every camper has access to at least 3 toilets and 2 showers facilities at The Coach House. They are even given front door keys. Incidentally urine in rivers is diluted, but against the McLaren Hall walls it has to wait for the next rainfall. In the 4 years Keith and I have been here we have bent over backwards to assist all and sundry if they require either physical or financial assistance. I can only recall one mention of gratitude in the Killin News. But hey, let's not be petty, we do these things because it gives us personal pleasure to do so we do not seek reward but slating us is totally unfounded. I wait with bated breath to see if this response goes to print & in its complete state.

**Gilly Cheevers, Coach House Hotel**

*(This letter refers to the Minutes of the Killin Community Council printed in our last issue and not to anything originating from the Killin News.)*

## Out of Hours Emergencies

With further reference to my letter published in the last edition of the Killin News, the recent events in Glen Ogle will hopefully help to concentrate minds on the necessity for "out of hours care" and the positioning of hospital facilities this side of Stirling rather than Larbert/Boness.

**Margaret Wilson**

A few weeks ago just after 7 a.m my husband was taken ill suddenly. Fortunately for us it was before the new scheme came into effect. We had a very fast response from the doctor and the ambulance crew. They needed to give him treatment for some time before they took him to hospital and monitored him during the journey. We cannot thank them enough. Since then I have had many sleepless nights worrying about what would happen if the new regime were in place. What could I have done? How would I be able to describe what was happening to him? Some physical events are easy to describe but what about the unseen things like a sudden drop in blood pressure? If we had been advised to make our own

way to S.R.I. I don't drive so who could I have woken up to beg a lift and what if he had been deprived of that preliminary treatment? The permutations one thinks of during sleepless nights are horrendous. We can only hope and pray that sense and compassion take some priority over statistics and economies.

**Margaret MacGregor**

## Thank You

We would like to thank Killin for the good times and support that this unique village has shown Liz and I during our tenure at 'The Clachaig'. It was a huge shock to us to be made redundant and gave us very little time to say cheerio to the people who have become friends over the last couple of years, let alone to say thank you to the village which supported our efforts in the pub. We will try to keep in touch with Killin and its community (of which it should be proud) and we will be back to the village in the fullness of time. We are back in our home village of Menstrie but will always hold Killin dear to our hearts.

**Les and Liz Sharp**

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### Thank you, Alice

Killin playgroup would like to thank Alice McPherson for all the help she has given us during her time at the playgroup. Alice started helping over 6 years ago when her granddaughter began at the playgroup and luckily for us Alice continued once she had finished. She has been an invaluable part of the day to day running of playgroup and will leave a big gap. All the work she did was voluntary and was greatly appreciated. Unfortunately she has decided that she will be unable to return and will be greatly missed. If anyone would be interested in becoming our new voluntary helper then get in touch. We need your help 9am-12pm on Friday mornings. For more info contact

**Sammy Hibbert 820 739**

### Joan Illingworth

Audrey, Tony and John would like to convey their thanks for the letters, cards, calls and support following Joan's accident in May and her death several weeks later. They were very much appreciated. We send our special thanks to the ambulance personnel, the Community Nurses, the Doctors and clerical staff of The Killin Medical Practice for their care, kindness and attention. Also to The Killin Care Trust and Staff of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home, where Joan spent the last five years of her life happy, secure and content in their splendid care.

**Audrey Weaver**

### Post Office

A big thank you to everyone who gave us their support over the past 11 years and to everyone who gave us cards and gifts when we left.

We would like to wish Paul, Dee and family all the best. I am sure we will be back now and then so we will see you

**Frances and Ian McLaggan**

### Thank you All

I would like to express my sincere thanks to all my relatives, friends, neighbours, Killin doctors and nursing staff for the flowers, cards, visits and support to me and my family during my illness.

**Mary Hunter**

## Killin Community Council meeting 14th September

**Matters arising:** The Dochart Bridge is now repaired, a larger skip has been provided and local doctors are still doing out of hours.

**Planning:** Objections withdrawn for a new house opposite Ardeonaig Hotel.

**Landslide:** Everyone in the Community was thanked for their response to the emergency situation. Thanks were also passed on from families helped and from our MP, our MSP and Stirling Council.

**Proposed public telephone removal:** BT to be contacted. It was agreed the box at Lix Toll junction should be removed but the Ardeonaig phone and the one by Breadalbane Park should be retained.

**Registrar:** It is hoped that Killin will retain its Registrar.

**Road signs:** Requests were made for an indication at the north end of the Dochart Bridge that the main road turns right and for clearer signs for Craignavie Road and Monemore. Give way signs or road markings needed at Manse Road and Fingal Road junction as it is now used more and there are no pavements there.

**Road safety:** Flooding on Glen Ogle has not improved despite a new drain. An anti-skid surface on the road above Lix Toll will again be requested.

Lighting on the path through the Park to Fingal Wynd was suggested.

**Other matters raised:** Responsibility for removal of roadside rubbish bags left by fisherman in Ardeonaig and Glen Lochay and for gravel on Glen Lochay Road: Parties on Glen Ogle and use of cycle tracks by cars: Drain blockages in Fingal Wynd and round the Bank.

**The next meeting: Killin Primary School on 9th November 2004 at 7.30 pm.**

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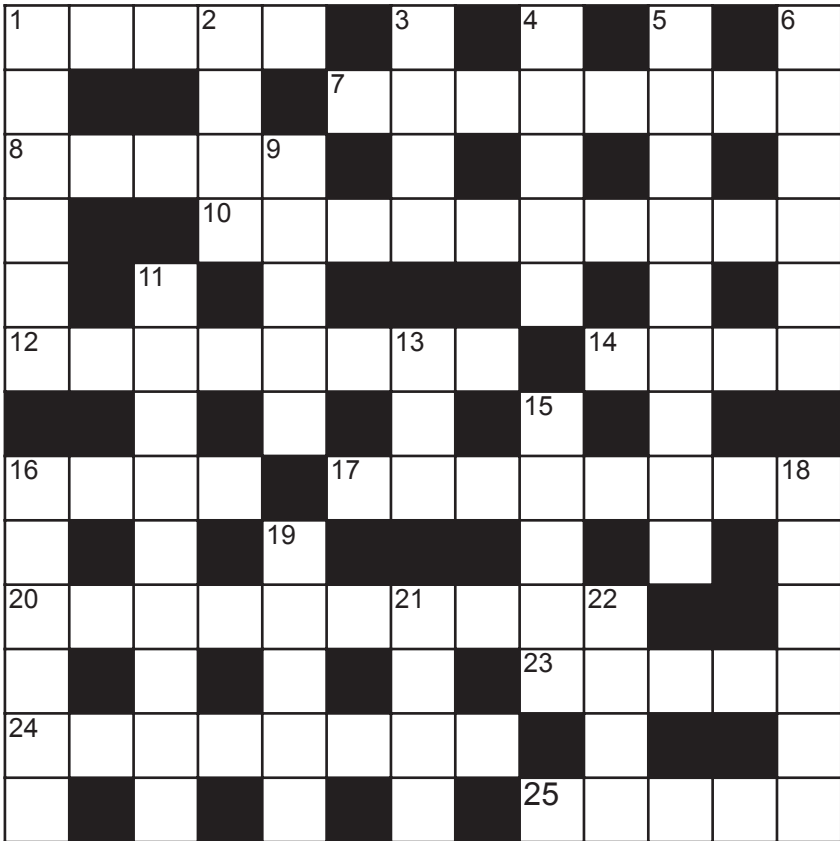
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# Crossword by Scorpio



### Across

- 1 Put letters in correct order (5)  
7 Cancel (8)  
8 Tell police about lawn plant (5)  
10 Group attending an educational institution (10)  
12 Yesterday evening (8)  
14 There are lots in the German Yeomanry (4)  
16 Dark viscous stuff with nothing used to predict the future (4)  
17 Temporary home with unhappy delicate fabric combine to create part of an octopus (8)  
20 This contribution could be considered a cheap one (10)  
23 A seed may be freed from discomfort (5)  
24 Milky kind of paint (8)  
25 Fertile soil and fungus (5)

### Solution to Issue 81

- Across** 1 Robin 7 absolute 8 bract 10 art teacher 12 eloquent 14 cree 16 cart 17 belittle 20 neopolitan 23 court 24 naked man 25 unity  
**Down** 1 rubble 2 inca 3 abut 4 total 5 authority 6 be true 9 trout 11 poor folks 13 nee 15 lilac 16 canons 18 earthy 19 rondo 21 iran 22 noun

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### Down

- 1 Grainsy and sweet (6)  
2 Novice female suffix becomes fewer (4)  
3 Italian greeting for hello or goodbye (4)  
4 Quiet supporter is friendly (5)  
5 Tax free portion (9)  
6 Distorted (6)  
9 Southern comfort can frighten (5)  
11 Roast a nut for one who travels in space (9)

- 13 There's a sheep in Kenmore we assume (3)  
15 Condition of southern art gallery (5)  
16 One who is generous in thanks for service (6)  
18 Sounds as if the first lady helped but actually avoided (6)  
19 -----Rose Lee (5)  
21 Wind instrument (4)  
22 Coronet for the very special (4)

### Bric-a-Brac Sale on 11 th August at the McLaren Hall

Our thanks go to those who helped to prepare for the event by baking, donating saleable goods, setting up stalls, manning the kitchen, suppling teas, organising and running stalls, getting rid of "left overs", selling tickets, suppling notices, and those who helped to leave the hall clean and tidy. Our thanks also to John Grant for having the hall ready for our invasion. £483.00 was raised on the day. The money collected will be divided between needy village clubs, the church, the community bus.

May Aitken



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## Across the Globe



Adam and Catherine Cunningham, formerly of Tyndrum Taxis, enjoying retirement. Seen here on holiday in Malta for their 40th wedding anniversary



Margaret Fyfe (Robertson) on the Great Wall of China. She and a group of 16 did a charity walk raising thousands of pounds in south Ayrshire providing housing and care for adults with learning disabilities



Childrens' mural on the front of Killin School (see page 29)



Barbara and Dave Watson with daughter Corinne and granddaughter Jasmin in Dubai. Barbara is Jessie McLeod's sister

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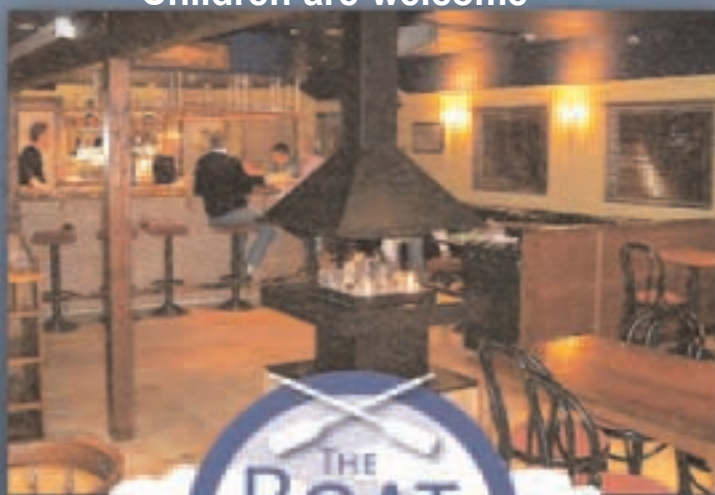


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