# KILLIN NEWS KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

Price £1 Issue 115 April 2010

### Killim News



#### **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. Articles should be between 200 and 300 words, photos in high quality and the content should be original work relevant to Killin and environs. All personal emails are acknowledged by a reply. If you do not receive a reply please contact us by phone or drop the article in the office letterbox.

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#### Editorial

The current financial situation continues to have an effect on everything involving public spending and that includes the Health Service and Stirling Council. We can expect a tightening of purse strings with little scope for change for the better. Close to the extreme rural edge of the Stirling Council, National Park and Perth Council areas we can hardly expect to compete with urban priorities. Improving our lot is largely up to us. Are we up to it?

In 2006 we were all given the opportunity to put forward our views on the future development of Killin. This was brought together in the 2007-2010 Community Action Plan which formed a basis on which Killin's priorities were based. The top six concerns included the upkeep/state of the village, the closure of shops, roads, traffic and parking, access to health care, poor public transport and lack of facilities and services. What has changed since? Are we happy that successful change has been achieved? Some still seem to strike a familiar chord. Has the time come to develop the new 2011-2014 action plan and how different do we expect it to be? The local vision of a tidy prosperous village still has some way to go. Change takes time and requires optimism and enthusiasm. The knock-backs are, in the current jargon, merely challenges on the way. Missing out on funding for the Thrift Shop gives KAT the incentive to find another route to success. At least by trying we may achieve success where doing nothing leaves change in the hands of others who may not understand our needs. Optimism feels much better than pessimism. Let's keep up optimism to achieve what was detailed in the Community Development Plan

This issue gives some reason to sense a change. Public transport services, it appears, are to be made more user friendly (page 4). One longstanding evesore in the Main Street is in the process of being demolished. The Breadalbane Folklore Centre has been reprieved for vet another year. Tourists will still come and support our businesses. The Breadalbane Park might have a temporary makeover to reduce the The Tin Tabernacle Church has achieved floodina. funding for major refurbishment. The Ceilidh added £2000 to the funds for the McLaren High School Orchestra's tour. The cold winter is likely to have improved conditions for the mountain flora. A new Youth Group has been formed in the village. The Community Choir and other local groups give pleasure to many. Spring has come again ... Yes, optimism feels so much better.

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Front Page The Railway or Red Bridge over the Lochay

### McLaren High S chool O rchestra T our Fundraising C oncert





INDEX

We are delighted to let you know that the concert in McLaren Hall on 13th March raised the sum of £2000 for the HS Orchestra Tour this summer. We want to thank everyone who helped by bringing food, performing and/or attending! It was a great night and lovely to see all ages dancing so enthusiastically together to Siobhan Anderson and friends' wonderful ceilidh band - Sgiobalta. We thank them for the BIG part they played in making the night such a success. Julie Rhvs



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# Killin Public Transport Changes

From Monday 29 March, there are going to be some important changes to public transport in and around Killin.

Firstly, the Royal Mail Postbus service between Tyndrum. Crianlarich and Killin will be replaced by a Demand Responsive Transport (DRT) service. Secondly, there will be a more regular bus service between Killin, Lochearnhead and Callander, making better connections with bus services to and from Stirling. Thirdly, from Monday 24 May, Scottish Citylink coach services to and from Edinburgh, Fort William and Oban will serve Killin directly every day until Sunday 3 October. All of these services will be subsidised by Stirling Council. The new Killin & Strathfillan DRT service will replace the existing Postbus, which offers a few journeys per day at fixed times between Tvndrum, Crianlarich and Killin, DRT will be available 141/2 hours per day, six days per week. Longer-distance passengers will easily be able to connect with bus, coach and train services at Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. DRT also offers much greater flexibility to cope with appointment times, work times and

shop opening hours. Journeys will have to be pre-booked, however. National Entitlement Cards will be accepted as on bus services. This service will be delivered by joint working between Aberfoyle Coaches Ltd, Kingshouse Travel Ltd and other local operators. The service will be available on

The service will be available on Mondays to Saturdays between 07:00 and 21:30. On Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, the service will be available to connect with the bus from Callander arriving in Killin at 21:52. Bookings can be made by phone to 0844 567 567 0, sales@aberfoylecoaches.com www.aberfoylecoaches.com or by text to 0844 567 567 0. While bookings should be made 24 hours in advance, every effort will be made to accommodate passengers making bookings at shorter notice.

**Bus Service C60** between Killin, Lochearnhead and Callander will become more frequent, with better connections at Callander. Differences between schooldays and nonschooldays will be eliminated and journeys will be extended to serve Callander Health Centre. On Saturdays, there will be more journeys, but no longer be a direct bus to Stirling. Service C60 will continue to be operated by Kingshouse Travel Ltd. Buses will operate from Killin on Mondays to Saturdays at 07:55, 09:55, 11:55, 14:40, 16:55 and 18:35 and from Callander Car Park at 08:50, 10:50, 12:50, 15:35 (M-F), 15:50 (Sat), 17:50 and 21:10. Buses in Callander between 09:00 and 17:00 will extend to Callander Health Centre on Mondays to Fridays. On Sundays there will be journeys from Killin at 08:55 and from Callander at 17:50.

#### The Scottish Citylink journeys

will start on Monday 24 May 2010 and operate daily until Sunday 3 October at the following approximate times: to Oban 10:25, to Fort William 11:25, to Edinburgh 16:45 and 18:45. Final times at Killin are yet to be confirmed, but will be close to those stated.

#### For more information on

DRT services call 0844 567 567 0 for bus and coach services call Traveline Scotland 08712 00 22 33

#### Bus Timetables are available in the Killin Library



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### Killin Mountain Rescue Team

The Killin Mountain Rescue Team had another busy year in

2009, attending 21 incidents, involving 840 person hours. A total of 31 persons required the help of the team. There was one fatality. Despite the cold weather and snows suspected broken leg. On Saturday 30th January, Ben Ledi featured in an incident when a hillwalker descending from the summit ridge slipped on ice and broke his leg. The team and a rescue helicopter crew were alerted, and were both keen to carry out a



over the festive period, the team was not required for rescues until well into January, but since then, the team has carried out four further rescues.

#### **Ben Lui Incident**

On Sunday 17th January, 26 members of the Team responded to an incident on the NE ridge of Ben Lui, Tyndrum, where a hillwalker had separated from her partner and had become cragfast on steep icy ground. In failing visibility and deteriorating weather, the team located the person after about 6 hours. Her calls for help and whistles could be heard clearly by the rescue party 400m below. A rescue helicopter attempted to reach Ben Lui on a number of occasions but was forced back due to the poor weather. The ridge team then commenced a very treacherous descend, all returning to safe ground 3 hours later.

Meanwhile a second search group scoured around the slopes of the ridge and main Coire, only to find the 2nd person badly injured after having fallen a considerable distance. It was a sad night for the team, as despite our best efforts with first aid and evacuating him from the mountain, he did not survive his injuries.

#### **Other Rescues**

On Sunday 24th January, the team was carrying out winter skills training in the Crianlarich area when they were called to Beinn Chabhair, Glen Falloch. A hillwalker was airlifted, after he had slipped on ice near the summit and sustained a

quick recovery as temperature on the hill top was around -10c. On Saturday 6th February, the team attended at Ben More, Crianlarich. A party of 5 hillwalkers had reached the summit. However, in the mist, the group were unable to find a safe route down the steep icy north face of the hill and asked for mountain rescue assistance. Navigational advice was given by phone, but the group could not find a safe route to descend. A helicopter dropped a small party from the team on the hill just below the mist level. They quickly located the group and guided them safely back down. On Saturday, March 13th, an injured walker was airlifted from Ben Each, after sustaining an ankle injury, the

after sustaining an ankle injury, the team standing-by in case they were required.

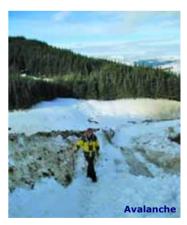
#### Training

The team trains twice a month. working on different aspects of Mountain Rescue, Casualty Care and Hillcraft. Following poor winter conditions over the last few years, the recent snowy weather has allowed the team to focus on winter skills. We had a major stretcher exercise on the slopes of Tarmachan, where we practised lowering the stetcher (complete with volunteer casualty) down firstly a snow slope then down steep terraced ground to the Lawers Dam. The team also spent an evening learning avalanche probing technique at Glenoglehead, followed by casualty care and evacuation to the roadside.

#### Avalanches

Sadly there have been a few deaths and injuries this year from avalanches in Scotland. Despite the high risk from deep layers of windblown snow slab, the team has not been involved in searches through avalanche debris. Team members are given the opportunity to attend national avalanche courses either in Lochaber or in the Cairngorms. There has been a lot of recent avalanche activity on our local hills, with a big avalanche on Ben More, clearly visible from the road. With some force, it had swept down the main coire and across the Benmore burn.

And it's back to Ben Lui for a tale of survival. On a good day on 12th May 1934, a party of 4 reached the top of Ben Lui via the Central Gully and by tunnelling through 6 foot of cornice. The party decided to return by the same route and on descent onto the summit snow slopes, they were avalanched. On seeing that he was about to be swept over the side buttresses of the gulley, the lowest party member, threw himself in the direction of the top of the gulley, followed rapidly by his colleagues. After 500m of helpless slide, 2 of the party remained on top of the debris and were able to dig out their colleagues. But as they were recovering some of their lost kit,



there was a second avalanche, pushing the first snow debris a further 70m downhill. Fortunately the climbers were unharmed and came back in the summer for their missing kit. This is still a Scottish record, for a total descent of around 550m, unharmed, and the latest recorded date in the year, that a party has been swept away by avalanche.

Enjoy the hills, be safe.

### Killin Community Council 9th Ma

**Bio Mass Project Acharn:** Planning is well on its way and an application will hopefully be made in June, July time. There is to be no wood hauled through the village and there is a possibility of a forest road to be built from the Ardeonaig road through to the Acharn site. A grid connection can be connected at any time, as there is an existing 33KV cable available to connect to. Consent is hoped for by the end of the year, a further 18 months from then till completion. 4 local jobs will be created to manage the plant.

**Community Resilience Plan:** How would the community cope in the event of a natural disaster or an emergency in which the normal emergency services could not reach us? We should have a community emergency plan. We as a community are to prepare a pilot plan for Killin, 5 people to be elected as contacts in the event of an emergency in order to co-ordinate a scheme to help others. 2 major contacts and 3 helpers. A household plan is to be sent to all householders.

Village Officer: Ongoing trying to tie in with the skip all dependent on funding. Road Maintenance: A survey of all roads is to take place - no info as yet. Dochart Bridge and Lochay Bridge walls are to be fixed only in the summer months, as lime mix has to be used. The Old Mart: Ongoing

**Playpark:** Ian Young and Claire Thomson, Roads and Flooding, attended a meeting in the park on 5th March to discuss flooding issues. There are 2

stages: stage 1 the Community Council can clear the ditch to the rear of the park helping the flooding now, permission is to be sought from Stirling Council. Stage 2 which is a long term resolution in which a new ditch is to be dug on the hillside from behind the new houses, Fingal Wynd, to divert the flood water to the cleared ditch and onto the river. This will all take time as SEPA have to be consulted and surveys have to be done. There was also discussion about a hard standing near to the entrance of the park to accommodate animal pens and heavy vehicles etc when shows are on. The play area is to be refurbished when flooding and funding is sorted out and in the meantime some maintenance is to be undertaken on the existing play park.

The community is to look into taking on the lease for the park also how much insurance would be and would the National Park be willing to help with funding.

#### Benches: Ongoing

**Turning Area:** Ongoing: 2 speed bumps to be replaced after snowplough lifted them

**Folklore Centre:** Possible uses were office space for top 2 floors and a heritage-visitor centre on the bottom floor.

Breadalbane Forum: Access to Larbert Hospital: After a long discussion it was decided it will be quicker to go to the new Larbert Hospital by the motorway rather than through the villages. Demand Responsive Transport (DRT): Being introduced in the Strathfillan and Killin areas as from 29th March. Withdrawal of post bus service led Stirling Council to introduce this service. which will take you from outlying areas of Killin and Stathfillan to your nearest bus service on demand, with bookings made 24 hours in advance, at the cost of a bus fare.

New Bus Service: A new service will run from Killin to Callander every 2 hours Monday to Saturday from 07.00 to 21.30 and until 21.52 on Tuesday and Thursday.

City Link Buses: Ongoing talks with City Link Buses are to confirm that they will come to Killin on their routes to Glasgow, Fort William and Dundee

**A82 To close for 12 weeks:** A proposed closure of the A82 for 12 weeks to widen the road at the Traffic lights on Loch Lomond. There is much concern about how this will effect local businesses.

**Council Members:** Gordon Aitken was co-opted on as a member of Killin Community Council

**K.A.T.:** A community council member still needed to represent KCC on KAT committee

Rural Housing: A general meeting 10th March

Youth Project: Out of 20 young people 4 have been chosen to head the group and a couple of trips are to be organised for Easter. Funding is still ongoing. Killin Sign: Still missing

**Planning:** Killin Hotel: Bar change of use to bunk house: a conservatory

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### arch

applied for on the riverside of hotel. Youth Hostel: Change from temporary residence to full time residence **BT phone kiosk:** Ardeonaig kiosk to be adopted by Killin Community Council for a £1, to keep kiosk, as BT no longer want it. It will not have a phone in it. **Loch Lomond:** Camping bylaws have been introduced to help manage wild camping on the east side of Loch Lomond.

Car Parking charges: to be investigated to ascertain if it will include the Killin area.

Public Toilets at bottom car park: Why are these still closed? To be investigated.

Next Meeting: Killin Primary School at 7.30 Tuesday 13th May

### Killin Youth Group

Killin Youth Group is a new venture open to all pupils of secondary school age within the Killin and Ardeonaig area. We already have two trips arranged for the Easter holidays, one to Abernethy Trust and one to Stirling Bowling Alley. To help fund these and other trips we are having a car wash day at the McLaren Hall car park on 17th April from 10am-4pm. All those wanting to take part come along and bring a sponge!

"KYG" plan to meet weekly and have

one trip away every month. Details of the club, trips and events will be posted on Facebook under 'Killin Youth Group'. This is a new and exciting idea, run by young people for young people. Come along and use it... or lose it.

"KYG" Reps: Catherine Allen, Luke Melia, Eilidh Shearer and David Macaskill



Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup> McLaren Hall, Killin 10am – 4pm £3 minimum donation or £5 Tea, Coffee and Cake While –u-wait!

### Team Volunteering Project Wanted

A local business is looking for a team day volunteering project they can do in May or June. They have their own transport and are interested in painting a community hall or tidying up gardens etc. Do you know if any local community group could use 15-20 extra pairs of hands for an afternoon? Please get in touch with me at the Volunteer Centre for more information.

If more than one project is available, I have other employer groups I can approach too.

#### Jennifer Shearman

Business Development Manager Volunteer Centre Stirling 01786 446071

jennifer.shearman @volunteerstirling.org.uk

#### Change to Music Sessions

The monthly traditional music session will now be the last Wednesday of the month: at the Bridge of Lochay Hotel, 7.30-10.30pm. All musicians are very welcome to join. Of course you're welcome to listen, too!

Marieke & Ewan 829 341 info@marieke.co.uk

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By the time you read this, the consultation period for the Finalised Draft Local Plan will have just ended but I would

like to highlight one element which clearly caused a little concern. As everyone is aware there is a big drive to produce from renewable sources more and more of our electricity. The Scottish Government has instructed all Planning Authorities to take that into account when preparing their Local Development Plans and as a responsible Planning Authority the National Park Authority has done so. And why should that have caused concern? A number of documents called Supplementary Planning Guidance are published with the Local Plan and the concern centered on that relating to Renewable Energy. The first thing that hits you is a series of maps which show where it is technically possible to site schemes by reference to the natural resource availability. Not suprisingly the National Park is well positioned to resource wind, hydro and biomass (wood burning) schemes and the maps consequently indicate that. That was the source of concern. Surely the National Park

#### Message from the National Park

Authority would not allow the Park to be covered by Wind Farms. It couldn't and it wouldn't. The maps are only there to let intending applicants see where it is technically possible to site a scheme. The Planning Guidance then directs them to the planning requirements for any proposal. The requirements are many. Will we see any wind farms in the National Park? Large scale ones almost certainly not and even small to medium, I very much doubt. Major Hydro schemes are unlikely but there is the scope for a number of small "run of the river" schemes. Some such schemes have already been approved. Furthermore pre application discussions are underway for a biomass scheme between Acharn and Lix Toll. The applicant's agent has been keeping the Community Council informed of the progress and will be making a presentation to the Community Council at the July Meeting in McLaren Hall. This year we will see some major changes in the Park Board. There will be a reduction from the present 23 members to 17. The makeup is still divided into directly elected, local authority nominated and ministerial appointments. The directly elected number remains at 5

but the other two groups will be 6 each.

The closing date for applications for ministerial appointments was15th March with interviews taking place in May. Successful candidates will take up their posts on 1st October. Local authorities are currently preparing their nomimation lists and these will be forwarded in June again with an appointment date of 1st October. Stirling Council will be nominating two candidates. The Chief Executive of Stirling Council will be the Reporting Officer for the Direct Elections and will be issuing details of the process in due course. Nomination papers will be available from 5th May. It will be a postal ballot and the count will take place at National Park HO on 1st July. Successful candidates will join the Board on that day. Our Convener, Mike Cantley, has

been appointed Chair of VisitScotland. The National Park Board appoints its own Convener and Deputy Convener and Mike will be staying with the Park Authority until around November when the new Convener will be elected.

> Owen McKee Taigh Na Bhuth Lochearnhead 01567 830214

owen@thevillageshop.fsbusiness.co.uk





Enjoy home baked scones, cakes and cheesecakes amongst other desserts.

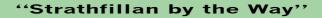
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#### Strathfillan Community Council

#### Scotgold

Owen said the whole Board of the National Park will decide on the planning application from Scotgold. There will be a site visit on 8th June and a decision meeting on 10th June. The applicant has followed all the correct procedures throughout the application and there have been a few objections.

Owen informed us of the difference between planning gain and community gain. Community gain is between the community and the developer and is for disruption to the community. Planning gain is for the stress or strain on other infrastructure such as roads.

#### **Camping Byelaws**

John received notification of a consultation on bye-laws on camping from the National Park. We do not expect any local impact.

#### **The Community Partnership**

The EGM is on 31st March in Arrochar, when the interim directors step down, but can be re-elected. We have nominated Joyce Russell to re-stand.

#### Environment

Effie Crompton is organising a litter pick-up week for the area - which we greatly appreciate.

#### Transport

Cameron Taylor suggested that because there is damage to the murals on two of the right hand signs at the entrances to Crianlarich that all the right hand murals are removed. This was agreed.

#### Housing

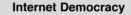
A meeting took place on 15th March between the Strathfillan Housing Group and Rural Stirling Housing Association to update on the new housing proposed for Mansefield. Planning permission has been received and if a building warrant is issued in time the contractors should be on site in May 2010. The project will take about 9 months. RSHA will be holding an open meeting to inform the community. They will also be giving a presentation on their local letting initiative at the CC meeting on October 11th. Moira attended a meeting of the repairs group of the STA and was told that the air-source heating that was piloted in Strathmore Terrace, Crianlarich is to be removed and replaced with wet electric heating. The system failed in the cold weather.

#### **Community Futures Goes Green**

The Executive met and have chosen their preferred bidder. The committee is trialling 2 monitors. The Climate Challenge Fund has allowed the project to be extended until 31st March 2011. The committee met on 18th March and discussed the work required with the preferred bidder. There will be audits of houses, a lesson in school and monitors to lend out. Community Energy Scotland will be running audits of community buildings in parallel with the project, but this has already been done in Strathfillan.

#### AOCB

The poles that have been erected at the entrances to Crianlarich are for 30mph flashing signs. Cameron applied under the 2008 Natural Heritage Scheme for funding to improve the path from the mountaineers bothy to the access to Ben More. This funding was pulled but has now been reinstated. His application would be more likely to succeed with backing from the community. Portnellan will maintain the path. The CC backs the application.



A website www.scottishdemocracy.com is now available, which provides networking opportunities to the general public and community groups John Riley 01838 400303

#### Crianlarich Primary School

#### \_ \_

Eco Group Gareth Kett from the National Park will be working with the children on looking after the environment in the

coming weeks. The Eco committee is working well and undertaking lots of work across the three focus areas of Litter, Health and Well-Being and Waste Minimisation.

#### Links with Strathfillan Lifelong Learning Trust

We are developing our links with the Trust in order to establish an after school activity club. This should be starting after Easter and there will be more information about this in the coming weeks.



#### P1/2/3/4

We have enjoyed learning about World War 2 and are looking forward to our open afternoon where we will share what we have learned with our family and friends dressed up as evacuees. For World Book day we dressed up as our favourite book characters and wrote our own books which we then read to the nursery. We are getting ready for our Easter service in the church and looking forward to next term when we will learn about India.

#### P5/6/7

Mr & Mrs Brown, originally from London, came to tell us about their experiences as evacuees. He was sent to Canada with his mum and she went to stay with relatives on a farm in the countryside outside London. They were relieved that they never had to wear their gas masks for real!

#### Look-out

Mrs Irene Henderson, headteacher at Crianlarich untill 1995, was born in Doune in November 1939 while her dad was away in the army. She grew up in Crianlarich. She told us that evacuees came to stay at Glenfalloch Lodge. Did you know that on top of the Crag there used to be a look-out for spotting enemy planes. There were silhouettes of enemy planes on the walls!! Sadly it is a ruin now.





#### **''Strathfillan**

#### Awesome

We have issued the first edition "Awesome News from School". If you would like to read all our news please pop into school and pick up a copy. Only 15p!!!! Inside you can read about our new teachers, our topics and get lots of Eco tips.

#### Dance

On Wednesday 28th April P5/6/7 will set off for the MacRobert Centre in Bridge of Allan to take part in an evening of creative dance made up by themselves. Schools from all over Stirling are taking part in this exciting evening.

#### WW2

The whole school has enjoyed learning about WW2. The highlight comes on Thursday 25th March when we all dress in WW11 costumes. In the morning we walk up to the train station to be "evacuated"! Everyone will have a gas mask box, a label and of course, a teddy. In the afternoon we will be joined by family and friends to listen to songs and stories of the war and have a cup of tea.

REAL

#### **Exit Youth**

Exit Youth Group have been shortlisted as winning entry in the "Stirling Young People's Film Awards 2010". The young people in Exit YG wrote, acted, produced, directed, filmed and edited a short film during 2009, with support from the councilled "Stirling Shorts" arts project. Over 30 films and animations were submitted for the awards, and the shortlisted entries were chosen for their combination of creativity, originality and technique. A small group of representatives from Exit YG has been invited to the Awards Ceremony at the MacRobert Centre on 24th March.

The film was premiered within the community at a fundraising "Talent Night" organised by Exit YG on 18th March. The talent night also featured a series of dances choreographed by the young people, and an amazing demonstration of Taiko Drumming. The evening which was organised and run by the young people themselves, and included various fund raising stalls, raised a fantastic total of £250, which will be used to help fund the forthcoming outdoor weekend at Glencoe Outdoor Centre. Everybody is



invited to a family BBQ in Mansefield, Tyndrum on Thursday 6th May. More details will be available nearer the time.

#### Isla Craig



We are increasing our sponsorship of local hill races in this year and are pleased to support the following events.

The Tarmachan Hill Race, Killin Sunday 18 April

The Montane Highland Fling Saturday 24 April

The West Highland Way Race Saturday 19 June

The Killin Highland Games Hill Race Wednesday 4 August

The great Real Food Cafe goodie bags have been updated for the races this year.

Opening hours from 26th March Sunday to Friday 18:00am to 18:00pm, Saturday 9:00am to 18:00pm 🛁



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#### by the Way"

#### Exit Youth

#### Late news

We had a great night at the Young Stirling Film Awards - a sort of mini Oscars. Unfortunately the Exit YG film did not win, but we were very proud to have been one of the shortlisted entries. The photograph shows them

receiving a certificate for their wonderful achievement.

ennifer Gilchrist, Lynsey Armstrong



#### Strathfillan Community Development Trust

#### Saplings

The plans for this summer's Saplings summer activities are well under way. Our willing and enthusiastic band of day leaders are putting together an exciting, challenging and fun programme of events for Strathfillan's 8 to 13 year olds. Treasure hunts, bug hunting, orienteering, survival skills, shelter building and arts and crafts are just some of the activities to look forward to. Booking forms will be sent out via the primary school well in advance of the summer holidays.

#### **Cash for recycling**

Any local community group who want to raise some money could do so by stopping some of our rubbish going to landfill. ACE Recycling Group CIC is a social enterprise company dedicated to recycling and re-use of a range of materials whilst providing employment and training in disadvantaged areas of the community.

ACE will uplift cans, paper,

cardboard, textiles and crushed plastic bottles and pay up to 30p per kilo. For more information call Linda Kidd on 01259 215090.

#### Paths for all

John Goodale, a Trust director and I recently attended the first Paths for All conference in Perth. There were plenty of inspirational examples of community work and effort to provide paths for access and leisure. Paths for All is based in Alloa and can provide a huge raft of information about path development, design and funding as well as offering practical help. Contact them on 01259 218888 and info@pathsforall.org.uk

Joyce Russell Development Officer Tel 01838 400 545 strathfillancdt@btconnect.com

#### **Race Night Success**

Jennifer Riley held a 'Race Night' in Crianlarich Hotel on Friday 19th March to raise funds for the Strathfillan Lunch Club, Crianlarich School and Killin & Crianlarich Nursery. The magnificent sum of £3000 was raised and each gets £1000.



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Strathfillan

# 1

#### New Association homes for Tyndrum

Rural Stirling Housing Association recently received planning consent for the building of seven new homes for rent at Mansefield, Tyndrum and hopes to be able to start work onsite before the end of May. The Association has been consulting with a panel of community representatives and local residents about the design of the new houses since last August. At the latest meeting the final plans were discussed and it was agreed that an information event be held for the wider community at the Village Hall once the date for the site start is confirmed. Details of this will be publicised closer to the time.

Derick Tulloch Rural Stirling Housing Association Tel: 01786 841101 derick@rsha.demon.co.uk www.rsha.org.uk



#### New Owners at Bridge of Lochay Hotel

Partners Amanda Clark and Robert Stevenson, also known as Mandy and Bob, moved from Edinburgh and took over the Bridge of Lochay Hotel on Monday 1st March.

This new ownership may have come as quite a surprise to many of the regulars at the hotel, however after spending many hours travelling around the country looking for the customer service background and running his own hotel is a long held ambition of his - now achieved! Having travelled extensively around the world, he is also passionate about high standards of welcome and hospitality and is equally determined to increase the already strong reputation which the Bridge of Lochay hotel has locally. "It is



right business in a location that they would like to live in - Killin and the Bridge of Lochay Hotel was the only place that really inspired them. Amanda has a long and successful track record in hospitality, spanning 30 years in roles which took her from housekeeping, bar and waitressing to Director of Sales and Marketing with Intercontinental Hotels. She was Chief Executive of Taste of Scotland, an organisation which sadly now no longer exists. More recently she was at Dalhousie Castle and Spa in Edinburgh in a Sales and Marketing role. Bob's background is in Sales, where he was successful as a Global Account Director for a Video Conferencing company outside Edinburgh. He has a technical background as well as strong

superb that the hotel is so highly thought of by its local clientele and I am keen to keep this important area of our business going. We are both proud of the team who work here with us and I am enjoying getting to know people locally and looking forward to becoming a fully participating member of this local community."

So how is the move from Edinburgh going? "We could not have been made more welcome locally. This is a new life and a new business for us both and one which we are thoroughly enjoying. The hotel has already a very good reputation and our ambition is to continue in that vein and to make what we offer here ever better than it already is! "We look forward to getting to know people more as time passes."





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#### **Return of the Birds**

Spring has arrived at last - just to prove it the ovster catchers are back and there are blankets of frogs on the road making for their breeding pools from their winter hibernation. Also a now rare (common not so long ago) sighting of a peewit in Glen Lochay. It is thought that one reason for their decline here is the increase in badgers as they like a nice egg for breakfast. Soon the spring lambs will appear. A friend in Wales was on the phone last week and told me about an early morning entertainment he had recently witnessed. Two very tiny lambs were being stalked by a fox, at the last minute the two lambs ran at the fox and gave him such a scare that he beat a hasty retreat.

Another report heard recently was of a cockerel and several hens setting about a fox so aggressively that it was killed.

Other birds doing well at the moment hereabouts are the black grouse. Local estates are attempting to improve the habitat with woodland management and predator control to favour the black game. A reasonable number of black grouse have been seen on neighbouring estates in recent weeks. A campaign has been set up by R.S.P.B. Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage in conjunction with local landowners in the Loch Lomond area to protect the most South Westerly population of Capercaillie in Scotland. A census showed they have declined from around 32 to 5 individuals. Habitat

degradation, human disturbance and nest predation are believed to be the cause. A cull of grey squirrels, crows and mink is being considered. It will be interesting to find out what will happen if some of this predation is found to be due to pine martens as was found to be the cause on Speyside. A plant 'predator' may be due to get much needed control too. Japanese knotweed, which can arow through tarmac and can grow from a fingernail-sized piece, is to be attacked by a species-specific bug from Japan. Trial experiments are being carried out in England. Let's hope it works as on a recent visit to Spey Bay it was guite alarming to see how the knotweed had taken over in 12 months.

Tim Frost



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#### **Online Piracy Law**

This issue I would like to revisit the area of copyright theft. It is so common and easy to download music and films from the internet nowadays and there are many ways of sharing media without paying for it. This is illegal and there is a proposed new law to addresses it. More than half all internet users download illegal music and videos, with teenagers being the worse culprits. Offences include sharing MP3 music, copying films from DVD and downloading media from shared sites (e.g. PirateBay, Limewire). Many web sites that provide means to download these forms of data carry viruses, leading to many a

home computer being infected after music is downloaded. Parents are typically blissfully unaware that their internet is being used for these purposes and I am also quite sure that in many cases children just do not appreciate that what they are doing is illegal. If the law is passed, then regular infringement of copyright could result in the limitation or even removal of internet service from the premises of the offending family/business.

#### **Internet Speed**

I have been noticing a degradation in speed on many internet connections over the past few months, typically for those who use Talk Talk (including Tiscali) as their internet provider.

Talk Talk are now addressing this and have issued a Press Statement indicating that they will be removing any restriction on their service and allowing as fast as possible internet connection for everyone. Figures of 24Mb are mentioned, with Talk Talk spending £10-20 million over the next few months improving their network.

I welcome this investment, and hope we see a significant improvement soon.

#### Social Networks and Child Protection

Recently I have come across several cases of online stalking and online sexual harassment on Facebook, where someone takes different aliases to establish relationships with teenagers and then uses this relationship to make improper advances. I have reported these to the local police who are looking into the matter. This is, of course, serious, and I believe every parent should be aware of potential dangers of using such websites and help their children to use these sites safely.

#### Mark Lincoln

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From New Year 2010 until 16th March on only four days was the wind from West or South-West. For the rest of the period the daily recording showed either calm (at 0900 hours) or from an Easterly direction. On 15th March there was a new moon. Traditionally a weather change at either full or new moon was said to herald similar conditions for possibly a fortnight or more. Qualifying this however was a relevant couplet which states "Moon and weather may change together, but a change of moon does not change the weather". It could be interesting to see if the improving conditions around the time of this new moon will be maintained! There are so many, at times conflicting, saws and sayings, the following Gaelic lore, "Aiteamh na gaoth tuath, sneachd is reodhadh anns an vair" - "A thaw that comes with a North wind will be followed by frost and snow". In the present situation let us hope not, although for this past five days wind has been North or North-East. Also it is noticeable when viewing from Ardtalnaig across Loch Tay, as long as tongues of snow project downwards into The Dubh Eas (the

gorge of the Lawers burn) wintry conditions are still on the cards. Presently there are one or two drifts among the trees in this ravine - all a bit confusing! While this wintry spell, beginning on 20th December 2009, has on the lower ground at any rate not given us unbroken snow cover, the periods between the heavier falls have been much colder than for many years and indeed likens this winter to that of 1978-9. With 43 hours incessant snow 23rd-25th February the level depth of up to 3 feet was the deepest since January 1984. Temperatures at Ardtalnaig were as low as they can get here due to the influence of Loch Tay, -8.8°C air minimum and -12°C grass minimum. Other more frost prone areas have of course experienced lower minima. On the extreme summits above, say 2700 feet, snow cover has remained pristine and unbroken from late November and is only just showing in places, black ribs, and on ground from about 1300 feet (Head dyke level) deep drifts persist.

On an entirely different slant; as one who does not normally watch much TV except for News, Weather forecasts or the odd documentary, I



was much impressed by the recent series on lambing. Many nature programmes are either imbued with Bunny-hugging/Bambi Syndrome or castigating Gamekeepers/ Landowners/Farmers for damaging wildlife or conservation, so it was refreshing to view a "bridging exercise" between urban and rural experience. Obviously aiming mainly for an urban audience, Adam Henson was very explicit and articulate in explaining the whys and wherefores of sheep husbandry. Kate Humble was also very good, if a bit dramatic, while Jim and Kate Beavan were obviously a good and unflappable team. Mind you, lambing placid and prolific cross ewes under cover and with 24 hours surveillance is a different ball game to a hirsel of Blackface or Cheviot ewes on around up to 3,000 feet in an April blizzard!

In any case the producers only really showed us the easy bits!

> Mervyn K. Browne Ardtalnaig



Tel: 01567 820314





#### **KAT Report**

We are pleased to say that KAT has been successful in an application to the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Community Futures Grant Scheme from which we have received a generous grant of £1,500 towards the basic running costs of the Trust. We would like to thank the National Park for their consideration and for all the support we receive from them and the Community Partnership.

#### Thrift Shop

Sadly we heard that our application for funding to buy premises from which to run a thrift shop was unsuccessful. We will now need to consider other options including the possibility of renting should suitable premises become available.

#### **Killin Cutting Carbon**

The insulation element of this project has just been successfully completed. The results will be explored and a full report will be available for the next issue of the Killin News. The preliminary figures indicate that the take-up was good. For those who wish to find out more, were unable to take up the offer of discounted insulation, would like to look into using additional methods of generating heat or electricity or participate in the new Feed-in Tariffs, the Energy Advisers are available to help you by providing information and useful contacts, ring 820937 or visit them in the Sports and Social Club on Thursdays or Fridavs.

#### **Breadalbane Folklore Centre**

Discussions between Stirling Council, Killin Community Council, KAT and other interested parties are still taking place about the viability and usage of the old mill. No decisions





Bruce Crawford MSP visits the Killin Cutting Carbon office with Willie Angus, Bernard Mallett-Griffiths and Mairi Wilkie Photo by Bernard Mallett-Griffiths

have been reached other than that the centre will remain open for the 2010 tourist season. It is hoped that this will give time to discuss and set up a sustainable business plan for its future use. We will report back when further information becomes available.

#### **Breadalbane Park**

We are all aware that the drainage in the Breadalbane Park no longer works. A meeting was held to discuss the problem 5th March. A sump, part of the drainage system, is blocked and full of material that has collected over some years. A full assessment of the drainage system cannot be made until that is cleared. This debris cannot be simply removed and placed on the soil but must be taken away to be disposed of safely, a procedure likely to cost more that £1,000 as it involves a specialised tanker which is unable to obtain easy access to the sump. Stirling Council will inform us of the full details of how this must be undertaken. Unless the drains can be cleared or we have a very dry season, it is unlikely that the Park will be able to sustain the usual village activities.

#### Play Park Equipment

Alma Walker has taken a keen interest in the play areas in the park. The play park is now out of date and needs to be upgraded. The re-development of the play areas in the park will need your support. Improvements are likely to include exercise machines available to adults as well as children.

#### Eco Dav

KAT will hold an event on Saturday 22nd May in the main McLaren Hall. This will include stands that give details of the various projects currently undertaken by KAT. Stands will include an energy display that should encourage a wide range of discussion. The Thrift Shop Team will have a stand to give you the chance to discuss and support the project. Environmental Action Killin will have a stand to present energy related issues. The Play Park Equipment Project will be looking for local ideas and advice as to the design and content of the proposed play areas. We hope to have a demonstration example of modern play park equipment on display.

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### Killin Cutting Carbon

If nothing else the cold weather this winter brought home the importance of good insulation and home maintenance. Due to a design fault with my home plumbing, the cold water supply froze many times and on four occasions burst the supply pipe. Have I learned the lesson? Yes. What's stopping me from fixing it? Cost, time, and cold weather. To fix the plumbing I need to dig a big hole outside, dismantle part of the kitchen inside and then chisel up the concrete floor. And then reroute all the pipe work deep underground away from the cold. One part of the house is used occasionally as selfcatering accommodation and never freezes. Oh did I say never? This year the central heating, hot and cold water systems froze just as auests were expected. Running the boiler to defrost was not an option. Thawing out the pipes involved turning on all devices that would generate heat - electric oven, gas hob, halogen lights, and tumble drier. Luckily the pipes thawed without bursting but it was a near thing, a case of false economies where saving a few pounds on insulation and putting off unpleasant jobs could have cost thousands. It brought home to me that I need to insulate and fix it as soon as possible. Even Energy advisors

need to listen to their own advice. If you have had a problem like this we may be able to help so please get in touch.

ESSAC (Energy Saving Scotland Advice Centre) have been given the names of Killin residents who expressed an interest in renewables and the Energy Assist Package. You should be contacted soon by an advisor to see what advice or assistance can be offered. ESSAC also provide a FREE energy audit for business users. This can be arranged by us or by emailing the ESSAC business advisor direct: Alex McGivern

alex\_mcgivern@thewisegroup.co.uk

Since the office opened we have helped people seeking to change their heating system or replace old boilers. We have also responded to questions from local businesses concerning cavity wall companies and insulation suppliers. The Killin Cutting Carbon Office have loaned out 15 energy monitors. More are available for those who wish to know which devices in their home use the most electricity. If you have installed or are considering installing renewable energy systems in your home, we would like to hear from you. Share



your real world experiences with the community. Pop in for a chat over tea and biscuits.

The KCC Office is open 11:00-17:00 each Thursday & Friday and is located in the Sports and Leisure Club.

#### Bernard Mallett-Griffiths Mairi Wilkie

Phone/Voice mail 01567 820 937 cuttingcarbon@killincdt.co.uk Skype killin Cuttingcarbon http://www.killincdt.co.uk/kcc/index.html

(We apologise that we used an incorrect name for Bernard in the last issue. Ed.)



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### **Playpark Developments**

#### New Play Park for Killin?

In a small village like Killin the play park is a very special place. Many children are attracted to our play park and enjoy the facilities there but it could be so much better. On holiday and at weekends with the family we have visited play parks in lots of different places and in each one we have discovered different pieces of play equipment, original planting schemes, seating ideas, or new ways to arrange play areas. As a small village community we qualify for funding and grants that would help us to design and build our own play park to our own specification.

Everyone can offer ideas, suggestions and opinions to build a play park which will appeal to all ages and have something to offer everyone. There is so much choice in modern play equipment. Xerscape is an exciting range of outdoor exercise equipment designed for 12 year olds to adults.

There are funds and grants available for this type of project so, having done some basic research I found that we could apply for the cost through the Killin and Ardeonaig Trust. Now, having joined the Trust as a director, I can take this project forward. Firstly your ideas are important so we will give you the opportunity to share them with us over the next few weeks. KAT will hold an event on the 22nd May in the McLaren Hall. This will give everyone the opportunity to put their ideas on to the Breadalbane Park map. Come and give us your support.

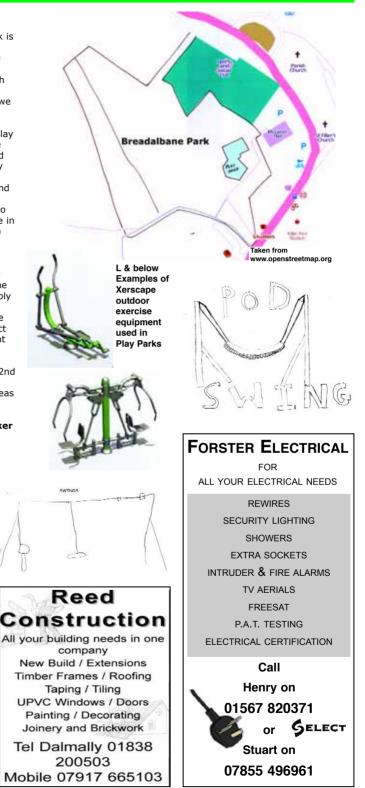
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### McLaren High School ---

Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) is commemorated internationally on 7. This date was

27th January. This date was chosen as it is the anniversary of the day in 1945 when the largest Nazi concentration camp - Auschwitz Birkenau - was liberated. This year's theme for Holocaust



Memorial Day is Hope. To mark this, all S1 pupils had the chance to attach their hopes for the future to a balloon and release it into the sky. The 20 pupils from Mrs Spriggs S3 Spanish class released balloons with their hopes attached in Spanish. S4 pupils from English created a mini museum and classes within the Social and Moral Faculty wrote their hopes on a white template which was used as the feathers of a peace dove. One of our balloons made it as far as Northumberland!!

#### Junior Ski Course - Civetta, Italy

From January 31st to the February 7th a group of McLaren S1-S3 pupils went for an exciting ski course to the Italian Dolomites, Civetta. The journey was long, but the beautiful, breath-taking scenery and true Italian culture soon made up for that. The Hotel was within walking distance of the slopes. The food

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mob 07810 698974 sailthomasina@msn.com was good and the rooms were just the right size to have a good time with your friends. Spending the week with your friends can be a challenge (A.K.A sharing showers and wardrobe space!) but by the end you just wish you could stay for longer.

The best part was the skiing of course. The many challenges people faced will be remembered for years. That feeling for some people of skiing on REAL snow for the first time or even just the eye catching scenery and Italian food would settle the rest.

The weather was very good for the first 4 days but then we started to get LOTS of snow, blizzards and VERY cold chairlift rides. Despite this spirits were high and people made the most of the few days they had left in this amazing resort. We took turns to have lessons and to ski with our teachers in groups. By the end of the week even the complete beginners had managed to ski BLACK RUNS. Skiing with teachers was fun because you could buddy ski and relax and enjoy the amazing experience and the lessons were equally as good because they let you improve your skills and have that feeling 'did I just manage to do that?!'

I am sure we will look back on this ski course for many years. The fun and enjoyable times we shared and all the new skills we now have.

#### Fiona Fingland S2

#### School Show

Following the huge success of McLaren High School's production of Grease last June we are delighted to announce that preparation has begun for our production of 'West Side Story'. Leonard Bernstein's renowned musical. Already rehearsals show promise for vet another fantastic McLaren production and we hope to enjoy the success of our young people with the whole of the community. So whether you're a Jet or a Shark we look forward to seeing you on the 21, 22 or 23 June! More details will follow in the next edition of the Killin News!



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#### Yvonne King

#### Stock Market Challenge



Left to right: Brian Cartwright, Ruairidh Hunter (grandson of George Hunter, Killin), Catherine Allan (Killin), Jamie Patterson and Andrew Howells

A group of five S3 Business Management pupils participated in a Stock Market Challenge event in Edinburgh in February. Pupils had to work in teams through a week of simulated trading on the stock market, making decisions under pressure, taking calculated risks and experiencing the excitement of the trading floor. This opportunity gave the pupils an insight into career opportunities within the financial services sector and developed skills such as communication, problemsolving and working with others. Our pupils prepared in the weeks

leading up to the competition by completing an online version of the Stock Market Challenge. On the day, they competed against 25 other schools, each school started with a portfolio of companies worth £13,000, our pupils finished the trading day with a portfolio of over £147,000, giving them first prize and a £60,000 lead on the school that came in second place! All 5 pupils should be extremely proud of their efforts, and left with a trophy and vouchers to spend.

#### **McLaren Eco Group**

Callander Community Development Trust (CCDT) is piloting a project which will measure, monitor and reduce carbon emissions from energy use in the home and from travel.

In November, the Development Officers for this project ran a competition for S1 and S2 pupils to design a project logo. With the support of the Art and Science departments, they produced many fantastic ideas and these were collected at the end of last term. The winning logo will head their

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# Hopscotch Group

On February 4th an actor and an actress from Hopscotch Theatre came to McLaren High School and performed Tam O'Shanter by Robert Burns for S2 pupils as we had recently been studying the poem. The Hopscotch group made the poem come alive and some pupils joined in, making it more enjoyable for all, with a simple storyline for all to understand.

We all thoroughly enjoyed their performance and, on behalf of S2, we would like to say a big thank you to the Hopscotch group for such a wonderful performance.

#### Ailsa Taylor (Ardeonaig) and Laura McGinley S2

campaign, notepaper etc. The winner was (with designer's comments): Beth Scott 1B (pictured) 'A strong compact design with good local identity.'



The prizes were presented by Julia Osfield from CCDT who was delighted to get so many entries and amazed by the quality of the designs and the ideas presented. Thanks to the Art Team for their contribution in making this a successful outcome for all.



### Killin Primary School ... Killin Primary School ... Killin Primary



#### **Eco Group**

Claire Peebles has secured funding from Sustrans and chosen to work with Killin Primary Eco Group to identify safer routes for walking and cycling to school. This has been used to create a map of the area and these leaflets will be distributed to the school and community at a later date.

The playground development will be completed during the next few months. A big thank you to everyone for supporting us. Gareth Ketts from the National Park has planted some bulbs and trees with the children at the front of the school. There will be further work looking at the environment in the coming weeks.

Killin Primary School won the Litter Initiative Trophy. There was a presentation from Jim Fisher (Streetscape) and Provost Fergus Wood. It is a fantastic achievement and reflects the school's ongoing commitment to looking after the environment.

#### Active Stirling

P1/2 are enjoying some high quality athletic training, while the Clubgolf programme for P5 will be starting next month.

Think Dance - there will be a performance by the P6/7 children at the MacRobert Theatre on 28th April at 7:00pm. The children have worked really hard on their dance and it should be a great evening.

#### P1/2 Weather News

We had fun making weather diaries. We were trying to guess what the weather was going to be like. We made rain gauges out of junk and put them outside in the garden. We are having a weather studio in our classroom where we can do weather forecasting.

For one of our homework tasks we were collecting rain.

There hasn't been much rain for us

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### School ... Killin Primary School ... Killin Primary School ...



to measure!!! We are drawing and painting weather symbols for you to see on our windows.

Watch out Mervyn we might be after your job! Josi & Becca

#### Primary 3/4/5 Report

For the last term, Primary 3/4/5 have been working on their Magic Castle topic. Our Magic Castle has now mysteriously disappeared and will remain only in the minds of all those who saw it!

We all had a fantastic book week and had great fun dressing up on World Book Day. We wrote exciting adventure picture stories and made them into Zigzag books and went to the nursery to read them to the nursery children. They really enjoyed listening to us and seeing our wonderful work. We also gave talks about our favourite book characters and dressed up to look like them.

After the holidays the 4/5s will be

taking swimming lessons at McLaren High School and we will be having an Eco/Health week.

### P 6/7 Report

Almondbank Hatchery Visit The bus took us to Almond Bank and we were split into 2 groups. One group went into the hatchery first and the other played a game before entering the hatchery.

First we went into a small room with lots of trays full of salmon eggs. The guide told us about the salmon eggs and what happens to them when they hatch.

Then back in the main warehouse there were tanks of older salmon called fry and another tank with bigger salmon called smolts. Then we were shown the fully grown salmon (they were huge) and the the guide showed us what they eat and how they feed.



Then we were shown some American Cray fish by Anna who was studying them for University. Another lady showed us some water bugs, (they were some things salmon would eat in the wild).

Next we were shown to a room where a man was talking to us about fishing and books about salmon.

Then we got on the bus and went to have our lunch in the park in Crieff. We really enjoyed our visit and learned a lot about salmon!

#### Killin S.W.R.I

Yvonne MacPherson chaired the March meeting and welcomed a good turnout of members including a few new faces. Local girl Wendy Simpson gave a most interesting talk on the diamond trade and was able to advise members, who had brought some jewellery along, whether or not to have their pieces valued.

The outing is on April 8th to Perth for High Tea followed by a theatre show. The cost of £34.00 should be paid to Jane Anderson asap. If seats are available on the bus, anyone wishing to bring a friend may do so.

Competition winners were: **Favourite Bracelet:** 1st May Graham 2nd Dot Southern 3rd Yvonne MacPherson **Macaroon Squares:** 1st Margaret Galloway



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#### Springing into action

Conservationists at the National Trust for Scotland's Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve are hoping this year is set to be a bumper one for monitoring its rare flora and fauna.

The optimism comes after encouraging results from a successful field season in 2009 and after the increased snow cover this winter providing truly arctic conditions.

Monitoring by seasonal ecologist Clare Rickerby throughout 2009 confirmed that some species were thriving, thanks to the careful management of the site. A real success story is that of the Highland Saxifrage (Saxifraga rivularis) which was reintroduced at Ben Lawers in 2006, Highland Saxifrage is a nationally rare species adapted to grow in some of the harshest arctic alpine conditions. In Scotland, it is found in about 20 mountain locations, including Ben Lawers where its population had declined to a single plant, due, in part, to illegal plant collecting. Last summer all 12 reintroduced plants were thriving, along with 6 offspring too.

Helen Cole, property manager and naturalist said:

"The results reported last year -

which are in part a measure of some of our work to conserve the alpine plants - were really satisfying. Ben Lawers is one of Scotland's richest habitats for plants of this type, and we are playing a key part in ensuring that it remains so for generations to come. In recent years, snow cover in most mountain areas has become erratic and there is some evidence that this has led to population declines of some of our rarest plants.

A few cold months are unlikely to make much difference in the long term, but it does give some hope that we may occasionally get the harsh weather that these beautiful rarities are supremely adapted to." Other alpine species are also holding their own at the site. One population of Rock Speedwell (Veronica fruticans) - a nationally rare arctic alpine that grows on the base rich cliffs and rock ledges from 500 to 1000 metres above sea level - had increased by more than 60 per cent in the past decade. A 2009 study found more than 750 plants. But another population showed signs that collecting is still going on. Conservationists also think that this winter's heavy snow could help in the long run.

And it was good news for animal life too - a survey of water voles, which

has suffered catastrophic declines. across the UK, showed that the Ben Lawers population had recovered to 2002 levels of an estimated 24 water voles at 4 sites. The estimated 2009 total was 27. This season, the team has a new ecologist. Dan Watson was previously the Trust's property manager at Grey Mare's Tail in Dumfries and Galloway. He will work across the Trust's sites at Ben Lawers and Glencoe to develop long term monitoring. He is looking forward to playing his part in his first season. He said: "Both Ben Lawers and Glencoe hold nationally important populations of rare plant species, along with a great deal of other interesting wildlife. I am looking forward to getting out onto the hills to carry out the monitoring which is an essential tool for informing our conservation management"

National Trus

#### Green Team Size up a Giant

On 27th February enthusiastic members of Killin Green Team, assisted by NTS rangers, braved the snow and attempted to measure the size of a giant Sequoia tree in

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### t for Scotland



Kinnell estate. Once they had estimated its height, girth and volume they attempted to determine the positive effects it has had on the environment since it was planted in 1842. According to Green Team calculations, this local giant stands at nearly 100 feet high and removes on average 1 tonne of carbon dioxide per year!

The programme of summer meetings begins on April 22nd and promises a lot of fun learning about the environment. Any primary aged children are welcome to join us. For further details contact either National Trust for Scotland or Killin Primary School.

**Helen Cole** 



Email: info@hearttoheart.org.uk

Room 3, Callander Kirk Hall, South Church Street, Callander, FK17 8BN

#### Moirlanich Long House

Saturday 15th May is National Moth & Bat Night and we hope to see bats emerging from Moirlanich and moths as they are attracted to our harmless light trap. The rangers will be returning to the trap on Sunday morning to inspect the overnight catch and you are welcome to join them again then. Duration: As long as you like! Cost: adults £2, children £1 Bring: Warm clothes, midge repellent, torch and sunglasses. Meet: 8.30pm Moirlanich Longhouse.

Moirlanich Longhouse, owned and cared for by the National Trust for Scotland, will open especially for Easter Day in 2010, ahead of the

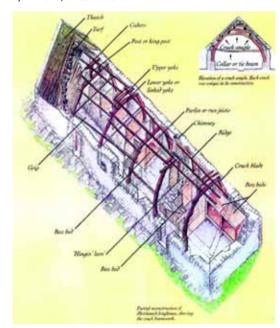
For further information telephone

0844 4932 136.

start of its season on Saturday 1st May. On Sunday 4th April, visitors can explore the cruck frame cottage, which is one of the last of its kind and almost perfectly preserved. With many of the original features still present, the longhouse offers the chance to get a real feel of what Scottish village life would have been like in the 19th century and see how many Scots would have lived their lives, making it an invaluable part of our shared heritage.

Moirlanich Longhouse is open on Sunday 4th April between 14:00 and 17:00. Admission is free to members. For non-members, prices are £3 for an adult, £8 for a family, and £2 for a concession.

**Eleanor Murray** 





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### Craffing & Creating at Karelia House

#### The Bob MacGregor Trials Academy



On Saturday 13th March at Neilston near Barrhead, on land generously donated by Jim Kerr, the first School of Motor Cycle and Cycle Trials was officially opened. This will cater for both power and pedal cycles and include all aspects of the two sports from safety and bike maintenance to course building.

The Academy is named after Killin's own Bob MacGregor, who is recognised as one of the founding fathers of modern Trial Biking.

first class of the sport, Jonathan Devlin, Andrew Anderson and Robert Lafferty all of whom are recognised as movers in their respective categories.

Bob's family are thrilled at the recognition given to him and his daughter Sheila expressed her heartfelt thanks to all concerned and in particular those in the Lanarkshire Motor Cycle Club, with whom she has a particular bond. The Academy will be open for individuals, groups





Leading riders in both sports will be hosting clinics, giving of their time to offer assistance and the value of their experience to all ages, from beginners to stalwarts. Over the opening weekend several members were on hand to tutor over sixty enthusiasts. Killin was well represented with the youngest attendee, Iona Lafferty

who will soon be competing in the

and clubs to avail themselves of the facility and top competitors turned instructors will encourage and expand the skills of the riders. In this way trial riding will hopefully grow and gain further recognition as a top sport worthy of support. The Bob MacGregor Trial will be held in Killin on 5th and 6th June.

Alex Stewart



Hire of 5 Berth Motor Home Now Available

### Whizz Kid

This is Iona age 3 riding her Oset trials bike. Iona has been riding her balance bike without stabilizers since age 18 months. She has now progressed to her motorbike which she loves. It is electric powered, silent and very eco friendly. Is this the future of trials riding? Watch out for her at The Bob MacGregor 2 Day Trial on 5/6th June and at the Killin Agricultural Show.

#### Karen Lafferty



### Obituary



Peggy Anderson My mum, pictured with her best friend (Taygo), passed away very peacefully on Tuesday 21st January. She had been in Pinewood Nursing

Home in Callander for almost a year and said that the staff were very kind to her and that she couldn't be happier anywhere else bar home. My sister Joan and I were with mum when she passed away. I visited mum as often as possible and always got a warm welcome from the staff also. I knew them all by name, as well as the residents. I know that I'll be welcome to visit Pinewood whenever I wish and before too long I want to go back. There's a warm and welcoming atmosphere. Her presence I miss, her memory I treasure, loving her always, forgetting her never. Couldn't have loved you more mum, and still miss my dad whom I loved dearly.

#### Janet Anderson



The Ladies of Killin WRVS enjoying their Christmas meal at the Capercaillie in December. Andrea Simpson, Mayumi Paterson, Margaret Ogilvie, Dorothy Southern, Johan McDonald, May Graham.

### Hill Race

Meall Nan Tarmachan

Sunday April 18th

700m ascent 9.5km S.H.R. Cat A.S.

Start 11am

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boody bags donated by Real Food Café Tyndrum Map and race details at www.killinoutdoor.co.uk Tel 01567820652



### Housekeepers

Positions are available for hard working and honest individuals who are willing to work within a successful team environment. Ideally applicants must have previous housekeeping and cleaning experience but all will be considered. Currently Saturday from March until September although more permanent positions will be considered.

All persons interested please contact Cameron on 01838 300284 or email lodges@portnellan.co.uk for further details

#### Portnellan Highland Lodges, Glen Dochart, Crianlarich, Perthshire, FK20 8QS

#### **Good News for Tin Tabernacle**



The congregation of St Fillan's Episcopal Church were delighted this month to be one of eight churches awarded grant funding from the Repair Grants for Places of Worship scheme. This first-round pass means that money has been earmarked by the Heritage Lottery Fund for the project including development funding which will allow the project to progress to the next stage.

Competition for funding is tough, so this award reflects the architectural merit and importance of the church to the community. Research has revealed that St

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Fillan's is the only surviving and serving corrugated iron church in the region and one of possibly only ten still in use as places of worship in Scotland.

Further partnership funding is still required but the National Lottery's contribution is a huge step forward to achieving the comprehensive repair scheme which is required to secure this important corrugated iron church.

Sonya Linskaill

Konrad Adenauer, the chancellor of West Germany soon after World War II, said, "If Jesus Christ is alive then there is hope for the world. If not, I don't see the slightest glimmer of hope on the horizon." Then he added, "I believe Christ's resurrection to be the one of the best-attested facts of history." Christ's resurrection and ours go together. This was the reasoning of the apostle Paul in I Corinthians, Chaper 15. And if Christ did not rise from the grave, what's left? Empty preaching (vs.14), false witnesses (vs.15), a futile faith (vs.17), unforgiven sins (vs.17), no life after death (vs. 18), and hopelessness (vs.19). "But now is Christ risen from the

# **Mobile Library**

**Tyndrum/Crianlarich** Fortnightly Fridays Apr 16,30 May 14, 28

#### 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 Apr 12,26, May 10, 24 Glenlochay 10.50 – 12.30 Ardeonaig 2.00 – 2.45

#### **Think About It**

dead, and has become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep." (I Corinthians 15:20) Paul asserted several proofs for the resurrection in verses 1-11 of this chapter.

When the Greek philosopher Socrates lay dying, his friends asked, "Shall we live again?" He could only reply, "I hope so". In contrast, the night before the explorer Sir Walter Raleigh was beheaded, he wrote in his Bible, "from this earth, this grave, this dust, my God shall raise me up." If our trust is in the risen Lord of life, we will not say " I hope so" about our own resurrection. Jesus' triumph over death gives us a sure hope.

Ladd Fagerson



#### Murder at Dall Lodge

Members of Killin Book Club 2 met recently at Dall Lodge for their annual dinner. The theme was a murder mystery event entitled 'The Brie, The Bullet and The Black Cat'. Murder had been committed and the members cleverly played out roles that were previously assigned, complete with costumes and authentic accents. "The year is 1942. The place is Casablanca, in the last days of Vichy France. America has just entered the war and next month US troops will land in Casablanca, but for now France



rules this corner of North-West Africa." The 'cast' assembled in the dining room of the Deputy-Mayor of Casablanca - Huges Le Grandbutte. In addition to the Depute-Mayor, his wife and daughter were Ingrid Pith, Pierre Paysanski and Pia Fedora. Also attending were a Russian Countess, an Irish Journalist, an exiled American and a Gestapo officer. Each member of the cast brought along delicious food in keeping with the theme, for example, French onion soup and beeuf Bourguignon.

By the end of a very successful evening - who would have believed it but it was a mother and daughter what done it! Monsieur Oily-Carte and Cherie Boot did the dirty deed.



Members of the Craft Group enjoying a workshop in Dall Lodge making items for sale to support Guild funds. It is hoped that this will be a regular gathering.

Standing - Sally Connor, Bunty McGregor, Sue Hughes, Ruth Pritchard, Desiree Van Doorn. Sitting - Beatrice Smith, Ann Watson and Jenny Huntley

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### Crufts 2010

Our annual trip to Crufts came round quicker than ever this year as we still seemed to be in the depth of winter. We have been very fortunate to have had a great deal of success to date at the biggest and most prestigious dog show in we could ever have imagined. She was the top winning bitch in the breed last year and also Best in Show at the breed speciality championship show. Gab, who is Fern's first daughter,

the other difs

the world and this year was no exception.

Fern, who is now 9 years old, won the veteran class and this was her last outing in the UK before making the journey across the water to Denmark in June for the World Dog Show. This will be her final fling and she will retire after achieving so much for us and winning more than was third in her class, which we were also pleased with. Then it was the turn of Lottie, who is from Fern's second litter. We did not expect very much as she was in the open class which was the strongest of the day. However, Lottie pulled out all the stops and won her class and then went on to win Best Bitch, chosen from all the 1st placed winners in each class. She then had to go against the best dog, who was over from Holland and is a Dutch & European Champion, but there was simply no stopping her and she won Best of Breed!

It was an amazing experience being part of the hound group in the big ring under the spotlight and TV cameras and one which we will never forget. Not bad for a wee dug from Killin!

If you would like to keep up to date with our results etc we have a web site www.bassetgriffonvendeen.co.uk Michael & Fiona MacLaren

#### Voter Registration

If you have never voted before or may have difficulty getting to the polling station on Election Day, why not apply for a postal vote. Every elector can choose to vote by post. Ballot papers are posted approximately 8 working days before polling day.

If the general election is as predicted on 6th May, the Electoral Registration Office (ERO) must receive all signed and completed applications before 5pm on 20th April.

Depute Electoral Registration Officer, Russell Taylor, explained: "It is in your own interest to apply as soon as possible if you want a postal vote for this election so that any problems with the application can be resolved in time. If you are unsure whether you are registered to vote at your current address contact the Electoral Registration Office as soon as possible, so they can check." More information and advice on postal voting, appointing a proxy to vote on your behalf or registering to vote is available at www.saa.gov.uk/central and by contacting the ERO, Hillside House, Laurelhill Business Park, Stirling FK7 9JO Tel 01786-892289, Fax 01786-892255 or stirling@centralscotland-vjb.gov.uk Application forms can also be collected

Application forms can also be collected from local libraries, downloaded from www.saa.gov.uk/central or requested from the above address.

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### Scottish Opera Highlights

On 6th March four members of Scottish Opera performed pieces from twenty two operas ranging from Mozart and Borodin to Gilbert and Sullivan light opera. The singing was powerful, enthusiastic and we were treated to performances which would normally only be available to city dwellers who have large opera houses or theatres. Miranda Sinani, the young soprano from Tirana in Albania, blended well with her two male colleagues in the trio. Adrian Ward and Robert Tucker with minimal stage props performed The Birdhandler with panache and humour. Louise Collett the Mezzo Soprano performed her solo with passion and emotion. All were accompanied flawlessly by Ruth Willkinson the musical Director.



GA





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# Letters

#### **Unusual request**

I am trying to locate homes in your area (especially around Tyndrum/Crainlarich) that might have installed renewable devices producing electricity (microwindturbine or photovoltaic panels). I am looking to convert a car to run off an electric motor - and want it to be charged from renewable energy. I travel frequently between Skye & Aberfeldy, but because of range per charge, I would need the battery topped up to get me this distance. If there might just be such a home or homes in NW Perthshire, I am hoping to try & come to some arrangement for getting re-charged. I look forward to hearing from you. Alan Drever

alandrever@hotmail.co.uk

#### Where are you now?

As Anna Robertson I was the only teacher at Crianlarich. I left in 1953 with memories of happiness and the lovely helpful people in the village. There were fewer than 30 children at that time. If you were a pupil at the school at that time I would like to know how you have progressed. Please phone 01738 840536.

#### **New Kitchen**

People may have noticed some activity around the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home during January. Thanks to many generous donations from local people and a grant from Awards for All, we were able to have a completely new kitchen installed. This will allow Jenny Martin to produce her excellent meals from a hygienic state of the art kitchen, which meets all Food & Hygiene and Care Commission standards. Our thanks to Jane Anderson and the Primary School for providing lunches and allowing Jenny to assist Jane during the period of refurbishment and also to the local tradesmen for their much appreciated co-operation. Most of all a big thank you to the Residents, Mandy and her staff for their tolerance and patience during a difficult few weeks.

#### Audrey Weaver & Suzanne Player

#### New Knee

I would like to thank all my friends in Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum for their good wishes during my stay in Perth Royal Infirmary over Christmas.

My new knee is working well. May Clement

#### Leo not at Home

As an animal lover, especially cats, I feel vexed that Leo is no longer allowed in the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home. He is a very clean cat and he must wonder what he has done wrong. Leo was well loved by all the residents and staff alike and is greatly missed. It is a well known fact that stroking a cat is very therapeutic. People who have no pets of their own won't understand, but my late Mum, Peggy often said that there is no love at home where there is no dog or cat.

#### **Janet Anderson**

#### Safari Supper

Elizabeth and Marion would like to thank everyone who took part in the Safari Supper. It raised £1,545, half for Killin Primary School PTA and the other half split between Killin Community Bus and the McLaren High School Orchestra trip to Italy (a number of Killin children are going on this) and Killin and Ardeonaig Parish Church Benevolent Fund which gives gifts of fruit baskets at Christmas time.

**Elizabeth Woods** 



**Big Shed** 

Loch Tayside Community Interest Company

Notice is hereby given that the third

Annual General Meeting

of the Company will be held

at Ben Lawers Hotel

on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010

commencing at 7pm

Nominations for the appointment of Directors should be submitted to the undersigned by 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2010

> I.D.Dolan-Betney Company Secretary Loch Tayside CiC Tombreck Lawers Aberfeldy PH15 2PB

#### **National Park**

Week 4 commencing 18 January Proposal: Erection of 14 No. selfcatering holiday units with associated car parking

Location: Youth Hostel Killin Applicant: A & H Holdings, 10 Sandeman Place, Luncarty, Perth Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve with Conditions

**Proposal:** Erection of 4 No. 3 apartment cottage flats, 2 No. 4 apartment semi-detached villas and 1 No. 4 apartment detached villa Location: North Of 30 & 31 Mansfield Tyndrum

Applicant: Rural Stirling Housing Association, Stirling Road, Dunblane Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Week 5 commencing 25 January **Proposal:** Variation of Condition 4 of application LT/2008/0106/DET/S to remove the association of self-catering apartments to the Bridge of Lochay Hotel

Location: Bridge Of Lochay Hotel Killin. Applicant: Mr David Morley

Decision: Approve with Conditions

**Proposal:** Extraction of 72,000 tonnes of ore per annum max. for a period of 10 years, followed by reinstatement, in order to extract gold. Works include underground mine workings, associated service and production building, plant, tailings storage area, pond and gauging station, access roads, bridge, car parking and diversion of burn (revised scheme - previous application 90/01102/DET/S) Location: Minerals Cononish Road

Tyndrum

Applicant: Scotgold Resources Ltd Application Type: Minerals Planning Permission

### **Proposal:** Erection of 5 dwellinghouses

Cocation: Land South West Of The Green Welly Stop Tyndrum FK20 8RY Applicant: Green Welly Stop Application Type: Planning Permission in Principle

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Week 7 commencing 8 February **Proposal:** Proposed conservatory extension and decking on side elevation

Location: Killin Hotel, Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr Ian Hitchins Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Proposal: Demolition of vacant garage/shop premises Location: The Garage, Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr Robert Addis Application Type: Conservation Area Consent

Decision: Approve with Conditions

**Proposal:** Erection of new balcony and replacement garage roof Location: Bal Na Coille, 26 Manse Road Killin

Applicant: Mr M Devlin Application Type: Householder Planning Permission Decicion: Approve without Condi

Decision: Approve without Conditions

**Week 9** commencing 22 February **Proposal:** Installation of oil storage tank

Location: 1 Glebe Cottage, Main Street Killin

Applicant: Mrs Georgina Angus Application Type: Householder Planning Permission

Week 10 commencing 1 March 2010 Proposal: Temporary improvement of existing access from A82 incorporating replacement double gate and hardstanding Location: Junction On A82 Opposite

Falls Of Falloch Car Park Crianlarich Applicant: Mr Andrew Roberts, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Proposal: Creation of temporary access from A82 to railway line Location: Westside Of A82 To The North Of Falls Of Falloch Crianlarich Applicant: Mr Andrew Roberts, Buchanan House, 58 Port Dundas Road, Glasgow Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission Decision: Approve with Conditions Week 11 commencing 8 March

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### Local Planning Appli

**Proposal:** Change of use from public house to bunkhouse accommodation and alterations to window and door openings.

Location: Killin Hotel, Main Street Killin Applicant: Mr Ian Hitchins Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve with Conditions

**Proposal:** Modification of condition No 4 of application reference LT/2009/0126/DET/S restricting the occupancy of the holiday units Location: Youth Hostel Killin Applicant: Mrs H Booth, 10 Sandeman Place, Luncarty, Perth Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve with Conditions

**Proposal:** Extensions to front and side of dwellinghouse

Location: Carmyle Cottage Crianlarich FK20 8RL

Applicant: Mr and Mrs Mark Walker Application Type: Householder Planning Permission Decision: Approve without Conditions

Week 12 commencing 5 March Location: Erection of replacement ancillary building to form self-catering holiday accommodation with double garage and store

Applicant: Mr Ian Richards Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission





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### ications

Decision: Approve with Conditions

#### Perth & Kinross Council

#### 25 January

**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural building

Location: Lower Kiltyrie Killin Applicant: Mr And Mrs Anderson Application Type: Prior Notification Decision: Delegated Decision

#### 28 January

**Proposal:** Demolition of bothy and erection of a dwellinghouse and garage

Location: Easter Auchtar Fearnan Applicant: Mr and Mrs Roger Wilson Application Type: Planning permission local

Decision: Application Approved

#### 28 January

**Proposal:** Alterations and extension to create a sun room on first floor Location: Morenish Mews Killin Applicant: Mr Ken Chew Application Type: Planning permission local

Decision: Application Approved

#### **19 February**

**Proposal:** Erection of an agricultural storage building Location: High Creagan Killin Applicant: Mr Alistair Kennedy Application Type: Prior Notification Decision: Application Approved

#### 3 March

Proposal: Alterations and extension to

boathouse to form ancillary accommodation to existing dwellinghouse Location: The Croft Fearnan Applicant: Mr and Mrs Alan Douthwaite Application Type: Planning permission local Decision: Pending Consideration **13 March** 

Proposal: Erection of a house (in principle) Location: Land 330 Metres North West Of Tay Cottage Killin

Applicant: M T and B Allen Application Type: Planning permission in principle local Decision: Pending Consideration

#### Stirling Council

#### 3 March

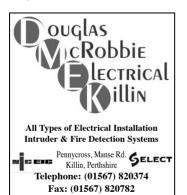
**Proposal:** Remove flat panel and 1.2m dish and replace with 0.8m dish Location: Lochay Power Station Killin Applicant: SSE Telecom Application Type: Statutory Notification (Masts) Decision: Pending Consideration

#### 12 March

**Proposal:** External fabric repairs including replacement of corrugated iron roof covering to match existing Location: Moirlanich Killin Applicant: The National Trust For Scotland Application Type: Listed Building

Consent

Decision: Pending Consideration





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#### Stirling Local Development Plan (LDP) Community Consultation

A copy of the current Scheme is on the LDP webpage at www.stirling.gov.uk/localdevplan and a new Scheme will be updated and published in May. In May the first stage in the plan preparation process will be published. This is not a draft Plan, but will provide communities with enough detail to enable them to comment on the emerging issues and proposals. It will:

Highlight the key issues that have changed since the last Plan (the Structure and Local Plan)

Focus on the main issues only

Present general proposals for development in the area mapped with the areas under consideration clearly indicated

Present these development proposals for some communities as preferred and alternatives so that different options can be considered

Indicate where development should not occur e.g. Green Belt, sensitive landscapes etc.

Community Consultation on this Main Issues Report will be during May, June and July and an LDP Road Show will be coming out to local communities during May and June.

A draft Local Housing Strategy will be part of this Road Show, with consultation on an Open Space Strategy to ensure that related housing and open space issues are considered alongside the preparation of the Plan. The Road Show will be run on a grouped community basis as a 'drop-in' exhibition for local communities and will highlight the main issues and present maps of different development proposals for that particular area. Officers from the Council will be available to answer any questions and comments will be invited on all the information presented. Further publicity regarding the Road Show and the consultation process will take place in the runup and during May and June.

### Celebrations

#### Irene and Hector Hall

#### **Stuart and Pat Webster**



Congratulations to Irene Hall on her 75th birthday and Hector Hall on his 80th birthday. The occasion was celebrated with a family meal at the Achray Hotel in St Fillans on 27th February and was followed by a party with friends back in Killin. Fortunately the weather was kinder than expected and family members were able to travel from as far afield as England and the West Coast of Scotland without hazard. The evening's entertainment was topped off with the release of Chinese Lanterns. Sorry if some people thought they were seeing UFOs that night but the reality is that it was just Irene and Hector having a little fun. They made their wishes and set off the flame heated paper lanterns which then travelled quickly upwards and across towards Lix Toll. The night was clear and the lanterns could be seen for some time after they were released.



Stuart and Pat Webster celebrate 40 years of marriage on March 28th. Congratulations to you both. With much love from, **Bindi & Graeme, Darren & Susan and your two granddaughters Megan & Emily.** 

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#### Jonathan Campbell



Congratulations to Jonathan Campbell who passed out on Friday 5th March from ITC Catterick. Jonathan is with the Royal Regiment of Scotland "The Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders" and is now permanently based in Canterbury. Well done to Jonathan on his achievement and we wish him well in his military career.

Ally and Carol Campbell



Photo taken on El Kantaoui Sea Course on a very windy day! L to R - Sheena Chisholm, Liz Stevens & Mary Lewis



Lewis Falcon Frost, born 14th February to Linzi and Falcon weighing 7lbs 14oz, pictured with big brother Sam. Many thanks for all cards and gifts. Also many thanks for all engagement cards and gifts.





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#### Vatman Returns

If you are VAT registered you will be aware of recent upheaval. Having just returned to the 17.5% rate in January, Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs (HMRC) are now implementing further changes to their submission and payment criteria. **Online Requirements** 

For VAT periods starting on or after 1st April 2010, all businesses with a net (i.e. excluding VAT) annual turnover of £100,000 or more must register to submit their VAT returns online and also pay any VAT liabilities electronically. These requirements also apply for any new businesses that register or should have registered for VAT on or after 1st April 2010.

There are several benefits to filing your return under this new method, not least of which is that it prevents the old issues of returns and payments being lost in the mail. By opting to pay electronically, your business can receive an extra 7 calendar days in which to settle any outstanding liability. There is also a further 3 banking days extension if the payment is made by Direct Debit. These extensions are subject to some restrictions which should be considered before deciding whether or not to proceed. For these you should check with your professional advisor. The biggest drawback to the new regime is that internet access is

required. However, your accountant should be able to offer their services in this area, if necessary.

#### What Next?

Macfarlane Gray offer advice and assistance in all areas of the preparation and submission of VAT returns. For more information, please contact Cheryl Martin or Tom Settle in our Callander office on 01877 331700 or send an email to cheryl@macfarlanegray.co.uk.

This article is not intended to be a comprehensive statement of law and no liability is accepted for the opinions it contains, or for any errors or omissions.

Building work is shortly expected to start on six new homes at Ballechroisk.

The four houses and two bungalows, all for rent, are being developed by Rural Stirling Housing Association. They are being built on the vacant site on which timber Council houses previously stood prior to their demolition several years ago. Work is expected to start on 12th April and to be complete around January 2011. The contractor is Hadden Construction Ltd of Auchterarder.

#### Building to start at Ballechroisk

The development has been the subject of detailed consultation with representatives of the Community Council. The latest meeting discussed ways in which the wider community could be best informed about the new homes now that work is finally about to start.

An information event is to be held on Tuesday 13th April at the Lesser Mclaren Hall. There will be a range of display material and staff will be on hand to answer any questions. This will be an opportunity to find out anything you might want to know about the development including: the type and design of the houses; the building process; where the funding is coming from; how they will be managed and how to apply for one. Doors open at 4 pm so just pop in at any time up to 7 pm. Tea and coffee will be available and we hope to see you there!

#### **Tony Teasdale**

Rural Stirling Housing Association Tel: 01786 841101 E-mail tony@rsha.demon.co.uk www.rsha.org.uk





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# The Boathouse Restaurant on the shores of Loch Tay

Located on the shore of Loch Tay with panoramic views over the water to mountains beyond, the Boathouse is a friendly and welcoming bistro style bar and restaurant open for lunches, evening meals, take away meals and snacks. During the summer months we will be open daily with the addition of breakfasts and regular BBQ nights. Large south facing sundecks offer some of the best views to be found on the loch and are a real suntrap during the summer. For cooler days a central open fire offers a delightfully warm atmosphere. Dave Kinnear our resident chef chooses the very best of locally available produce and offers imaginative, delicious, freshly prepared menus and an excellent daily specials board. Families are especially welcome.

The park is fully licensed for weddings and we welcome corporate and group enquiries . Boat hire, rib boat trips and fishing are all available from our marina.



Acclaimed Irish classical guitarist Mark Anthony McGrath playing at the Boathouse evening of 1st May ( other dates to be confirmed )



### Sample Menu

#### Starters

| Homemade Soup of the Day   |
|--|
| Parsnip,Parmesan and Chilli£3.95   |
| Horseradish Marinaded Salmon on Honey & Mustard dressed leaves                                   |
| Chicken Liver Pate with Hot Brioche and Redcurrant and Ornage Sauce£5.25                         |
| Chicken and Ham Hock Terrine with Pickled Gherkins and Watercress Mayonnaise£4.95                |
| Sundried Tomato, Egg, Spinach, Parmesan and Mangetout Salad £4.95                                |
| Mains  |
| Breast of Chicken stuffed with Haggis with a Leek and Bacon Sauce£11.95                          |
| Spaghetti with Crab, Chilli, Garlic, Parsley and Lemon Cream                                     |
| Baked Fillets of Seabass with sliced Garlic, Fennel and provencale Sauce£13.95                   |
| Roast Loin of Perthshire Lamb on Tomatoes and Spring Greens with Apricot and Mint Coulis. £16.95 |
| Honey Roast Ham with Orange Glaze, Braised Red Cabbage and Spring Onion mash £9.95               |
| Wild Mushroom, Spinach and Pinenut Creamed Spaghetti   |
| Desserts   |
| Creme Brulee with Homemade Shortbread£4.95   |
| Sticky Toffee Pudding with Butterscotch Sauce£4.95   |
| Chocolate and Baileys Cheesecake£5.50  |
| Brown Sugar meringues with fresh Cream and Strawberries£5.50                                     |
| Mull Cheddar with Tomato and Plum Chutney£5.95   |
|  |

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### Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Community Partnership

Communities in and around the National Park Area are taking the lead in driving forward an exciting initiative in the National Park. Since launching the "new look" Community Partnership at the annual Gathering in November, 34 community organisations have now joined as full members. These range from Community Trusts and Community Councils, to local "village in bloom" groups and hall committees. The Community Partnership has existed since 2004, as a charitable company for the National Park area, but this year it has changed to become a "member led" partnership. Community Councils, Community Trusts and all other constituted community groups are invited to join as members and to take part in all the benefits that membership can provide.

Current membership benefits include training and advice in running your community organisation. Training sessions provided by the Small Town and Rural Development Group have been very well attended and beneficial.

Member organisations will also be responsible for directly nominating and electing Directors to the Board of the Partnership. The Community Partnership successes, benefitting local communities, include:

Apprentice Support Scheme Supporting 17 local businesses employing 19 young apprentices, scheme continues until 2013. Community Futures Goes Green supporting 8 communities around the Park to take steps to reduce their carbon footprint - through household and community energy saving.

**Annual Community Gathering** Since 2005 this event has attracted around 100 participants to network,

around 100 participants to network, learn and share information about their community projects.

#### Website Training

Building a "hub website" to link community websites in the Park, and providing support to local community websites

#### Argyll Forest Landscape Partnership

Securing funding from SNH, Forestry Commission and the National Park to support local projects that improve the heritage landscape in the Argyll Forest.

Iain MacInnes, Chair of the Community Partnership, encourages local community groups to join the Partnership, saying "By being a member of the Community Partnership, community groups will be kept up to date with the latest information, able to participate in training, networking events, and future projects and award schemes. And it's free, so there's nothing to lose!"

For membership information or to sign up for training events, visit the website www.lltnp-cp.org.uk or contact

#### **Christine Nelson**

Christine.nelson@lochlomond-trossachs.org Tel: 01389 727762





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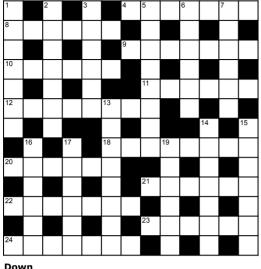
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### Crossword by Scorpia



#### Across

- 4 Fed focus strangely without the bend for derision (7)
- 8 Use teeth on little bird, but only a little (6)
- 9 Separated from the thing it adhered to (7)
- 10 Told me a lie but joined up to become dry and powdery (6)
- 11 Correctly maintained and defended (6)
- 12 Fond of loch and appear similar (8)
- 18 Support for logs on hearth (8)
- 20 Two lads with a shared name to beat with hands (3-3)
- 21 Strong in cruel despot entertainment (6)
- 22 Curiously repents becoming a malicious person (7)
- 23 Remove 500 from bandana and find a large berry type fruit (6)
- 24 Send tin shaken and means to do so (7)

#### Solution 114

Across 4 odd sort 8 abseil 9 a sprite 10 mallow 11 reason 12 disprove 18 assassin 20 asleep 21 astral 22 prosper 23 droned 24 smother

Down 1 man made 2 useless 3 vigour 5 distress 6 serial 7 ration 13 of a piece 14 Eskrand 15 include 16 as from 17 bedsit 19 assert

- 13 Last partner and one dug up and tested (8)
- 14 Fan more shaken to cool the cap in charge (7)
- 15 Leave it the way you found it (2,2,3)
- 16 Rod men make play with to be up to date (6)
- 17 Clip a basic diet ingredient (6)
- 19 Boar is confused by a line on a weather chart (6)



1 Trip-not the light fantastic (7)

6 Emphatically dirty (6)

7 Smoothly and flatly (6)

2 Sack a non drinker-oddly for assaults (7)

3 Number six son enfolded one to gain sight (6)

5 Swindler, electrically connected to become disorientated (8)

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### What's On in Killin and District

#### April

- 3 Grand Auction McLaren Hall
- Special Easter opening Moirlanich 4
- 13 Rural Stirling Housing Association consultation day. Lesser Hall see article page 38
- 15 Guild meeting including surrouding area Guilds Church 2pm
- 17 Killin Youth Club Car Wash McLaren Hall 10am-4pm
- 18 Tarmachan Hill Race
- 21 Herb Society meeting speaker Dr Rosti Naturopathic Doctor Aberfeldy Town Hall 7.30pm
- 22 Green Team "Spring Safari" meet at the school wildlife garden 6pm
- 28 Music Night Bridge of Lochay Hotel from 7.30pm

#### May

- Soup lunch and table top sale McLaren Hall 12noon-2pm 1
- Green Team "Green Gardeners" meet at the school wildlife garden 6pm 6
- 13 Killin Community Council meeting 7.30pm School
- 15 National Moth night at Moirlanich 8.30pm, see page 25
- 19 Herb Society visit to the Royal Botanic Gardens Edinburgh
- 22 KAT/EAK open day
- 26 Music Night Bridge of Lochay Hotel from 7.30pm

#### June

24/7 Cars

З Green Team "Local Heroes" meet at the school wildlife garden 6pm

Ads Index

23

4

11

21

6

22

7

15

8

33

16

39

40

32

2

36

18

41

3

11

9

8

35

17

31

35

40

19

21

35

3

43

42

41

20

34

40

13

29

25

Badminton McI aren Hall Mondays Juniors 6-7pm Adults 7-10pm Tuesdays Juniors 6-7pm

Ballroom Dancing Lochearnhead Hall Fridays 7.30pm starting 16th April

| Crianlarich Youth Club |
|------------------------|
| Crianlarich Hall       |
| Thursdays              |
| 6.30-9.30pm            |
|                        |

Brownies Church Hall Mondays 3.30-5pm

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Heart to Heart

| Home Hairstyling                     | 16<br>30 |
|--------------------------------------|----------|
| Houseproud<br>Hunt, Dave             | 37       |
| Jasmine Beauty                       | 34       |
| John Morris Safety                   | 37       |
| Karelia House                        | 26       |
| Killin Hotel                         | 20       |
| Killin Kutz                          | 16       |
| Killin Library                       | 29       |
| Killin Outdoor Motor Services        | 20       |
| Lilac Stitches                       | 37       |
| Lix Toll                             | 44       |
| Loch Tay Pottery                     | 17       |
| Macfarlane Gray                      | 38       |
| Mains of Taymouth                    | 14       |
| McAllister, Éric                     | 17       |
| McBean, Marieke                      | 16       |
| Menzies, Jo-Ann                      | 42       |
| Murphy, Tom                          | 25       |
| News First                           | 19       |
| Old Flax Mill                        | 7        |
| PFK Performance                      | 36       |
| Physiotherapist                      | 29<br>28 |
| Portnellan Recruiting<br>Post Office | 28<br>23 |
| Real Food Café                       | 23<br>10 |
| Reed Construction                    | 10       |
| Rob Roy Homes                        | 42       |
| RTA Plant Hire                       | 27       |
| Rural Stirling Housing               | 38       |
| SEPA                                 | 22       |
| Shutters Restaurant                  | 16       |
| STEP                                 | 12       |
| Stitt Brothers                       | 20       |
| Studio, The                          | 31       |
| Sue Hoare's Home Care                | 34       |
| Tay Fitness                          | 33       |
| Violin & Piano Lessons               | 12       |
| Window Cleaning                      | 21       |
| Your Computer Manager                | 15       |
|                                      |          |



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