

Killim News



DEADLINES
Issue 127:
Advertising
9 March
Copy
16 March

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

Are we proud of Killin? Do we seek to make things better? The answer to this lies in the way in which people became involved in the Community Consultation and helped to craft their vision of the future. Why, you might say, is it important to create a wish list when the finances to back it up are at an all-time low? Stirling Council reduce support as their finances are pared to the bone. Will we stand by and let business opportunities dwindle as standards deteriorate? The answer is no, of course not, this community is far too active to let that happen. Responding to need is one of the basic virtues of our society.

The Tourism Forum have already set out on the road to ensuring that Killin will continue to be a magnet for visitors who directly or indirectly affect every business and household in the area. The Killin & Breadalbane Angling Club, Environmental Action Killin and the Youth Club show a commitment to clearing rubbish from various locations. The floral displays in Killin feature prominently in tourist brochures. Floral displays don't just happen, people make them happen. The Fireworks at Hogmanay didn't just happen, all local events, clubs and activities have well meaning, hard working people at their heart. We can follow their example, become involved and do our bit to maintain Killin as an iconic location starting from our own front door step.

The Action Plan will be launched on Saturday 25th February. The community has made a statement and now has to supply the knowledge, skills and attitudes to make it happen. That means us, we need to be involved.

The persistent rain and high winds resulted in many weak and venerable trees being blown over. It is sad to see a lone scots pine brought down knowing that it is probably one of the few remaining from the many that once covered the local hills before grazing pressure put paid to regeneration. A massive tree floated down the Lochay and part-blocked the old rail bridge. It provides another example of do-it-yourself as a wide range volunteers helped by professionals removed the obstruction to allow safe passage for boats and canoes under the bridge. Don't underestimate community spirit. Well done those involved.



Front page

Removing a large sycamore tree from the River Lochay

St Fillan's Healing Stones

St. Fillan's Healing Stones have been kept in Killin since the time of St. Fillan in the eighth century and traditionally the owner of the Old Mill has been their custodian. There are eight stones and over the centuries people seeking healing have rubbed the parts of their bodies troubling them with the stone most resembling that part. When the Old Mill ceased to be a mill and was temporarily empty, the stones were moved to the care of Paddy McKinnon in the Tourist Office, then in the village, and moved back when the Mill reopened as Breadalbane Folklore Centre, Graham Wilson, whose family had owned the Mill, passed on to Paddy the traditions observed by generations of Mill owners before him. No-one was ever to enter the Mill on St. Fillan's Day

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(20th January) and each Christmas Eve the Healing Stones had to be rebedded in fresh wrack from the river, both traditions still observed. Paddy found that visitors were very interested in the stones and seldom a day passed without someone wanting to handle them. Often people sent items of clothing in the post asking for them to be rubbed with the stones and sent back. Sometimes people came into the Mill not knowing about the stones and asked 'Have you anything to do with healing here, because I can feel the vibrations'. These people often were affected with shaking when they were near the stones. Now that the Old Mill is again closed, the Stones have found a new home in the Killin Parish Church where they can still be seen by the public and their healing powers can remain



Learning about the Stones

The St. Fillan's Healing Stones were moved to the Parish Church for safe keeping after their home in the Old Mill was in danger of disappearing. The Gaelic Society, worried about the loss of an important local custom, invited P7 pupils to collect the river wrack (old grass and twigs washed up on the river banks after a storm) which makes up the bedding. We were given information sheets and Gina Angus gave a fascinating and informative talk about the healing stones and St Fillan himself. We collected the wrack from the river bank along Craignavie Road and brought it back to the school where it was spread out to dry for a few days. P7 were also invited to help Mrs McKinnon change the bedding for the healing stones on Christmas Eve, the traditional day for the ceremony. Many members of the community came along to watch the ceremony and Mrs McKinnon answered the many questions. She told us a story about a little girl called Laura, who was in a wheelchair, unable to move and who wouldn't talk. Her family brought her to the healing stones in Killin a couple of times a year. After several visits Laura's condition improved and she could turn her head when someone spoke. Her family believed this was all down to the Healing Stones. In the future, I would like the P7 pupils to continue to be involved

more people will be encouraged by this to get involved next year.

Stuart Lang P7

with their local customs and learn about their heritage and so continue the custom of gathering the wrack and changing the bed as I found it a unique, new experience and I hope





Old Mill Group

KAT is planning to purchase the Old Mill and is in discussion with Stirling Council representatives. A steering group will seek finance to fund a feasibility study to test some of the options put forward by the community. A prerequisite to purchasing the premises is to establish a business plan that shows that it can sustain the management and maintenance of the property. The sustainability of the businesses that use it is equally important. At a time of business insecurity we have to be vigilant to avoid risks. Possible benefits include a modest income for local activities and involvement with others in supporting a community venture. A community presence or even a retail outlet in the mill will add focus to visitors to Killin. Use of the

premises for community activities, museums, or displays would not provide an adequate regular income for the building. The existing available space is insufficient for some activities and access beyond the ground floor is unavailable to wheelchairs. The choice will be between the activities that best fit the premises for size, access, volunteer support and profitability.

Killin Tourism ForumThis dynamic group is established, up and running as you can see from the report from Ken Chew. (opposite)

Breadalbane Park: Drainage

Last year Stirling Council cleaned out some of the drains west of the Park and installed a new drainage system over the football field. An area to the east, by the Play Park, still needs to be drained and an area of hard standing constructed near the main entrance so that large vehicles need not drive onto the field and damage the new drainage system.

For readers in the Killin and

Ardeonaig area a flyer is included to show where the hard standing will be situated and seeking comments. Please help by completing the form. The next stage is to seek finance for a landscape architect to lay out the plans and specifications for the construction of the hard standing and drainage.

Play Park

While the Play Park project is progressing and some play items have been secured, it lies in the middle of the area subject to flooding so depends on the park drainage scheme before the new items are erected. Negotiations continue.

The Learning Centre (formerly Breadalbane Virtual Learning Centre)

Work is still in progress to obtain funding to support the Learning Centre.

Killin and Ardeonaig Community Action Plan and Community Profile

The Action Plan is complete. A short description by Suzanne Player is on page 6. As soon as possible it will be put on the KAT web site www.killincdt.co.uk from where it can be downloaded by the public. A few hard copies will be printed for Killin Community Council members, KAT Directors and for the public to access in the Killin Library. Sufficient funds are not available to

KAT AGM and Presentation of Killin Action Plan

The KAT AGM will be held on Saturday 25th February 2012 at 11.00am in the Killin Hotel. Following that the Action Plan and Killin Profile will be presented and there will be time for discussion. The meeting will conclude with a soup and sandwich lunch. This is an open meeting and all are welcome.

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distribute them to every household. The Community Profile, with details concerning Killin, will be produced in electronic format and available online. A hard copy will be printed for the Killin Library.

These documents will be displayed at the KAT AGM. (see opposite)

Acharn Biomass Plant to be situated near Acharn

This biomass plant that feeds electricity into the National Grid has been given outline planning permission. The plant water cooling process results in hot water being cooled by the outside air. Northern Energy plan to offer this heat, generated free, for the community to use to support a business such as heated greenhouses growing tomatoes, fruit or flowers, warm fish farming (Nile Tilapia has been suggested), fodder, as seen on Adam's farm on Countryfile, or any similar activity. The water temperature, we are told, will be between 25° and 30°C. The plant will run continuously except for two or three weeks in the summer when it will be closed for maintenance. Any enterprise would take place probably in a clearing in the woods beside the plant with a lease obtained from the land owner. The biomass plant will have a 40 year lease. If the community were to seek funds to establish such a venture, it would need to identify individuals who would be prepared to drive the development and to take on the responsibility of running it in the long term. If you feel you are in this position and have suitable experience do please contact us or Fergus Tickell of Northern Energy. (page 13) Willie Angus

The Killin Tourism Forum

The Killin Tourism Forum was born as a result of the two meetings held in the McLaren Hall following the closure of the Killin Tourist Information Centre at the Old Mill.

The members of the Forum are those who expressed an interest in progressing tourism in the village at one of these two meetings. There have been no elections, there are no officials and we have agreed that the Forum should be as informal and inclusive as possible, open to all. We have a database of over 70 tourism-dependent businesses in the Killin area and following the publication of this article we will be contacting the 66 businesses for which we have e-mail addresses to advise them of progress to date and to seek comment, advice and suggestions for future actions. In the meantime, if you do wish to contact the Forum please e-mail or call Ken Chew at Morenish Mews (stay@morenishmews.com/01567

So what have we accomplished to date? We have held two very positive meetings in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel (thank you, Amanda!) and have identified several action items.

Road Signage on A85 We have contacted Stirling Council officials and they have agreed that they will not just paint out the Breadalbane Folklore Centre sign at Lix Toll but that they "will give positive consideration as to how we can provide information on the services and attractions within the village".

Tourist Information PointsWe are pursuing designs, costings and potential locations for freestanding information and

interpretation structures that will be accessible at all times.

Web Site We hope to establish a Killin website with a tourism focus, which can be updated by individual providers with their offers and attractions and which will describe activities (walks; fishing; water sports; golf etc.) and attractions in the area.

Marketing We want to develop a Killin "brand" with an appropriate logo and a catchy strapline (see the

accompanying article below). If there are other actions that you think we should be pursuing as a matter of urgency, please don't hold back – get in touch!

Ken Chew

Killin 'Strapline' Competition The Tourism Forum is keen to put

Killin "on the map", on behalf of tourism and businesses in the local area. As well as working on a logo for the village, we hope that as residents of Killin who are very proud of your village, you can think of a really good 'strapline'. A strapline is basically a 'logo in words', a saying that will get associated with Killin on posters, tourism information boards, leaflets and in conversation. It is an advertising slogan and should be a short, memorable phrase to be used as an effective means of drawing attention to one or more aspects of Killin. For example, a well-known tourism strapline is "Aberdeen: the Silver City with the Golden Sands". Other examples of successful commercial 'straplines' are: "It's the real thing", "Refreshes the parts other beers can't reach", "They're gr-r-eat" and "Finger lickin' good", all of which immediately bring to mind the products with which they associated. The Tourism Forum would really like

locals to take part in a competition to think up a good strapline for our village. A prize of a lunch for two at The Bridge of Lochay Hotel has kindly been donated by Amanda and Bob for the successful winner and of course the slogan will then be used on all publicity material for the village. If you would like to take part please e-mail your ideas to jane.watts@bigshed.org.uk or leave them at News First in an envelope addressed to Jane by 29th February.

Jane Watt

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Killin's Action Plan 2012

Killin's Community Action Plan is now complete having been delayed following recent changes within the village. It sets out proposed actions that local people believe will improve the community for residents and visitors both now and into the future. Thank you to the many people who have contributed to the consultation process and helped put the plan together.

The Action Plan is intended to be a document that can be used by individuals, groups and organisations to achieve action over the coming year and not just gather dust. Many of the proposals identified are those that already have support and people identified to take them forward whilst others are more aspirational and long term – but all have come directly from this community.

Killin has an amazing capacity for volunteering and doing things for itself. Local people manage halls, sports clubs, care home, clubs for all ages, as well as providing life saving services such as the Mountain Rescue and Fire Service, but with ever tightening budgets many services may become further restricted, making a local plan for action even more important:

- Local Action Plans identify community priorities through consultation.
- •They cover the issues that affect the daily lives of the community
- The Actions within the Plan detail what is required to address community needs
- Delivering the Actions will mean improvements to the quality of life of local people
- It will help guide Killin Community

Council and KAT's decision making
• It will help prioritise what funding
is required to meet identified needs

• It will be reviewed annually to ensure that it continues to be relevant to local people and that the actions within it are reasonable, feasible and achievable

The Action Plan will be presented at the KAT AGM on 25th February where the main issues and proposals for action will be on display. Unlike previous years only limited copies will be printed but if you would like to see or use the Action Plan it will be available in the Library and can be viewed on line at www:killincdt.co.uk

It can also be printed out in full or in sections. For more information please contact: Suzanne Player 870154

players@stirling.gov.uk

Killin Community Council January Meeting

Costcutter site: The site is now owned by Stirling Council and tenders for the work went out on 16th January. Work should begin by the end of March and be completed by December. Access routes have still to be addressed with existing neighbours. 12 x 2 bedroom flats are to be built. Priority is to be given to existing tenants. Apply as soon as possible if interested. The development will have a local letting plan. A site meeting will be held every month.

Biomass project: Meeting 17th January to discuss community project. Possible veg or flowers grown in large green houses with heat by product from the plant. Possible funding from the LEADER plus fund

Road maintenance: Stirling Council roads department to be asked to a meeting about the local roads. Trees have been cut back on the A827. Street lamp opposite Fairview has been reported as not working. Dochart & Lochay bridges are finished. Artilley bridge requires more signage for time of repairs.

Playpark: Football goal posts to be discussed

Breadalbane forum: Streetscape employees have a very large area to clear and have very little time to clear rural roads etc. Proposals for improvement to be discussed with Les Goodfellow

Cemetery and Signage to pipeline: Both ongoing

Kingshouse buses: A survey is ongoing

Thank you: A thank you to Gordon Aitken for organising the tree. A thank you letter to Douglas McRobbie for the lights and to Stitt Bros. for erecting the tree. A £40.00 cheque will be sent to the church for the electricity. **Turning circle**: The turning area at the bottom car park has been deemed suitable for buses but not for H.G.V's. To be looked into.

Community futures: Community Action Plan is complete will be available in February.

Old mill: Decision on whether to purchase will be made in February. More signage to be discussed for Killin Phone box: Where is the door? It has been reported BT policy no doors on phone boxes we will keep trying.

Next meeting: Tuesday 13th March 7.30pm Killin Primary School

Pamela Farquarson



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Opening of the 2012 Salmon Season

Traditional Start

The new season was welcomed in with the traditional Blessing of the boats at Auchmore by the Rev. John Lincoln. Snacks and the sponsor's dram saw the first anglers fortified against a raw morning of low lying chilling mist.

In the evening the popular Opening Night Supper was held in the Bridge of Lochay Hotel and Colin McCluckie was presented with the Famous Grouse Trophy for having the best salmon of 2011.

Another landmark was reached this season when Dougald MacGregor and Bill Hill celebrated a combined service as Loch Tay Ghillies reaching 100 years with many fish and tales to tell.

Many thanks to all who supported the event and to the Bridge of Lochay Staff for an excellent evening.

Alex Stewart

Morenish

This year the official opening day fell on a Sunday. The rule is that no Salmon can be fished for on the sabbath so the opening was moved to Monday 16th January. The gathering at Loch Tay Highland Lodges was welcomed by Rupert Barrett and his staff and treated to bacon rolls accompanied by a tot of the traditional warmer. Most of the boats were booked and set off following the blessing and prayer delivered by the Rev. Ladd Fagerson. Duncan MacKinnon piped the anglers out sadly not accompanied by Fluke his well known black labrador who died a few months ago.











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Frost Report



Who's a bird brain now?

We are all familiar with the phrase 'bird-brain' but is it justified? There has been a great deal of research recently on the intelligence of animals and, as a whole, it has shown that many animals are much cleverer that previously claimed - a view that many cat and dog owners could have told them without the research. In particular, studies at the University of Washington have proved that members of the crow family can recognise facial features for up to five years and so can distinguish between friendly and hostile faces. The phrase 'that figures' probably springs to the mind of anyone who has tried to shoot hondies

Some of our local sparrows are quite smart as, when we return home, they jump onto the tyres and exhaust pipe to peck the loose gravel (there's not a shortage of that on the Ardeonaig road) and warm their feathers. Apparently the humble sparrow is getting much rarer so every little helps.

Another species needing a little warmth is the introduced sea eagle. Some of the young ones are finding it difficult to cope with the wet conditions and are too exhausted to feed and nine have been rescued by S.S.P.C.A. this year.

Maybe not so smart are the waxwings in the orchards of England, where more than usual were 'under the influence' this year after feeding on overripe fruits. Though it is a fun way to get your five a day.

Some gulls in Norfolk may get a surprise while scavenging the local chippie as some shops there are now selling fried pheasant breast and chips. It provides a new outlet for the shooting estates and considering the price of fish a 'Sandringham supper' isn't so expensive.

So far as we know Mar Lodge are not going to be selling venison suppers as they have, after a review, decided to fence some of the trees for protection instead of the slaughter of the deer up to now. This was the initial policy recommended by the 'old' deer commission before being joined to S.N.H. This shambles does not give a great deal of confidence in the new regime.

It is currently the hind season and a chance to weed out the old and weak. Sometimes calves are shot who will not make it through the winter and this avoids a slow death. As the farmers know, a long wet spell can take its toll on animals and one calf I shot on 28th December didn't stand any chance as he still had his baby calf spots.

But cheers for the roe doe seen in the early afternoon on the back road from Crieff chasing a fox - and she was winning. It was just at the roadside and you could see the fox's expression – 'this is so embarrassing.'

A fox shot recently in England is claimed to be the biggest shot weighing in at 37lbs. But the fox award this issue must go to one in London who has twice gnawed through a car's brake pipes. Could they be being employed as hit men do you think?

Tim Frost



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Television and the Internet

In the olden days you had to watch TV programmes when they were scheduled on your own TV set, or record them for later on a tape machine. I am glad to say that technology has moved on significantly and there are more options available to us now. We can use our own computers with a suitable TV tuner and aerial to watch, record and play back both digital and satellite broadcasts these can even be in High Definition (HD).

Television broadcasters are now able make their programmes available on the internet, so that they can be played "on demand". Typically these include BBC iPlayer, ITVPlayer and 4 on Demand. These on demand applications have been available for computers for some time and are

now available for certain smart phones. Sky TV subscribers can even watch most of their favourite Sky programmes online.

More recently on demand television is also available to the latest television sets, digital decoders and personal video recorders. This allows you to watch television programmes on your own TV, even if you missed them when they were first broadcast. These devices have the capability of being connected to the internet via your home computer network to allow you to watch on demand programmes.

Typical devices include products manufactured by HUMAX, for example FOXSAT-HD and FOXSAT-HDR, for viewing (HD) and recording (HDR) high definition free to air programmes broadcast via satellite, and HDR-FOX for recording Freeview digital (including, if available, high definition) television. Not only can these devices be used to watch on demand television, they can also record all programmes, and be configured to allow computers on your network to access the recorded programmes.

Please note that these devices are not necessarily compatible with SKY receivers - if in doubt please seek professional advice.

Smartphone O2 Security Issue

It has just been announced that owners of smart phones that are connected to the O2 network have had their mobile phone numbers transmitted to every website that they access via their phone. This is a serious breach of privacy and could, at a minimum, result in owners getting spam messages and unwanted marketing calls. The level of seriousness of this breach of privacy cannot be underestimated - after all we trust our mobile phone company to keep our personal details private and they have an agreement with us to do just that. Mark Lincoln

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Rural Funding Event

Saturday 18th February Killin Library 11am-3pm

Funding advice for all groups and organisations

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Strathfillan



Strathfillan Community Council

A new Strathfillan Action Plan will be produced over the next few months. It will involve the Community Council, Strathfillan Trust, local businesses and all residents including the children. So start thinking how you would like to see Strathfillan develop over the next few years.

We and Suzanne Player and a rep. from Killin are finding out about Credit Unions.

The 'mystirling' website is the route to take for reporting items to Stirling Council, posting events etc.

Cameron Taylor volunteered to be the link person for this so, if you have anything to report, please contact him on 300284.

The Rural Stirling Housing
Association Housing Service
Manager will be at the next CC
meeting on Monday 13th February,
to answer questions on the review
of the Housing Allocation Policy
which is now being undertaken.
RSHA has contingency plans for
severe weather and has provided
snow shovels and salt for
Mansefield. There are now grit bins
and several volunteers have cleared
the paths.

The CiA group has made funding applications for the path network and should hear by February.

There is about £1m remaining in the local LEADER fund and Fergus Wood suggested that an application could be made for funding for the gold centre feasibility study. Match funding would be needed but volunteer time could be used for

part of this. The feasibility study will be in the new Action Plan and a funding application to LEADER could be considered then. LEADER closes in 2013. Funding could come from Scotnold

The CC is not organising anything for the Queen's Jubilee celebrations on 4th June but would like to arrange events to celebrate the Olympic Torch coming through Tyndrum and Crianlarich on Saturday 7th June.

The Local Services workers who clear Strathfillan are as frustrated as we are. The job specification sheet is unworkable given the travel time and the wide area they cover. In winter they can just about keep the area tidy but it would be impossible in summer. The Breadalbane Forum is meeting on 24th January to discuss the way forward. Apparently for services to be carried out locally, local people need to want to do the work such as grass cutting.

The Forestry Commission has replacement signs for Crianlarich woodland in hand and plans to look at the footpath. The swing gate by the Youth Hostel side has been damaged.

A resident in Inverarnan who phoned NHS24 was told that for his postcode an ambulance needed to come from Arrochar and not Killin. The operator would not believe that Inverarnan was part of Forth Valley. He waited three and a half hours and an ambulance with a one-man crew arrived so there was a further wait for a double-crew ambulance from Inverarary. The ambulance driver would not go to Larbert because it was outwith his area so the patient was taken to Paisley Hospital. He was discharged the next day and told that he would need to go to Larbert hospital

because they were responsible for his medication. Owen McKee said that this is probably a software problem because a lot of organisations work on postcodes, but this can be fixed by getting markers inserted. Fergus Wood suggested writing to Bruce Crawford MSP who can contact the appropriate Minister to get the markers inserted and this will be done

Strathfillan Community Development Trust



Annual General Meeting New Board of Directors

I'm happy to report that despite the horrendous weather and a hastily re-arranged venue -thank you Green Welly Stop - we did manage to hold our AGM. We now have a new board of directors in place and have held our first full board meeting. Our new directors are Fiona Robertson, Jennifer Riley and Ellen Cattanach, all from Tyndrum, and from the Crianlarich part of Strathfillan we have Isla Craig and Cameron Taylor (Vice chair). Remaining on the board are John Riley (Chair), Moira Robertson, John Goodale and Chris Macnab. It's lovely to welcome so many new faces, producing a very interesting mix of personalities and talents to the Trust.

Café Sci

The next Café Sci will be on Wednesday 22nd February 2012 – Marine aliens – how safe are our oceans?

Liz Cook BSc PhD (Lecturer in Marine Biology, SAMS Oban) will present research designed to explain some of the effects on our native fauna of the arrival of non-native

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by the Way

species. For example, how and when did the Japanese skeleton shrimp. the Chinese mitten crab and the leathery sea squirt reach the UK? Are they already widely distributed? Are they putting other organisms at risk of survival? For how long must an alien species live in a place to be accepted as part of the native fauna?

A very worthwhile and enjoyable way to spend an evening!

Internet/Learning Café

The original funding for this project is now coming to an end and two recent unsuccessful funding bids means that in order to keep going a little longer, our tutor Heather Hamilton will now only be available on one day per week. Heather will be here to help you each Friday from 11am to 4pm. If you use the Internet Café on Tuesdays the computers will be available as usual but without any tuition. We hope that by at least providing a tutor one day per week this will give us a little breathing space in which to apply for further funding.

Craft Club

The Craft group meet each Tuesday from 10.30am onwards so if you are feeling creative please come along and join in. If you want to get rid of old fabric, cushions, wool etc, we will happily re-cycle it for you!

Book Group

The book group meets at 12 noon on the last Wednesday of each month for a light lunch and a discussion on the book of the month. New bookworms always welcome - especially if you can bake!!!

> Joyce Russell Development Officer

Tel 01838 400 545 strathfillancdt@btconnect.com



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Crianlarich Primary School

Nursery Donation

We'd like to thank Killin and Crianlarich Nursery for donating £50 following their performance of Rapunzle.

Another Thank You

In the last edition of the Killin News I reported on our joy at the unanimous decision of the NPA to grant planning permission to the goldmine. In this article I noted that political support came from a number of elected representatives, but excluded Bruce Crawford MSP, as this could undermine his involvement in an appeal; should it be necessary.

I now wish to take this opportunity of thanking Bruce for his immense help in the goldmine project in which he played a key role in helping to bring about the eventual planning decision: meeting Scotgold directors and me after the refusal in 2010, negotiating with the NPA and quiding us during this long and frustrating process. John Riley

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We'd like to thank the management, staff and customers of Crianlarich Hotel for fundraising at their recent Race Nights. We are currently looking to enhance our playground with some play equipment and the money they have raised will help towards the cost.

Topic

This term the whole school will be looking at the weather. If you have a special interest in this topic and would like to come into the school to talk to the children, please get in touch.



Support for those affected by Divorce or Separation

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Strathfillan by the Way

Rally Champion





Tyndrum rally driver Allan Brodie has become Scottish Tarmac Rally Champion after winning the title at the Kingdom stages at Crail in Fife on 5th November. Racing his 30 year old Ford Escort MK21600 to ninth overall on the day, he finished the session first in class 3 and overall Scottish Tarmac Champion after nine rounds with only one non-finish in the Mull rally in October. For once we didn't suffer from any reliability issues and were able to post a good finish towards the final round of the championship. Allan and his team have supported the championship for a number of years and it's great to finally win it.

Auction Crianlarich Hall 16th March

viewing from 5pm Sale starts 6pm Collection of items from Wednesday 14th Call Bryan at the Crianlarich Store to arrange uplift 01838 300 245

Stars of the 70s





These photographs were taken between 1970 and 1972 and feature Guides and Brownies during performances of Aladdin and another production. Included in the photos are the following people who still live in the village. Can you identify them? Morag McKenzie (McPhail), Elizabeth Woods (MacGregor), Elizabeth Hancock (Sinclair), Freda Cairns (Smith), Kay Riddell (Grant)



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Acharn Biomass Project

The Biomass Project at Acharn was unanimously approved by the LLTNP Planning Committee on 7th November 2011. Each year the project will use 60,000 tonnes of low grade timber all sourced from forests within a 30 mile radius of the site. Electricity will be generated and sold to the grid - enough for 10,000 homes. The project will also produce a significant quantity of low grade (25-30 degrees C) heat. It is a condition of the planning approval that LLTNP require that a Heat Development Plan is produced, in conjunction with the community, to

explore how this heat can be used for the benefit of the local community and businesses. An initial meeting, organised through the Community Council, was held on 17th January with some members of the community who had previously expressed an interest. Various ideas were put forward including food production (salad vegetables, fish), drying firewood and woodchips for the local market and heating for workshops. These ideas will be considered in further meetings.

However it is important that the

views of all those in the community who have an interest in (and especially ideas for) the use of the heat from the project can be considered. If you have any comments, ideas to put forward or want more information on the project please contact Fergus Tickell of Northern Energy Developments fergus@energydevelopments.co.uk
The results of discussions on the Heat Development Plan will be reported at Community Council meetings and in the Killin News.

Killin Community Bus

It was unfortunate and due to a series of events that the planned outings for December and January did not take place, however it is hoped there will be a better response to the next events. By popular request the bus will go to the Hobby, Crafts and Creative Stitches exhibition in the S.E.C.C. in Glasgow on Friday 9th March leaving the Post Office at 9.00a.m. The cost is £15.00 and must be paid in full before 24th February to allow us to enjoy the advantage of discounted tickets.

The April outing has not yet been arranged and anyone wishing to go somewhere special, please let me know and I will try to fulfil any requests. It should be remembered before outings can be organised that if tickets are required I need warning to have time to order them and all monies have to be paid in full before a booking can be made. Enquires re the outing should be made to

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Watch Out! The taxman's got more clout!

Many of you will know that if you are liable to submit a self assessment tax return, failure to submit it online by the 31st January can incur a £100 penalty. This penalty used to be waived if it turned out that your income was below your personal tax threshold, but this is no longer the case. However that is not the only change. Starting this year, if you have not filed your return by the end of March, you will start to incur a penalty of £10 per day for up to ninety days, even if you are not liable to pay any tax. So if you are one of the many individuals with incomes below the personal tax threshold, you should

make sure that you have filed your

self assessment tax return on time.

or you could find yourself with a

£1,000 bill from HMRC.

I.D.Dolan-Betney

Mervyn's Weather and More



considerable number of years the late summer and autumnal hurricanes of the Caribbean have been

apportioned Christian names. Initially these were girls' names but, due perhaps to feminist pressure, the listing of these phenomena now includes male labelling. Should it ever be decreed that our own series of low-pressure systems and depressions were to be similarly highlighted, with the exception of the idiotic appellation bestowed upon the unsuspecting progeny of some football or pop idol, almost all Christian names, male and female, plus perhaps a few Muslim ones thrown in. just to keep things right, could be used up, so legion have these weaker systems become over recent decades. Not only that but a measure of them have been attempting to emulate the ferocity and destructiveness of their Caribbean siblings.

Statistics are at best a somewhat prosaic means of establishing trends in a given subject, but the fact that rainfall totals have been arguably increasing over, say, the last three

decades can be borne-out by the fact that here in Ardtalnaig the annual rainfall total has increased from 1,277 mm prior to 1951 to 1,397 mm average figure 1981-2010. This past year, 2011, totalled 1,782.7 mm, not however a record as 1990 produced 1,790 mm. Nevertheless 2011 has been a wet year and follows the trend. Like October, December has also excelled itself by producing one dry day!

Due to the foregoing not much space for place-name derivations in this issue of Killin News. However, having moved down Glendochart and before dealing with some Glen Lochav names, there is perhaps room to mention Killin, which as written in Gaelic is Cill-fhinn which could mean the white or perhaps Holy Church or may be the Church of Fionn, although there is no Saint Fionn. The island of Inchbuie (Innis Buidhe) "The yellow island", perhaps due to the colouring of moss covered stones, is the burial site of Clan MacNab. The story is told that the MacNab, attempting to encourage his beloved into matrimony, said to her that if she would marry him she would have the most beautiful graveyard in the world - she declined!

> Mervyn K. Browne Ardtalnaig



2011 Weather Data for Killin and Strathfillan (Kirkton Farm)

Killin 2011

Total Rainfall = 2480.5 mm (Killin ten year average (2000-2009) = 1851.8 mm)

Wettest Month = December (338.0 mm)

Driest Month = June (104.5 mm)

Highest Rainfall in a calendar Week (Monday to Sunday) = 165.5 mm (Week 5, 31st January - 6th February)

Strathfillan (Kirkton Farm) 2011

Total Rainfall = 3529.3 mm (Strathfillan twenty year average [1991-2010] = 2528 mm)

Wettest Month = December (526.2 mm)

Driest Month = June (101.7 mm)

Highest Rainfall in a calendar Week (Monday to Sunday) = 209.4 mm (Week 5, 31st January - 6th February)

Highest Maximum Temperature = 23.3oC (27th July)

Lowest Maximum Temperature = -0.4oC (7th January)

Lowest Minimum Temperature = -12.1oC (7th January)

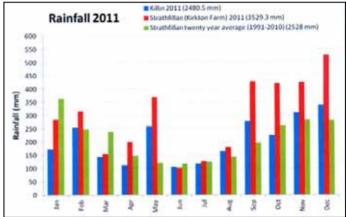
Since weather recording began at Kirkton in 1991 this year has seen:

The wettest year

The wettest May

The wettest September

The wettest Autumn (September, October & November)



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Loch Lomond & the Trossachs Nation

National Park Plan Adopted

The National Park's first local plan has been adopted by the National Park Authority. The plan will guide new development and investment within the National Park up to 2015 and will be the principal document used for determining planning applications.

The adopted plan replaces existing local plans covering the National Park and identifies locations for new housing, tourism opportunities, transport and economic development. It sets out how development can help address important issues such as climate change by ensuring that it is appropriately located and that buildings are designed in ways that reduce carbon emissions. The plan also supports small scale renewable energy schemes that meet the needs of communities and businesses. It also contains policies that will protect the environment to ensure that any development does not damage the outstanding natural and cultural heritage of the area. The adoption of the local plan reflects several years of extensive consultation with a wide range of people including communities,

landowners, developers and agencies who all have an interest in the National Park. The plan includes modifications that were recommended by Scottish Government Reporters. One of the key areas of work for the National Park is making sure we have thriving communities across Loch Lomond and The Trossachs. With this new plan, we now have a blueprint that will encourage tourism, business and housing development opportunities that will contribute to the local and national economy.

The local plan can be viewed on the National Park website www.lochlomond-trossachs.org, at local libraries and at National Park offices in Balloch and Callander. Hard copies of the plan can be purchased for £50 through our online shop on our website. For more information contact the Forward Planning team on 01389 722600 or

localplan@lochlomond-trossachs.org

Ruth Crosbie PR and Media Manager The Trossachs National Park

Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park 01389 722016 07834 334108

New Heritage Trail for Killin

Visitors will soon be able to discover much more about Killin thanks to a new heritage trail currently being developed. The aim of the trail is to encourage people to explore the whole village and enjoy the rich history it has to offer. Interpretation panels will be located along the trail illustrating the landscape, architecture and local folklore along the way. A leaflet will also be available to guide visitors. Some of the interesting features of the trail include the evolution of the village's rich mix of building styles, stories of local people who helped shape it and the legends that abound in and around it. The Killin heritage trail is part of the Killin Conservation Area Regeneration Scheme (CARS). CARS is jointly funded by Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park and Historic Scotland. Stirling Council is also making a generous contribution to the project. Susan McGowan, Built Environment Adviser for Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park explains: "The recent closure of the Breadalbane Folklore Centre has meant that the completion of the

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Glen Lvon & Loch Tay Community Council

January Meeting held at Fearnan

interpretation panels and heritage trail will be particularly important, providing the many visitors to Killin with a permanent and easily accessible source of information on the history and development of the

The aim of the boards and the leaflet is to encourage visitors to explore, on foot, the whole of the village rather than just gathering around the Falls and then departing. They can follow the trail, starting and finishing at the Falls of Dochart or the McLaren Hall and will be encouraged to extend their walk and explore the wider area.

Local businesses are invited to request Killin Heritage Trail stickers and leaflets for displaying in their businesses. The leaflet will also be available to download on to smart phones.

Wider activities and events in the local area will also be shown.

The trail will be launched in spring. Local business owners who would like to display a sticker and leaflets please contact

Kirsty Callaghan Project Co-ordinator

01389 727743 kirsty.callaghan@lochlomond-trossachs.org Police report: Quiet in the main but there have been thefts of copper and electrical equipment in the rural

Enforcement: Boreland owner is in breach of the order as they have taken no action to remedy the situation. The land will be cleared and seeded and the bill sent to the owner.

HPCP: Nothing new to report **Highland Perthshire Cycling** Festival: This will be on 13th May, with events and window displays 5th-12th. There will be better communication with local residents especially in the Fortingall area.

Highland Perthshire Safety Panel: The 20 reflective slap straps asked for by Glen Lyon primary school have been received for delivery.

Roads: There was discussion about clear up of trees etc. after the storm.

The 60mph limit in Glen Lyon was raised and will be discussed at the next meeting.

Water running from Garth to the public road is causing concern over possible damage to trees.

Financial matters: The bills for the hire of Fortingall & Fearman halls had been paid.

CC matters: A representative has been invited to sit on the User Reference Group for Glen Lyon Primary School.

Planning applications: There was a discussion about various aspects of the PKC website, such as the time the site was down over the festive season, confusion over dates etc.

AOB

7.30pm

There had been a meeting to discuss community transport and help will be given with a survey. Invervar graveyard wall is still damaged. Contact details to be investigated.

A short statement on the Loch Tay Food Chain was made. Contacts: katy@theonly.org or 01567 829064 and jane@bigshed.org.uk or 0776656693.

Enquiries to be made about PKC policy on Dark Skies. A donation from the CC Amenity Fund to be made towards a defibrillator for Glen Lvon. Next meeting: 15th March at Fortingall, preceded by the AGM at

(Glen Lvon & Loch Tav CC includes households between Fearnan and the Stirling Border)

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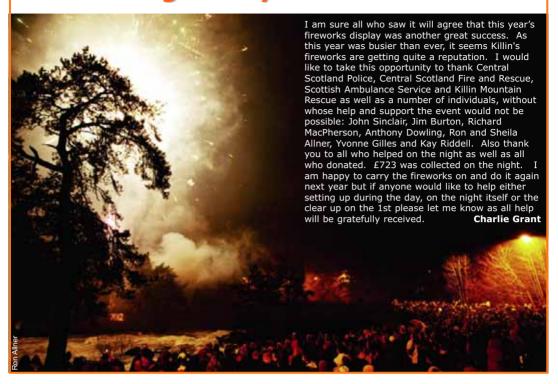
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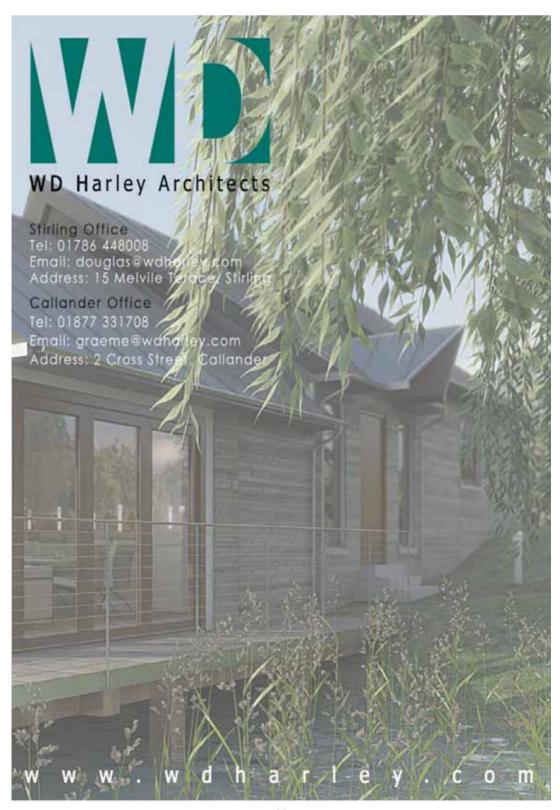
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McLaren High School

Scottish National Parks Media Project

On 28th November S2 pupils from McLaren High travelled to Boat of Garten to attend the National Parks Media Project presentations. This was an event to celebrate the achievements of pupils from nine secondary schools and their efforts in developing short films to highlight different aspects of outdoor learning within our National Parks.

McLaren pupils had been professionally trained in script writing, interviewing, presenting, filming and editing and had produced a ten minute documentary about our S2 pupils working towards their John Muir Award. The pupils certainly demonstrated 'Excellence' in film-making, thoroughly enjoyed the experience and can pass their training on to other pupils. The film clearly emphasises the rich educational experiences that arise from pupils learning in the 'outdoor' classroom and also how much benefit they gain from exploring our National Parks.





As the architects for the Big Shed at Tombreck ea would like to congratulate the Lochtayside Community Interest Company and all involved in completing the building work We wish the project a successful future.





To discuss your project or for further information, please contact: Sue Manning or Mary Roslin: RIBA/RIAS Chartered Architect 01567 829355 email sue@ecological-architecture.co.uk The Cart Shed Studio Tombreck Lawers Aberfeldy PH15 2PB

ea promotes the use of construction techniques materials and renewable technologies that reduce damage to the earth and its ecosystems

Charities News

On 18th November, a Mufti day was held in aid of Children in Need and Bryony Semple's chosen charity, the Malawi Education Project. Senior pupils came to school in fancy dress, and painted pink and purple butterflies on students and staff in memory of Bryony.



Lucky Sods Raise £1000

The Lucky Sods Campaign, launched in October 2011 by the McLaren MUSP Working Group (MCMWG) for the proposed Artificial Grass Pitch (AGP) in Callander has raised in excess of £1,000.

The total cost of the project is £550,000 and to date £241,527.00 has been secured. We would welcome any contributions to reach the target.

To make a contribution, please contact **Pam Campbell**, Chair MCMWG (01786 841542).

Outward Bound at Loch Eil



In December seventy S4 pupils along with seven members of staff spent a week at Loch Eil Outward Bound Centre. This is now the 8th year that McLaren High School has been offering this residential week. The week began with pupils (and some staff) taking a dip in a very cold Loch Eil! Throughout the rest of the week pupils took part in raft building, high ropes and rock climbing. The course challenged the pupils to shift their mind set, take a more positive approach to challenges and move outwith their comfort zones. The week was a huge success with the Outward Bound instructors commenting very positively about the way in which our pupils approached the activities and team building tasks.



Killin Primary School

It's a girl

Congratulations to Mr & Mrs McGuigan on the birth of their baby girl, Eve Eileen, born on 7th December, weighing 7lb 11oz. Mum and baby are both well and we hope to see them very soon.

Class 3- Enterprise Challenge

Three groups were each given one pound; with that pound they made their first selling products. The Busy Bubble Bees raised £40.49, Money, Money, Money £32.88 and The Mini Money Makers £38.42. Money, Money, Money and Busy Bubble Bees have decided to donate their takings to the Malawi Education Project and the Mini Money Makers will be donating their takings to the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

Alaya Christie Class 2 - Enterprise Group

For Class 2's Winter Term Topic we looked at being a Christmas Enterprise Group. We split into five groups and made various goods for sale. These were Christmas decorations made from Hanna Beads, wine glass decorations, Christmas cards, calendars and a Christmas booklet. We started off with £5 and ended up with a profit of £47.26. We decided to give £25.56 to the Falls of Dochart Residential Home, £14 to the Dogs Trust and £7.70 to Children in Need. We learned valuable skills which we hope to use in our forthcoming topic.

Euro Quiz

Four pupils from P6 will represent the school at the Euro Quiz in Alva on Friday 2nd March.

Blythswood Appeal

Following the marvellous response at Christmas time to the Shoe Box Appeal, Blythswood are beginning to prepare for next Christmas and are appealing for knitting wool, which will be made into hats, gloves & scarves suitable for all ages. Wool may be handed into the school.

Active Stirling

Class 3 will be involved in curling & hockey taster sessions this term. Topics

Class 1 are studying Transport and will be looking at different types of

transport that go on land, sea and

Class 2 are studying Scotland and will be looking at landmarks. traditions, different regions in Scotland and comparing environments. They will take part in many activities such as building models and researching in groups. Class 3 are studying Europe. They have been given the challenge of making a fact file on a European country to which they have been assigned.

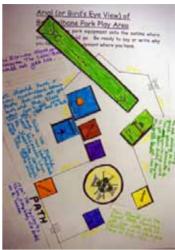
Eco Committee

The Eco Committee are up and running again this term. The areas we are concentrating on are Litter, Health & Wellbeing and Global Citizenship. We have already had a visit from Stirling Council to see if we are eligible to win the Litter Trophy and they were very impressed with our zero waste lunch boxes, something we hope to encourage more.

We are also working closely with the EAK group to help monitor Litter in the Park as well as our school

We thought about our role as Global Citizens and began to complete some activities in Fair Trade Products. Guess how many items some children found in our recent visit to the Co-on? Over 7511

Morrisons Lets's Grow Vouchers Thank you to all members of the community who kindly donated Morrisons Vouchers to the school. This enabled us to order a hoe and five trowels which the Health Promoting Committee have been actively using when tidying the front garden area.



Non-Uniform Sporty/Play Day

On Friday 2nd December the children took part in an exciting day of design and park planning. Each child worked on A3 drawings, placing scale-sized drawings of play equipment and giving constructive reasons for their decisions. To refer to and stimulate ideas they had a huge park drawing, an on-screen arial photo of the park and play equipment catalogues.





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Nursery News



Killin News looks forward to hearing from the children how their hunt for the wolf is going

In December Killin Nursery presented The Nativity and Crianlarich Nursery presented The Three Kings. The production of the shows gave the children the opportunity to develop their confidence and self esteem. A very big thank you to all the parents and families who came to support these shows and we hope it was enjoyed by all. Some children in Killin Nursery visited The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home to sing songs from their show to the residents and to see Santa. This was a lovely afternoon and we would like to thank Mandy and all the staff for inviting us along.

Early in December some of the younger children in Killin Nursery visited the water wheel at the mill. The children watched how the force of the water moved the wheel. While there, they discovered the wolf had disappeared. The wolf has always been popular with the nursery children as they liked to sit on his back. We are now on a mission to find the wolf. We have put up posters around the village requesting information about his whereabouts. If anyone has information could you please contact Killin Nursery on 01567 820889 as soon as possible. The children in the nursery would like to adopt the wolf if this is possible to ensure he stays in Killin where he belongs.

In the 3-5 room at Crianlarich Nursery we are learning about volcanoes, earthquakes and different weather systems alongside Farms and Farming. We are looking forward to exploring these new interests and researching the subjects.

In the 0-3 room we have been learning about early science using torches, mirrors and lights. Another learning interest in this room is "how things change" and we have been exploring and investigating the changing weather within our local environment. Using baking ingredients we have been exploring and investigating the properties of different Jeanette Weir materials using all our senses.

HOLIDAY CHALET to LET

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KYG have been very fortunate to be awarded two grants recently which will help with

their 'Batty about Killin' project which involves learning about bats, their habitats and how to protect them. KYG members will also be passing on this information to the wider community through presentations and information stalls throughout the year.

Thanks to the Heritage Lottery Fund

Killin Youth Group

 $(\pounds 3,000)$ and the North Face Explore Fund $(\pounds 1,600)$ for their grants which will really enhance the Project for the young people involved. We can now buy equipment for camping trips and exploration of habitats both local and further field, as well as work towards John Muir Trust Awards and, most importantly, contribute to the protection of our local bat population.

Meanwhile KYG members have been busy breadmaking, creating willow and tissue sculptures, ice skating and going to the panto in Edinburgh, as well as enjoying a residential weekend at Nethy Bridge. Next trip we're off to watch Scotland win the Calcutta Cup at Murrayfield – thanks to PC Iona Frickleton for getting the tickets.

All this activity is thanks to support from Awards for All, LEADER and Stirling Council.

Suzanne Player















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News from The Big Shed

The Big Shed, the new community building at Tombreck, has been busy with events and classes recently and buzzing with excitement as locals from all around Loch Tay and Glen Lyon have taken the opportunity to use the new venue.



The Christmas Craft Fair was a great success and the atmosphere was summed up by Heather, a local visitor: 'Amazing food, mulled wine, a blazing boiler and an impressive display of local talent met visitors today at The Big Shed. Stalls held by makers and artists from the Loch Tayside area displayed their beautiful work, together with the talented skills in the kitchen (rivalling Masterchef) created an unforgettable ambience and a very happy day.' The Big Shed will be hosting a similar Easter Craft Fair in March due to popular demand so do look out for that.



Christmas baking and beginners' bread making courses taken by the local organic baker Justin Tunstall proved very popular and were enjoyed by all who took part. Sour dough is still on the go in many households around the lochside!

Other events before Christmas included the start of the now regular yoga classes every Friday 10.30-12noon with local teacher Emma Burtles. These are great fun and if you would like to come along and try them out please do (£5 per class).

The first yoga day was held on 28th January and Emma has promised to hold another one in March. If you would like to get your name on the list please contact Jane Watts. The cost is £30 for a whole day of yoga with Emma and Fi Lumsden and includes hareh

The Big Shed Classical Concert Series started with The Edinburgh String Quartet 27th Janurary with tickets selling out very quickly. The next in the series will be Saturday March 3rd with The Scottish Reed Trio. If you would like to get on the list for tickets, or to be kept informed please contact Jane Watts.

The Burns Supper took place on 28th January and it is hoped to be a regular feature at The Big Shed.

A car boot sale will take place on Saturday March 24th so get this date in your diary now!

Guitar lessons should be starting very soon and there are more plans for Killin Youth Group who met regularly at The Big Shed during the Autumn.

Photography workshops, art workshops, ceramics, felt-making, birthday parties, folk gigs, chocolate makingyou name it, it will be happening at The Big Shed so get involved....come down to an event and explore the atmosphere.

If you would like any more information about hiring The Big Shed or would like to be kept informed about events please contact:

Jane Watts
Project Development Officer
07766 566935
jane@bigshed.org.uk





This and That

Killin and District Sports Club **AGM** Wednesday 22nd February 7.30pm Sports Pavilion, Killin

Do you want to get involved? Do you have a view on the sports facilities on offer or how we could make better use of the building? Please come along to our meeting evervone welcome

In attics and sheds all over Killin there are ancient items which would be at home in a museum. It would be good to know just what is 'out there' to get an idea of how much space would be needed if we had one. Should an effort be made to find out?

The telephone box door is still missing despite numerous e mails to BT from Killin Community Council. BT will not replace it until KCC has made a written request which they are now doing.

Killin News is now on sale at **Heartland Vets in Aberfeldy**

The Bob MacGregor Memorial Trial this year is the 2nd and 3rd of June

Killin Show AGM Wednesday 15th February 7.30pm Killin Hotel

Fancy trying **Ballroom Dancing?**

An Open Invitation Evening to everyone to give it a go Lochearnhead Village Hall Friday 10th February 7.30pm

Supper provided Just bring your drinks and shoes Please confirm with Mary on 01567-830453

Would you believe it? A Killin aroup recently opened a bank account and it took four months for the bank to do this and then it wouldn't pay out the first cheques drawn on the account! It would have been useful to be able to refer now to records from the time of the sale of the Old Mill in the 1980s but sadly most of them had already been destroyed. What should happen to the papers from old Killin groups e.g. the KLS (which attempted to get a Resource Centre), the Arts & Crafts Group (which had biennial sales from the early seventies to 2007) and doubtless others? Should they be kept as part of Killin's history? If so, where and for how long?

The top car park in the village continues to be decorated with brightly coloured plastic barriers. Perhaps the Council is planning to create a new Play Park there.

Safari Supper Change of Date

The Safari Supper will be held on Saturday 3rd November NOT Saturday 3rd March Anyone interested in being a host for the evening please contact Marion 01567 820719 or Elizabeth 01567 820667 In aid of the McLaren Hall Refurbishment

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Annual Community Auction

It's time to remind everyone of the 2012 Auction. Saturday 7th April in the McLaren Hall Killin is the day and venue. Viewing will be from 4.30pm with the first lot going under the hammer at 6.00pm.

All donations will be gratefully received and we offer 50% sale share with the donor on suitable items.

Last year was a resounding success and donations were made to local organisations and charities.

Once again there will be a refreshment wine and beer bar and the kitchen will serve soup teas and snacks.

Contact any one of the following for further information, Alex Stewart 01567 820224, Roy MacGregor 01567 820336 and Bobby Lafferty 01567

The Lodge Web Site, www.lodge815.co.uk will carry additional information, with pictures of some of the items, from the beginning of March. Make a note and come along for a great evening at the Auction. **Alex Stewart**

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The Prisoner of St Kilda

The author of this book, published in 2009, is Margaret Macaulay, who is a native of Campbeltown in Argyll. She is a historian and journalist with a particular interest in individual women in Scottish history, especially those who have been maligned or forgotten. The true story of Lady Grange who is the subject of this book would appear to be one such 'unfortunate' woman.

Rachel Chiesley married James Erskine in 1707 and became Lady Grange. During their twenty five years of marriage she bore him nine children but in 1732 she was forcibly

Book Review

and brutally kidnapped from her home in Edinburgh on the instructions of her husband because she was not prepared to turn a blind eye to his philandering and his involvement in the Jacobite Uprisings.

During a long journey on horseback to exile in St Kilda, she passed through Stirling, Callander, Glen Dochart, Crianlarich and Tyndrum as her captors and their prisoner travelled steadily northwest under the cover of darkness. She was never returned to Edinburgh and never again saw her surviving children.

The treatment and conditions she endured are beyond our comprehension in this day and age but nobody, not even the wives of some of the men involved in her captivity or the Solicitor General to whom she wrote in 1738, was prepared to do anything to alleviate

her suffering.
This book is based on contemporary documents and Lady Grange's own letters and it tells, for the first time, the true account of this extraordinary woman's thirteen bitter years in captivity prior to her death in 1745.

Marion Strang
Sequel Book Club

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Earth Hour in Killin

Over-consumption of food, fuels and non-renewable resources is putting a huge toll on the planet. Earth Hour began as a response to this in 2006, when WWF Australia inspired the people of Sydney to demonstrate that everyone, from children to politicians, has the power to change the world they live simply by switching off their lights for one hour.

The invitation to "switch off" now extends globally, on the last Saturday of every March – closely coinciding with the equinox to ensure most cities are in darkness. Great things can be achieved when people come together for a common cause and you are invited to join in – either by switching your own lights off from 8.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. pm on Saturday 31st March or by coming along to the NTS office to take

part in a joint NTS and EAK event.

Inspired by the darkness, we will be looking at some of the constellations that can be seen in the sky at this time of year. If we get a clear night we will be out spotting these but we will also be telling the stories they inspired in myth and legend. If you would like to join in, come along to Lynedoch at 7.30p.m. and bring warm outdoor clothes.

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It's Giveaway Time



Retirement Gifts

When Duncan McKellar and Roger Twigg retired from Scottish Hydro Electic, they asked that any money collected for leaving gifts went to cancer charities. £1,120 was raised and was split between Cancer Research UK and MacMillan Cancer Support and Roger and Duncan presented the money to Susan McRobbie and Elizabeth Woods.

Christmas Cheer

The Christmas Hamper Raffle held by the local Lodge raised £160 which was equally shared by the Retirement Home and the Killin Brownies. Many thanks to all who supported this worthwhile appeal. The Residents in the Home celebrated the Festive Season with extra goodies and the picture shows Mandy Hay receiving the donation from Alex and Bobby with Iona, and Elma and Ella. **Alex Stewart**



Choir Concerts

Norma Lang and Donald MacIver presented Mandy Hay at Falls of Dochart Retirement Home with a cheque for £120.62 representing half the money raised by the Choir's Christmas concerts.



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1st Killin Brownies

Big Thank You Once more we want to take the opportunity to thank everyone in the village who gave us their Christmas cards to post and to Kay, Dougie and Liz for providing collection points. This year we raised over £400 which we are going to share with the Youth Group and Falls of Dochart Retirement Home. A BIG thank you also to all those Brownies, Youth Group members, parents, aunties and other friends who came along to help sort and deliver the cards around the village. We had lots of 'posties' which was great and made the whole job a lot easier. We couldn't do it without you and it does raise lots of money

for good causes. We would also like to say a huge thank you to the organisers of yet another successful Ogham Concert – Davy Osler and Neil MacKenzie. They very kindly donated £50 of the proceeds to Killin Brownies. This money is gratefully received and will provide some great, special opportunities for our wee Brownies. Hopefully we will help deliver your cards again in 2012.

Killin Brownies start again on Monday 6th February in our new venue of the Lesser McLaren Hall. Julie or Fiona will pick up from school at 3pm as usual. We look forward to seeing you all there and to enjoying the new bigger space. Thanks to Killin & Ardeonaig Church for being helpful with storage of all our equipment in the meantime. If there are any new girls who have turned seven and would like to start Brownies please contact Julie or Fiona

Fiona, Julie and all the Brownies



Dany and Flo Moerbitz pictured at the monument to the Battle of the Nations in Leipzip built to celebrate the defeat of Napoleon at Leipzig. They came to Killin on holiday and became friends of Rory Chisholm.

Local Boy Makes Good



Dr Phil Simpson, formerly Centre Director of Abernethy Ardeonaig, has become Chief Executive of the Abernethy Adventure Centre group. The organisation has four outdoor centres across Scotland, including the site on the south side of Loch Tay.

Phil led Abernethy Ardeonaig, with his wife Rosemary who is Deputy Centre Director there, for 28 years. "We have a fantastic set up at Abernethy with four great adventure centres and we will continue to make the most of these facilities to bring people, young and old, into the outdoors. Change is often a challenge and challenges are often exciting. I am looking forward to working with all the teams and am challenged to make their Abernethy experience as memorable as that of our guests." Phil's son Roger lives and works locally and daughter Louise is Assistant Operations Director at the Abernethy Centre at Ardgour near Fort William. During the current economic climate, with growing competition from other Centres and with reduced school budgets for residential visits, Abernethy continues to grow and is looking forward to the next forty years.

www.abernethy.org.uk

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Local Planning Applications

National Park

Week 45 commencing 31 Oct Proposal: Erection of 7 holiday

chalets

Location: Land Opposite Bridge Of

Lochay Hotel Killin

Applicant: Mr Greg Deacon Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission

Decision: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Change of use and alterations to the former butchers shop to an administrative office Location: Silver Cottage Main Street

Killin

Applicant: Mr Alan Skelton
Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission
Decision: Approve

Proposal: Re-roofing works including

replacement flashings

Location: Breadalbane House Main

Street Killin

Applicant: Mr & Mrs Van Doorn Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission
Decision: Approve

Week 46 commencing 7 Nov

Proposal: Installation of a wood fired combined heat and power plant Location: Acharn Forest Killin Stirling Applicant: Mr Fergus Tickell Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission
Decision: Approve

Week 47 commencing 14 Nov

Proposal: Erection of a 4m high

threshold sign

Location: Land Adjacent To A85 West

Location: Land Adja Of Clifton Tyndrum

Applicant: Miss Lynda Frazer
Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission

Decision: Neighbour Notification

Week 49 commencing 28 Nov Proposal: Erection of 2 holiday

accommodation chalets Location: Auchtertyre House Tyndrum

Crianlarich

Applicant: Ms Lisa Burton

Application Type: Planning Permission

Decision: Approve

Week 2 commencing 9 Jan

Proposal: Erection of photographic studio/gallery

Location: Land To The West Of Wester Lix Steading Lochearnhead Killin Applicant: Mr and Mrs Dave Hunt Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission
Week 3 commencing 16 Jan

Proposal: Partial demolition, restoration and extension of 2 derelict buildings to form a dwellinghouse Location: Station Cottages Killin Applicant: Mr Daniel Gardiner Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission
Decision: Pending Consideration

Perth & Kinross Council 6 December

Proposal: Erection of 3 chalets, associated function suite and a

dwelling house

Location: Land At Craggantoul Farm

Lawers

Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin Application Type: planning permission local

permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Stirling Council Week 43 9 Nov

Proposal: Single storey extension to front and new dormer to rear Location: Upper Bealloch Killin Applicant: Mr Simon Parkinson per Capital A Architecture 84 The Murrays Edinburgh EH17 8UP Application Type: Full

Decision: Approve with Conditions

Week 49 21 Dec

Proposal: To replace an existing rotted timber porch and provide a new extended balcony partly covered by extending the existing porch footprint and part open Location: 6 Auchmore Killin Applicant: Surveying Solutions Ltd 4

Auchmore Killin

Application Type: Full Decision: Approve with Conditions

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Think about it

King Abdullah, the ruler of Jordan since 1999, has been known to disguise himself and go out into public places. His purpose is to talk with ordinary citizens and discover what they are thinking and to check up on civil servants to see how they are treating his people. He has visited hospitals and government officers in disguise to learn what kind of service they are giving. The king discovered this ploy while he was in New York. He could not leave his hotel without being

mobbed by crowds so he slipped out in disguise. It worked so he decided to try it at home. He reported that once he began this practice, civil servants and hospital employees started to treat everyone like kings. Scripture reminds us that when Jesus comes as King, He will judge the nations. (Matthew 25: 31-46) He said the basis for that judgement will be how people treated Him when He was hungry, thirsty, a stranger, naked, sick, or imprisoned. Those being judged will ask when

they saw Him in these situations and Jesus will say, "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me."
Because we are all created in God's image and because Jesus by His words and example taught us that He cares deeply how we treat others, we should treat all people with kindness and compassion.
Let's treat them like kings.

Ladd Fagerson

New Stroke Club for Trossachs?

We are investigating the possibility of starting up a new Stroke Club for the Trossachs area and are looking for people who would be interested in being part of this exciting endeavour, from anyone who has had a stroke to folk who would be willing to give their time and skills as volunteers.

The stroke club is intended to be a place where people who have had a stroke can make new friends and enjoy interesting activities. It can make a real difference to someone who has had a stroke to realise that

other people understand the difficulties faced by stroke survivors.

The nearest stroke group for the Trossachs area at present is in Bridge of Allan so something more local would be of great benefit to the rural area.

If you would be interested in having a local stroke group for people to get together on a regular basis to have fun, chat, go on outings, etc. then please get in touch with Carol Anderson Tel: 07760 765325 email: carol.anderson@chss.org.uk

Action in Mind Rural Access Service

This provides support for people aged 18-65 years of age living in rural Stirlingshire, who are experiencing or recovering from mental ill health, by identifying and helping them to achieve personal goals such as developing coping strategies, increasing self-confidence, reducing isolation and accessing local resources. People can be referred to the Service by their GP Practice, Community Psychiatric Services or Stirling Council Social Care. For more information Tel 01786 451203

info@actioninmind.org.uk www.actioninmind.org.uk



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This year we have more options available on our website: lib.stirling.gov.uk As well as browsing the catalogue and ordering books online you can access the following online resources free!

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- The Driving Theory Test contains the entire official test question bank, hazard perception video clips and an online version of the Highway Code.
- Know UK a unique online service developed to provide libraries with a complete collection of current, useful and UK-specific reference information from over 100 of the most widely used reference publications in the UK

- Encyclopaedia Britannica available in junior, student and adult formats Go Citizen an online study resource for candidates preparing for the 'Life in the UK' or British citizenship tests. It includes an online version of the latest official study materials from the Home Office, plus hundreds of practice test questions in the same format as the official test.
- Outreach Services caters for those in the community who are housebound and would like library books/tapes/cds. If, due to age, location or disability, you are unable to get to your local library, these services are available for you. If you are unable to access the library temporarily due to illness. or following a stay in hospital, we can also help until you are back on your feet! All you have to do is speak to the Mobile Library staff and they will arrange everything for you. Books on compact discs, books on tape, quarterly book lists and a quarterly magazine "Chatterbox", as well as books, are delivered. Reading aids such as book rests and magnifying sheets are provided, subject to availability.

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Crianlarich

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Letters

Good visit

My wife, her sister and I had the pleasure of visiting your village in May last year. We stayed at the Drumfinn and were walking the Rob Roy Way. I was touched by the rustic beauty of your village and felt a real connection.

I have enjoyed reading the Killin News and am particularly interested in the concern for the mill. We were disappointed that the mill was not open when we were there and would have enjoyed seeing the interior. We did however visit the pub on the other side of the bridge but unfortunately the pictures I took inside there did not turn out. This was our third trip to Scotland. Love your publication. John Rush Oueensville. Ontario

Panto

The Strathfillan Lunch Club really enjoyed the panto Sinbad the Sailor; congratulations to all - it was maryellous.

Christmas Thanks

A big thank you to everyone for presents and cards received at Christmas and good New Year to you all from the Killin Postes.

Can you vote?

With the local Council elections taking place on 3rd May, the Electoral Registration Office is offering all electors the chance to check if they are registered to vote now.

You can phone the office on 01786-892289, fax 01786-892255 or email ero@centralscotland-vjb.gov.uk giving your address and who should be registered, or ask to see the copy of the local Register of Electors kept in your local library and check you are listed.

If you are not already registered to vote at your current address you can pick up a registration form in your local library or request a form from the above contacts
Anyone who wants to vote by post at the elections is encouraged to apply as soon as possible by again obtaining a form from www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or www.saa.gov.uk/central or collecting it from the local library.

Worth the effort

All too soon after deciding to compete in an Ironman event, the actual day was upon me. After nine months of training which comprised swimming, running and cycling in all weathers (don't ask me about being caught in a white-out on Ben Lawers), I found myself in Tenby, Wales, having to put up or shut up!

We went down to Tenby a few days before the actual event and experienced some pretty indifferent weather but the actual day dawned bright and sunny. There was, however, a fair swell in the sea which had been whipped up by a persistent wind. Not a good start for the swimming but a bit of a benefit (if blowing in the right direction) for the cycle and run. Nearly 1300 competitors gathered on North Beach early on the morning of 11th September. Heads down and we were off - 3.8km swim, 180km cycle and 42km run. I did it in 13 hours, 18 mins and 10 seconds; not a world record but OK - I came in at 142 - not bad for a wee lad from Crianlarich! I raised over £700 to split between the Fire Fighters Charity and the Killin Mountain Rescue.



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- . Weddings
- . Christenings
- . Dinner Parties
- . Buffets
- . Shooting & House Parties
- . Club Events
- Meetings

Or why not have a cookery demonstration for your Club or Society

Crossword by Scorpio

1	2		3	4	5		6	7
		8						
9					10			
<u> </u>					10			
11					12			
		13						
	14							
		15		16				
17							18	
19				20				
21						22		

Across

- 1 Leave vehicle in recreational area? (4)
- 3 Curiously, birch cue was angelic (8)
- 9 Buddhist finale finds vehicle in turbulent Iran (7)
- 10 Clerical deputy commonly presiding (5)
- 11 Paddle in coarse water (3)
- 12 Tours around to cause panic and confusion (5)
- 13 Submit a profit (5)
- 15 Techi sort of principle (5)
- 17 Joint strangely below and above wrist (5)
- 18 Sub turned around to pick up passengers (3)
- 19 Entertain a Greek mythological character (5)
- 20 To maintain a place of shelter (7)
- 21 South American Shangri-La (8)
- 22 Celestial sounding Hebridean Island (4)

Solution 125

Across 1 true 3 downcast 9 bad debt 10 verse 11 ear 12 ranch 13 inert 15 merge 17 cairo 18 tom 19 alibi

20 eastern 21 reminder 22 shah

Down 1 table and chair 2 under 4 octave

- 5 nevertheless 6 arrange 7 the third month
- 8 sets in motion 14 animism 16 revere 18 teeth

Down

- Sounds like a non-speaking part for a lady oh no it's not! (9,4)
- More uncommon and unusually esoteric (5)
- A horse confused becomes voiceless (6)
- Water under the bridge (5,7)
- 6 For reason since (7)

- 7 Cruelly stretch a miser to produce a seasonal indoor plant (9,4)
- 8 Seasonal greeting (5,3,4)
- 14 Tied up again to spring back? (7)
- 16 Quietened and washed for mineral deposits (6)
- 18 Tolerate burn (5)



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GIFT VOUCHERS



What's On in Killin and District

February

- 10 Ballroom Dancing taster Lochearnhead Hall 7.30pm page 26
- 13 Strathfillan CC meeting
- 15 Killin Show AGM Killin Hotel 7.30pm
- 18 Fundraising Advice day Library
- 22 Sports Club AGM page 26
- 22 Cafe Sci Tyndrum Village Hall 7pm page 10
- 25 KAT AGM page 4
- 29 Tyndrum Book Club 1pm page 11

March

- 1 WRI Theatre Make up with Gemma Hughes Lesser Hall 7.30pm (WRI only)
- Scottish Reed Trio Big Shed page 25
- 9 Community Bus outing to SECC Glasgow
- 16 Auction Crianlarich Hall page 12
- 24 Car Boot Sale Big Shed page 25
- 28 Tvndrum Book Club 1pm page 11
- 31 Earth Hour page 27

April

5 WRI Spring Floral Arrangement Lesser Hall 7.30pm

Lent Bible Study

Community Rooms - Church of Scotland 7.30.

Thursday 16th February

Thursday 1st March

Thursday 15th March

Wednesday 21st March

Wednesday 28th March

Thursday 5th April

ALL WELCOME

Tuesdays

24/7 cars

Crianlarich Hall 5pm

Tuesday Club

Community Rooms 2pm

Community Rooms 2pm Toddler Group

Ouilters

Wednesdays

Craft Group (Killin)

Tuesdays

Littlecroft

10am

1st & 3rd Thursdays Community Rooms 10am

Youth Group (Killin)

Tuesdays

Sports and Social Club 7.30pm

7

Ads Index

Jason Campbell

2-1/ / Cui 3	~~	Juson Cumpben	,
A & B Services	19	John Morris Safety	10
Aberfeldy Opticians	30	Julie Baird Pilates	16
Ally Baird	12	Karelia House	25
Andrew Anderson	13	Killin Hotel	4
Andrew Baird	12	Killin Kutz	29
Back Pain Clinic	23	Killin Post Office	16
BL Decorator	26	KP,s DIY	17
Breadalbane Bookkeeping	26	Learn to Sing	13
Bridge of Lochay	14	Library	32
Carer Wanted	28	Lix Toll Garage	36
Catering by Carlotta	33	Loch Tay Pottery	6
Central Scotland Rape	5	MacFarlane Gray	13
Crianlarich Store	11	Mains of Taymouth	18
Cyber Pict	8	Marieke McBean	5
Douglas McRobbie Electrical	23	News First	16
Drain Dragon	16	Old Flax Mill	33
Eco Carpet & Upholstery	32	Peat for Burning	34
Ecological Architects	21	PFK	31
Eric McAllister	10	Portnellan	27
Fabric Studio	23	Reid Tree & Garden Services	8
Forster Electrical	28	Rob Roy	8
Fraser, A.C.	32	RTA Plant Hire	6
Gatehouse Nursery	29	Rural Stirling Housing	15
Gauld Maureen	28	STEP	28
Gaulds Funeral	34	Stitt Bros	32
Gourlay	25	The Capercaillie	15
Grant, Charles	11	The Coach House	31
Grant and Welsh	16	The Studio	17
Grants Laundry	34	Tom Murphy Fencing	7
Green Welly	24	W D Harley	20
Hairdressing at Home	12	Wallace Properties	30
Heart to Heart	11	Watts Jane	10
Highland Safaris	2	Window Cleaning	22
Holiday Chalet	23	Your Computer Manager	9
Jasmine Beauty	34		

Ballroom Dancing

Fridays Lochearnhead Hall 7.30nm

Brownies

Church Hall

3.30-5pm

Monday

7.30pm

Craft Group

(Tyndrum)

Tyndrum Village Hall

Fridays (tuition) &Tuesdays

10.30am-1.30pm

Tuesdays

Internet Cafe

Tyndrum Hall

. 11am-4pm

Carpet Bowls Mondays Lesser Hall 7.30pm

Mondays Crianlarich Hall

Badminton

Choir

Usually Tuesdays Church 7.30pm phone Franny 01567 829048

Badminton

McLaren Hall

from 6.30pm

Tues from 6pm

Mondays

Youth Group

Thurdays Crianlarich Hall 6.30-9.30pm

Tai Chi

Tuesdays Tvndrum Hall 9am

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