

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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DEADLINES

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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

While it could have been expected that, on account of the recession, more local tourism would enliven businesses in Killin this year, the persistent lack of sunshine together with heavy rain down south has provided us with a poor tourist season. Combine this with the closure of shops and the Breadalbane Folklore Centre and it becomes a recipe for a downturn in the local economy. Fortunately many of the activities for which Killin is well known do not rely on dry weather but more local indoor activities would be useful for those of our visitors who are not prepared to walk or go out on the loch in the rain. Fortunately for car owners local roads give access to the scenery for which Killin is famed and even the most fastidious of visitors can find opportunities between showers to enjoy the countryside around Killin. For those without cars or who wish to visit a range of venues unencumbered by their own transport there is now an added new attraction. The Ring of Breadalbane Explorer (see page 4) set up by the Breadalbane Tourism Cooperative gives a new dimension in local travel and it gives additional interesting options for wet days - not only for visitors. The service will only continue if it is used so, as-well as recommending it, do try it and help make it a success.

Sustrans, Route 7, described as a "route popular with walkers, wheelchair users and horseriders" on the Sustrans web site, is not just a cycle track. It came as a shock to hear that there had been an incident, independently witnessed, in which a large group of cyclists filling the roadway travelled towards a walker and failed to give adequate room for her and her dog. The dog was hit and fell injured and in pain and a second cyclist rode over its muzzle. The dog subsequently required surgery for the injury. The cyclists gave no apology and forcefully remonstrated with the walker saying she and her dog had no right to be on a cycle track. Those of us who helped set up the route, worked on the picnic tables and helped with general maintenance between Glen Ogle and Killin were given the impression that the route was for all to use. Visitors are directed to the route in the National Park leaflet on walks in Killin. Fortunately this was a one-off, unusually aggressive group of cyclists, unlike the vast majority of cyclists who respect the countryside and the people who live in it. Maybe some acknowledgement should be made in the signage of the track's use by horses, pedestrians and children.

WA

Front cover: Potential passengers and luggage on the new Ring of Breadalbane Explorer Bus
Alec Buchan, Morenish Farm(top right) and (top to bottom from left) Breadalbane Tourism Co-operative Members
Andrew Donaldson, Comrie Croft, Barrie Andrian, The Scottish Crannog Centre, Bob Stevenson, Bridge of Lochay
Hotel and Ken Chew, Morenish Mews. Photograph by Colin Hattersley

Olympic Torch Relay



Colin, Mandy and Seonag Hay

The Olympic torch faced an eight thousand mile trip around the UK before it arrived in London for the Games. Colin Hay from Killin was one of the lucky people chosen to carry the torch during its journey through Scotland.

Colin, a Community Learning and Development Worker, was nominated by Social Service leader Iain Wilkie from Perth. Iain said "I'm inspired by Colin's enthusiasm and commitment to

every young person he works with. He often goes way beyond what's expected of him and will give up his own time to help young people achieve the best possible outcomes".

Colin said "It's a real honour and privilege to be chosen to carry the flame and something that won't happen again in my lifetime". *(Just as well Seonag didn't have to run with the torch it would have been tough without shoes!)*



John Strang

Martin Cremin bring the torch to Crianlarich

Index

Ads Index	43
Alcohol & Drug Abuse Support	22
Anna and the Olympian	29
Benefits Advice	22
Big Shed	32
Books	33
Brownies	23
Callander Jazz	30
Celebrations	41
Computer Corner	8
Crossword	42
Doors Open Day	30
DRT	22
Editorial	2
Falls of Dochart Retirement Home	20
Fortingall Art Exhibition	38
Frost Report	18
Go Kart Race	16
Gun Olympics	26
KAT Report	5
Killin Golf Club	26
Killin Primary School	25
Killin Show	16
Lejog and Jogle	40
Letters	34
McLaren High School	24
Mervyn's Weather and More	9
Meteorite	17
Mobile Libraries	21
National Park Apprentice Scheme	6
National Trust for Scotland	14
New Stirling Council	4
New U3A	6
Obituaries	36
Olympic Torch Relay	3
Planning	39



Torch bearer with Ewan Watson, Euan Lang, Stuart Lang and Max Menzies

Protection for Private Tenants	22
Recycling Centres	43
Ring of Breadalbane Bus	4
Scottish Chamber Orchestra	31
Sporting Successes	28
Sports & Leisure Club	
31222	
Strathfillan by the Way	10
Think About It	19
This and That	7
Tiddlers and Toddlers	16
Walk in the Park	21
Wet Dog Show	27
What a Win	23
What's On	43
Where are they Now	19
Which Bin	43
WRVS volunteers	38

A Date for your Diary

Killin Community Choir

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September**

Ring of Breadalbane Explorer New Bus Service

The Ring of Breadalbane Explorer bus service was launched on 17th July, travelling both clockwise and anti-clockwise on a Killin–Aberfeldy–Crieff circular route. The service runs on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays and Sundays until 16th September and is operated by Kingshouse Travel. Buses pass through Killin 8 times a day, 4 in each direction. The bus serves all regular bus stops on the 80-mile circuit plus a number of additional stops at visitor attractions.

The initiative for the service came from the local tourism group, the Breadalbane Tourism Co-operative, but the finance for this year's pilot trial has come from Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park, Stirling Council, Perth & Kinross Council, Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust and Scottish Enterprise, together with Explore Aberfeldy and about a

dozen private businesses spread throughout the Breadalbane region.

The Benefits

This hop-on hop-off service takes in some of Scotland's major attractions, calling at the Scottish Crannog Centre, Auchingarrich Wildlife Park, Highland Safaris and The Watermill independent bookshop and gallery in Aberfeldy, all the time passing through our great mountain scenery.

In a single day, for example, travellers can visit both the Famous Grouse Experience (Crieff) and Dewar's World of Whisky (Aberfeldy) and take part in the distillery tours and tastings without having to drive. Presentation of bus tickets provides two-for-the-price-of-one entry to the above attractions, special offers are available at many other businesses en route and concession holders travel free.

Walkers and cyclists (bikes are

carried free but booking is recommended) can take linear routes that would normally require the use of two cars, and be picked up again at the far end. And of course the car can be left behind for a day, which can only be good for the environment! Timetables available in various village locations.

How you can help

This summer the Ring of Breadalbane Explorer is running as a pilot scheme. By promoting it with visitors and using it yourselves, you can help make it a success, ensuring that it runs again next summer, hopefully more frequently and over a larger part of the year.

If you have any questions about the service, please get in touch!

Ken Chew

01567 820 527

New Stirling Council

Following the recent election the composition of the new Council is 9 SNP, 8 Labour, 4 Conservative and 1 Green.

After negotiations among the parties, Labour and the Conservatives came together to form a joint administration with an overall majority of two votes.

These recent meetings have made a number of appointments:

Leader of the Council

Councillor Corrie McChord (Lab)

Depute Leader of the Council

Councillor Alistair Berrill (Con)

Provost

Councillor Mike Robbins (Lab)

Baillies

Councillor Neil Benny (Con)

Councillor Mike Ruskil (Green)

Councillor Violet Weir (Lab)

Councillor Fergus Wood (SNP)

Community Planning

Councillor Corrie McChord (Lab)

Education

Councillor Alistair Berrill (Con)

Environment, Transport and Public Land

Councillor Danny Gibson (Lab)

Finance, Economy & Culture

Councillor Neil Benny (Con)

Housing & Regeneration

Councillor Violet Weir (Lab)

Policy & Performance

Councillor Johanna Boyd (Lab)

Social Care, Health & Sport

Councillor Margaret Brisley (Lab)

The newly elected councillors for the Killin and Strathfillan areas are:-

Councillor **Martin Earl**,

Stirling Council, Old Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET, tel - 01786

443497, mob - 07881 310 922, e-mail earlm@stirling.gov.uk

Councillor **Alycia Hayes**,

Stirling Council, Old Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET, tel - 01786

443497, mob - 07881 310 924, e-mail hayesa@stirling.gov.uk

Councillor **Fergus Wood**,

Stirling Council, Old Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET, tel - 01786

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Saving the Old Mill

Stirling Council have given the Trust the opportunity to use the Old Mill to see if it can be managed sustainably. A Feasibility Study conducted by the Trust in 2009 indicated that a thrift shop would be the most likely business to be sufficiently profitable for our needs. We have three months to try it out and develop a business plan. The project is to run a thrift shop to encourage recycling, reduce the local carbon footprint and generate finance that to help to achieve the goal of saving the mill for the community. We are promoting tourist information about the area, supporting and promoting local businesses. Visitors are encouraged to walk down the village to view the heritage trails and to take advantage of the other interesting opportunities that Killin has to offer.

The first floor is being used for the exhibition of local arts and crafts. In addition we are proposing to run various informal art classes through the summer for both beginners and the more experienced artist in life drawing, oil or watercolour painting. Some will be untutored and others will be tutor lead. Dates will be according to demand. If you wish to join please register your interest by contacting Dave Hunt on 01567 820990 or email dave@davehunt.eu We would like to thank all those who have donated to the project, helped us with setting up the building and volunteering for so many of the activities involved. While the weather has not been good the project remains on course. If you would like to join us and volunteer to save the mill please contact Willie Angus 820238 or Alicja Fraser 820690 or come and talk to us in the Old Mill. We would welcome your comments and help to

Save the Old Mill

**Thrift Shop
Local Tourist Advice
Display of Arts and Crafts**

**Open 11am-5pm every day
Come along and see what's on offer
We need support, unwanted goods and volunteers**

**If you have time available please contact
Alicja Fraser 820 690
or
Willie Angus 820 238**

improve the service.

At present the Thrift Shop is open from 11am to 5pm daily including weekends and has a wide variety of second hand items for sale. Come, bring us some items and see for yourself.

Development Officer

The Trust is seeking funding for a part time Development Officer to help with three of the projects on which it is working - the acquisition of the Old Mill, the development of the Breadalbane Park and Play Park and the development of the Sports and Social Club. The post will add to the expertise and capacity of the Trust

The Breadalbane Park and Play Park

We are awaiting the next stage of this development, the engagement of a Landscape Architect who will consult with those who have volunteered to help with planning and ideas. Once we all have a clear idea and plans of what the community wants in the way of

facilities, we will be able to start to seek funding. The improvements may need to be divided into a series of stages over a few years with priority being given to the drainage and vehicle access.

Internet Learning Café

This is well established and busy. If you wish to hone your internet skills do go along to the Killin Library on a Thursday between 11 am and 4 pm and introduce yourself. There is a subsidised charge for the service.

Broadband Reception

It seems to some of us who live in Killin that broadband speeds are acceptable but looking at the results of local upload broadband speed checks in the area around Fingal Road, 19 in number, they vary from 0.64 to 6.13. While this may, in part, be due to the Package Option taken up by the householder, it does give an indication of broadband speed availability. One reading from Ballechroisk gives a reading of 3.35 and Craignavie 0.95. There are no readings recorded from any of the outlying areas, Ardeonaig, Glen Lochay, Glen Dochart, or the Kenmore road. The only way a reasonable service can be accessed in Ardeonaig is by satellite. We would like to conduct an audit with those who are prepared to submit their results to us. Please go to and test your broadband speed. Email the upload speed, your postal code and the package/company you use, to [willieangus\(at\)doctors.org.uk](mailto:willieangus(at)doctors.org.uk) (use @ in place of "at"). If you are unable to obtain broadband inform me of that as well. I will collate the results and locations so that we can map broadband availability and pass our concerns to our local councillors. Thank you.

Willie Angus
KAT Chairman

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National Park Apprentice Scheme

The Community Partnership (CP) initiated and now manages a project in which National Park based businesses are supported to take on a Modern Apprentice. The businesses and apprentices are assisted financially and in other ways over the four years of the apprenticeship. The project Model relies upon external sponsors providing funds to the CP which are then managed and distributed to the small businesses and their apprentices as a series of training grants over a four year period. During the course of the apprenticeship the CP maintains contact with the participants and assists with extra-mural training or employment issues where appropriate.

The Community Partnership has commissioned a feasibility study to investigate opportunities to build on the success of its Apprenticeship Project, looking at three new

sectors, including tourism and hospitality, land-based work and local food production, to develop proposals to support skills development for young people and businesses within the National Park. To tie in with the National Park Plan 2012-2017, the scheme would be expected to contribute better access to employment opportunities, reducing outward migration from the Park of young people and helping to maintain a stable local labour market.

Mary Jarvie Associates has been appointed to undertake the feasibility study through web based and face to face surveys, meetings and consultations with young people, employers, public bodies and the wider community. The research aims to gather specific information to identify:

The skills shortages and gaps in the sectors within the National Park
The future skills requirements of

employers and future demand for training

The level of fit between current supply skills in the National Park and the demand from employers

The barriers which hinder effective skills supply and take-up from employers in the National Park
Opportunities to support the delivery and uptake of skills in the sector within the National Park

We are keen to hear from local businesses and young people living in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park who are thinking about pursuing a vocational career. To register your interest please send an email to the researchers at: mary@maryjarvie.co.uk or call 01620 894898. For more information log onto www.thecommunitypartnership.org.uk and take part in our web survey up to the middle of August or contact the Community Partnership directly on 01389 722639.

New Callander and West Perthshire Branch of the U3A



The University of the Third Age (U3A) is a nationwide movement of self-help, self-managed co-

operatives for older people no longer in full time work, providing opportunities for their members to share learning experiences in a wide range of interest groups and to pursue learning not for qualifications, but for fun.

The movement is a growing one: there are more than 700 U3A branches throughout the UK, with another 50 being formed each year. At present, our area is covered by the Forth Valley U3A, but there has

been a groundswell of opinion that Callander and the villages should have a branch of their own. On 14th June, St Andrews Kirk Hall Callander was packed for a meeting chaired by Morag Tamisari, the national organiser of the U3A in Scotland, to discuss forming one. At the end of the meeting, after a lively debate, a vote was taken, and was overwhelmingly in favour of the creation of a new Callander & West Perthshire U3A.

Provisional chairman, Geoff Reid said after the meeting "It was very encouraging to see such a large turnout of people and gratifying to see such strong support for the new U3A. Now the hard work really begins, as there are many loose

ends to be tied up. It's particularly important that we have a close continuing relationship with our parent body, Forth Valley, so that the members of both U3As can make use of the services of both organisations."

Anyone interested in learning more about the new U3A should contact me on 01877 330032.

An enrolment meeting for the courses offered by the new U3A is planned for Friday 31st August at 2.00 pm in St Andrews Kirk Hall, when you can come along to meet the course leaders. Information is also available at the Old Mill (Killin)

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This and That

Costcutters site

Work on the site for twelve council flats is now well underway and is expected to be completed in spring next year. Unfortunately, for safety reasons the site fence cannot be placed to allow a walkway on that side of the road and, as the pavement opposite is very narrow, pedestrians need to take extra care at this point. However the fence has been adjusted to allow a better sightline from the public carpark.



A fairweather friend who keeps an eye on Killin News

There is no report of the **Killin Community Council Meeting** on 10th July as the Minutes were not available when Killin News went to press.

Killin Telephone Book

Sadly for those of us who have to put it together, it is time again for a new telephone book.

PLEASE make it easier for us by filling in and returning the form enclosed **by the end of August**
Proceeds again to the Falls of Retirement Home

Disabled visitors to Killin may find parking in the top car park difficult at the moment as the markings on the designated bays are worn out and therefore freely used by non-disabled drivers.

New Subscription Rates

We are sorry to say that, due to the increase in Postal charges, new and renewal subscription rates for copies of Killin News sent by post will now be :

£15 pa for UK (second class)
£25 pa for outside Europe (surface mail)

MacGregor's Market

Killin News asked Killin CîC about the progress but received no reply.

If you need a bus timetable you might like to know that Killin Library keeps copies.

Watch Out Skimmers About!

The recent fitting of a sophisticated electronic device to the ATM in Killin is a reminder that even rural areas are susceptible to this sort of fraud.



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Viruses Ransomware and Skype Scams

It has been brought to my attention that there are two recent types of scam appearing – both of which hope to get you to part with your money. Also another old favourite is still catching people out.

Ransomware:

The first has been called "Ransomware" – this is a small virus infection on your computer that stops the computer from working and displays a message blackmailing the user into parting with money. Typical messages could be a threat to inform the police about some fictitious illegal activity. The aim is for you to use your credit card to pay to unlock your computer and to prevent the allegations being taken further.

Similar attacks to these have been in existence since the 1980's, allegedly originating from Eastern Europe, and have reportedly earned the originators millions of dollars in revenues.

I cannot stress enough that you should not follow the instructions in any message that appears on the screen – you should take a note of the message and get expert help to cure the problem.

These viruses often gain access to your computer through what are called "vulnerabilities" in the system – some might call them bugs. In order to limit your potential

exposure to these viruses you must keep your Windows up to date by allowing updates to install on your machine and keep your internet security system current. Please note that, even then, you may get infected but you will have done your best to protect yourself from attack.

Skype Scam

The second scam is relevant to Skype users. Some of you have received a message through Skype informing you that your computer needs attention, perhaps telling you that the computer is infected with a virus. This is a scam and is aimed at getting you to part with your money. The first thing you should do is put the caller on your Skype blacklist and then you should report the caller to Skype. On no account should you answer the call.

Phone Scam from Windows Support

I am still getting reports that villagers are being caught out by phone calls from people claiming to be from Windows Support, who inform you that your computer is infected with a virus. Some people have even parted with money to these con artists, so they must be convincing. If challenged the caller will even give you a false address and phone number of their business – please do not be fooled – they are crooks and are only after your money. Do not let them control you or your computer, because they will infect your system with a virus, and will charge you to remove the virus.

Super Fast Broadband

British Telecom's broadband company, Openreach, are once again seeking Expressions of Interest from people who would like to be connected to "Superfast fibre broadband", which are actually fibre optic connections to the Internet. I strongly urge everyone in our community to register their interest,

so that our telephone exchanges can be added to BT's list of exchanges to be upgraded.

If you are sceptical of what this fibre optic broadband can do for you, I remind you of just under 10 years ago when I campaigned for broadband internet to be implemented in Killin – I am sure many of us who now regularly use the internet did not see the need to register their interest in getting ordinary broadband in the village. This type of connection will allow us to move firmly into the 21st century, using internet for watching films and television, making cheap/free video calls to loved ones, and keeping up to date with what our friends and family are doing. It will even allow many of us to work from home with seamless connections to office networks, thus saving hours of travel each day.

So, even if you do not have internet, please will you get someone else to register your interest – it is important,

To register your interest in receiving Fibre Optic Broadband, please fill out the online form on the web site: www.superfast-openreach.co.uk/expression-gen.aspx

Mark Lincoln
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Mervyn's Weather and More



"Should the wind be in the East for three days it will be eight before it is south again".

Until recent years this statement could be held to be broadly true and, as wind from the east is said to be "good for neither man nor beast", was decreed sufficient for most of us. However, over the past decade or more winds with an easterly component have become more prevalent and the fact that over the British Isles south-westerlies were dominant has become eroded. All this may be said to be repetitive, but then the past six summer weather patterns have also been arguably repetitive due mainly to a positioning of our friend the Jet Stream very much south of its traditional route between north west Scotland and Iceland, thereby guiding the production line of seemingly never-ending depressions over southern England. With the centres of these low-pressure systems hovering over that area and the winds blowing around them flowing in an anti-clockwise

direction, this can mean that eastern and central Scotland bear the brunt of the foul weather that we are presently experiencing.

On the other hand north west Scotland and the Western Isles have had twelve weeks of dry, though not torrid, conditions. So much so, we are told, that whisky distilling in Mull was for a time suspended – quel dommage!

Moving to a more firmly established subject, the place names assigned by our forebears still remain as a memorial to the observation and imagination of the various waves of inhabitants of our land. Loch Tay being long and narrow with a generally east-west orientation, implies that the north and south sides qualify for explicit descriptions, thus the southside, that is, facing northwards is known as An Tuathanach whereas the north side with the southern aspect, An Deaseir. A combination of predominantly sunless summers and the fact that some sections of this southside, during the period

November to February, are cut off from sunlight even on bright days, causes no doubt a lack of Vitamin D! To the north of Killin the range of The Tarmachans thrust up several peaks including A'Chailleach – the old woman or crone, Beinn Eachan – Hector's (or the horses') mountain, and Meall Nan Tarmachan – Ptarmigan Hill itself. East of this is Loch Na Lairig – the loch of the hill pass, with its Hydro Electric dam. On the lower ground Morenish (Mor innis) – big sheltered meadow or river or loch side haugh. Rynachulag – probably the turf covered promontory. Back to the high ground, Beinn Ghlas is straightforward Grey Mountain. Meall Coronach – spelt thus could mean Crowned Hill, spelt Corranach could be sharp or alternatively funereal wailing or keening, although some say it should be Coir'raineach meaning bracken corrie – take your pick!

Mervyn K. Browne
Ardtalnaig



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Strathfillan Community Council

Strathfillan Community DRT

Aberfoyle Coaches Ltd went into administration in June and DRT services therefore ceased operating. Stirling Council now has contracts in place which enabled four of the five DRT services to restart on 2nd July and negotiation for the Balquidder service is progressing well.

First Scotland already have the new contract for schools in this area, but it will run seven minutes earlier and we believe it could be run as a service bus.

Planning Applications

The CC responded to the application reference for renewal of temporary planning permission for the Real Food Café Tyndrum by letter objecting to this being open-ended and requesting a timescale for a permanent structure to be put in place.

The CC is concerned that retrospective planning appears easier to obtain than going through the correct procedure. Owen said that if the development is within the

Local Plan, and tourism expansion is, then the development is likely to get permission. There are new laws where an applicant can be fined for not observing the rules, but the cost of investigating why planning permission was not sought could be more than the fine. The CC expressed surprise that a government-led body did not follow the rules.

Review of AGM procedures

Strenuous efforts to encourage more people to attend our AGM made no difference; we still had no-one extra attend. A discussion followed as to whether to try something different. Possibly something that may bring people is showing a short DVD.

Other News

It looks as if the Crianlarich By-Pass will start in October 2013 and continue through winter. It is in conjunction with work on Pulpit Rock and the A82 south will be closed for a maximum of twelve weeks.

Closure will have a greater effect on Ardlui and Inverarnan than Crianlarich, although it will affect the delivery of newspapers.

The Trust now has no-one to cut the grass in Crianlarich - funding and a new person will need to be found. The Crianlarich into Action (CIA) group are working on the problem.

If the group could find some way of enhancing the areas, instead of keeping them just as grass, this could unlock the Community Pride Fund.

New Councillors

Councillor Martin Earl is on the following committees/panels:-
Local Review Body

He is also a representative on the following external organisations:-
Central Scotland Joint Police Board - This will be dissolved in April 2013.

Active Stirling Trust,
McLaren Community Leisure Company (Trading)Ltd.
RSA Management Committee,
A substitute on Smith Art Gallery and Museum Board of Trustees
The Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE)

Councillor Alycia Hayes is on:-
Policy & Performance Childcare Panel
Local Review Panel

Parental Appeal Panel
She is also a representative on the following external organisations:-
Tayside & Central Scotland Transport Partnership
Smith Art Gallery and Museum
Board of Trustees
District of Stirling Licensing Board

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Councillor Fergus Wood is on:-
Baillie for Opposition Group
He is also a representative on the following external organisations:-
Guardians of Scotland Charitable Trust
Scottish Parliament Armed Forces Cross Party Group on supporting Veterans
Scottish National War Memorial
The Highland Reserve Forces and Cadets Association
Kinlochard Village Hall Trust
A substitute on Smith Art Gallery and Museum Board of Trustees.



Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Jubilee and Olympic Street Market

The Trust would like to say a big thank you to all who helped behind the scenes to make the day a success, donated goods and prizes, rented stalls, flipped burgers and sold raffle tickets etc. You know who you are! Our thanks also to Stirling Council who provided a grant to help run the event.

A sunny day (remember them?) helped a huge turnout of people from as far as Oban and Glasgow to cheer the Olympic Torch on its way. The working group are now planning a Christmas Market to be held on Saturday 1st December.

Saplings

More thanks, this time for everyone who helped make this summer's activities programme another success. This year we were joined by Georgia Crook who delighted us with her willow weaving and papier mache sculpture day. As ever the children were great and it was lovely to welcome new faces now they have reached the ripe old age of eight!

New Action Plan

The Trust and Community Council have achieved a great many of the objectives set out in our last Action Plan and continue to work on longer term projects e.g. the cycleway but the time has come for a review and the development of a new plan to see us through the next 5 years. To do this well we need your input so please watch out for the questionnaire coming through your letterbox. We want to know what you would like to see happen here in Strathfillan, how you want your community to develop, what would make it a better place to visit and live in. Your opinions are vital, so please help us to help you.

Killin Thrift Shop

There is no excuse not to clear out your cupboards and wardrobes now!! Do yourself a favour and make your unwanted items a successful fund raiser for the brilliant new Thrift shop at the Old Mill in Killin. It is run by KAT (our equivalent in Killin) and our friends down there need your help to make this three month project a resounding success. Go and grab yourself a bargain - there's some great stuff to be had!

Joyce Russell

(Development Officer)
01838 400 545

Although my hours are flexible, I am normally in the office on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. Or contact me at home 01838 300 220

Crianlarich into Action (CiA)

Crianlarich Footpaths Network:

An independent landscape architect commissioned by the SCDT to find suitable pathways has carried out an initial review. This will allow CiA to prepare a report to enable applications for funding.

Cycleway/footpath, Crianlarich to Tyndrum

A great deal of work has been going on behind the scenes, with the help

of the National Park, and we are now in a position to apply for funding to Sustrans and SRDP for the work to be carried out. If successful it is hoped to begin construction 2013/2014 or sooner.

Lower Station Yard:

CiA is in negotiation with Stirling Council to lease the Lower Station Yard, initially for 10 years with options to extend. This is at an advanced stage. We are proposing to develop the yard into a parking area and picnic site. Funding has been secured to repair the drainage problems and hire a JCB for more ground works. Funding has also been given for renewal of the planning application for change of use for the yard and old railway line to public amenity land.

Crianlarich in Bloom:

Funding was secured for replanting the flower tubs in both Crianlarich and Tyndrum. In addition we decided that following on from the success of 'Edible Borders' in Stirling last year we wanted to grow vegetables for residents to use in Crianlarich. We made up four boxes and planted them up with various edible plants. The early, quick maturing, vegetables have now all been picked and used by many of the residents. We now have Brussels sprouts, cabbages, lettuce, shallots, parsnips, carrots, peas and beetroot. These will be ready towards the end of the year and the sprouts will hopefully be ready for Christmas. The vegetable boxes have been well received and have drawn positive comments from both residents and visitors alike.

Alan Smailes

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Fun Day

Crianlarich Village Hall
Saturday 25th August
1pm-4pm

Live music, BBQ
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Stalls and Games for
all the family
Fire Engine for the
kids to play on
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Rescue Community Fire
Safety Team

Crianlarich Store Award



Bryan and Isla Craig of Crianlarich Store were awarded "Community Retailer of the Year" at the recent Scottish Local Retailer industry awards. The award recognises the central role which Crianlarich Store plays within the village. Bryan and Isla are involved in many local organisations, including the Village

Hall, the Community Council, the Fire Service and the Youth Group. However the award is also recognition for the shop itself and all the staff for maintaining a quality store which goes the extra mile to meet the needs of customers from across the whole community. Crianlarich Store was also shortlisted

in a national competition being run by Britvic, as part of the "Transform your Patch" campaign. The competition was looking for retailers actively involved in transforming a local patch and Crianlarich Store was recognised for the work being carried out in Lower Station Yard, Crianlarich. Although not the overall winner, the runner-up prize was a cheque for £200, which will go towards the ongoing improvements in Lower Station Yard.



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Open Church

This is the second season of Crianlarich Church being open most days from 10am- 5pm. The visitors' book tells us that people appreciate the opportunity to come in – both locals and visitors to the village. Comments have ranged from the peaceful atmosphere it provides to how good it is to find a church building open. Of course everyone has always been welcome to join us for worship – 11.30 am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month (alternating with Bridge of Orchy) – but we are pleased that folk are now also able to come in at other times, so many thanks to those who make it possible. It's part of what the church is all about.

Rev Liz Gibson
01838 200207



Advice for Tenants

Do you need advice on the New Welfare Benefits? Then why not come along to the Stirling Tenants Assembly Annual Conference. We have speakers from both the Income Maximisation Team and CAB to talk about how the changes could affect you.

We will also have tables with people giving information and advice on credit unions, money advice and energy advice.

The Conference is open to EVERYONE and is on Saturday 22nd September at Council Chambers, Viewforth, Stirling. Registration is from 9.30am for a 10am start. Buffet Lunch provided.

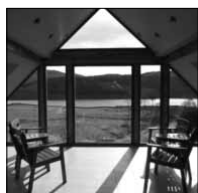
Contact **Moira Robertson** 01838 300296 or moirarob@btinternet.com if you would like to attend. It will be followed by an AGM which is for Stirling Council tenants only.



Strathfillan Lunch Club enjoying their outing to the Riverside Museum, Glasgow in July



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Ben Lawers gets a face lift

New visitor facilities at the National Trust for Scotland's Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve designed to be more in keeping with the mountain landscape, are now open to the public.

The major piece of landscape restoration by the Trust started in autumn 2010 with the removal of the old 1970's Mountain Visitor Centre and car park. The site has since been reinstated to moorland, with a new car park placed in a less visible site within a woodland setting. New unmanned outdoor interpretation has also been created to tell the unique stories of the reserve and to provoke visitors to think about the significance of the site.

The design of these new interpretive structures takes inspiration from ruined shielings - small buildings where farmers lived when their livestock were grazing in the hills. Traces of these dwellings can be found scattered across the Ben Lawers reserve. Built using locally reclaimed stone, these enclosures house sculptural installations created by Edinburgh based artist Tim Chalk.



The sculptures - which highlight significant aspects of the mountain's flora, archaeology and the Trust's conservation work - consist of several large carvings, a stone mosaic that winds through the shieling and a seasonal sundial.

Visitors can now experience the new low key facility all year round. They will also be able to enjoy new paths links from the car park to the low and high level walks on the reserve. The selfguiding booklet to the nature trail on the lower slopes of Beinn Ghlas has also been updated and can be purchased on site from a dispenser. The conservation at Ben Lawers also

includes pioneering work to restore threatened plant communities, footpath work and an annual programme of guided walks and educational work. Ben Lawers NNR has been in the care of the National Trust for Scotland since 1950. It is a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a Special Area of Conservation under the European Habitats Directive for the exceptional examples of a number of habitats, rare on a European

scale.

Ben Lawers, Scotland's tenth highest mountain, is widely known for its outstanding range and diversity of arctic-alpine species and vegetation types. It is important for the very large number of nationally rare or scarce montane plant species that it supports, including vascular plants, lichens and bryophytes. It also has an outstanding diversity of invertebrates with many nationally rare or notable species.

Sarah Cuthbert-Kerr

Communications Manager

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Ben Lawers

National Nature Reserve

Guided walks & Events

Monday 6th August:

Ben Lawers Rocks and Beautiful Blooms

Meet one of the Ben Lawers rangers at our ranger base in Killin for a fun family activity exploring the geology, wildlife and wild flowers at Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve. This is an indoor activity, which we hope will give you a taste for the outdoors.

Duration: 1 hour Cost: £2

Meet: 10 am at Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin

Tuesdays 7th & 21st August:

Close Encounters: a children's walk Enjoy activities and games that will bring you close to some of the less obvious animals and plants that live on the lower slopes of Ben Lawers. Duration: 2 hours Cost: adults £2, children £5.

(Adults must be accompanied by a child and vice versa).

Bring: Wellies and waterproofs.

Meet: 10.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park.

Wednesday 8th August:

An introduction to navigation.

Get to grips with the basics of how to use a map and compass in the hills. Requires a reasonable level of fitness.

Duration: 6 hours

Cost: adults £12.50, children £7.

Bring: Walking boots, warm,

waterproof and windproof clothing, food, map (OS Landranger 51 or Explorer 378) and compass.

Meet: 10.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park. Booking essential

Wednesday 8th August:

Habitat Restoration on Ben Lawers Andrew Warwick, Ranger Naturalist will be giving a talk on the pioneering work to restore vulnerable habitats on this famous nature reserve at the NTS office, Lynedoch, Killin. The talk begins at 8pm and refreshments will be provided afterwards. There is no charge for this event, but donations are requested.

Thursday 9th August:

Green Team Summer Holiday Special Ben Lawers Discovery: Meet in the Ben Lawers NNR car park at 10.30am. Finish at 14.30 pm. This event is for Green team members aged 8-11 years, booking is essential.

Wednesday 15th August:

Magic and Murder at Moiralanich Come and sit by the hingin' lum for some traditional tales of magical creatures and murder!

Duration: 1 hour Cost: £ 5 for children, £2 for adults – includes entry to the house and exhibition.

Meet: 11 a.m. Moiralanich Longhouse Display Hut

Wednesday 15th August:

Hillside safari

Experience some of the varied plant

and animal life on the lower slopes of this famous nature reserve.

Duration: 2½ hours. Cost: adults £5, children £2.

Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof & windproof clothing. Meet: 1.30pm Ben Lawers car park. No need to book.

Wednesday 22nd August:

The Mysterious World of Bats Lindsay Mackinlay, Nature Conservation Adviser will be giving a talk about the unseen inhabitants of many Trust properties. The talk will be held at the NTS office, Lynedoch, Killin from 8pm and refreshments will be provided afterwards. There is no charge for this event, but donations are requested.

Wednesday 5th September:

Hidden History

Explore the rich archaeological landscape on the slopes below Ben Lawers NNR. Duration: 4 hours Cost: adults £10, children £5

Bring: Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing, packed lunch and drink.

Meet: 10.30am Kiltyrie Booking essential

For further information or to book an event

tel 0844 4932 136

or email benlawers@nts.org.uk

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Killin Show Saturday 18th August

The organising committee have been hard at work to put together another day of something for everyone. The Horticultural, Floral, Preserves, Baking and Handcraft sections will be judged on the afternoon of 17th August. The hall will be open in the evening to view the results. The Show Day begins with the Cross Sheep section at 10.00am followed with the Blackface classes at 10.30am and the Cattle judging at 10.45am. The parade will leave the Dochart Bridge at 12.30pm, with the Comrie Pipe Band leading the Fancy Dress, Go Karts and Vintage Tractors through the village to the Breadalbane Park. The Judges will then inspect the participants. During the afternoon there will be a series of fun events in the arena. Members of the public are asked not to venture into the roped off area for safety and to allow everyone to see and enjoy the entertainment. Parents are asked to participate by bringing their Bonny Babies along and all dog lovers to get their charges spruced up and on their best behaviour. The Go-Kart challenge will thrill with new build vehicles (no last year's models) and the laugh a minute Triple Challenge is being tweaked. The Tug o' War is again bound to test muscles and it is hoped to have teams of seven as well as the multi age group best of seven pulls. The Terrier Race returns by popular demand as does Tossing the Sheaf. The auction of produce etc will take place around 4.00pm in the Marquee, followed by the presentation of trophies. The many stalls will give visitors plenty to browse through and a Fair Ground will thrill everyone. No Show is complete without refreshments, solid and liquid, and in the evening there is music in the marquee to compliment the evening craik.

Alex Stewart

Tiddlers and Toddlers



Hurray, our new toys have arrived! Thanks to the grants we have received we were able to replace some of our very old toys and add some different ones, too. The children had lots of fun trying out some of the new things. We are also pleased to announce we now have storage space within the church, which saves us driving back and forth to the old church hall simply to collect or drop-off toys every time we meet. Many thanks to the church for supplying the space and to Ewan McBean for

putting together the new shelving unit.

Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers meet every first and third Thursday of the month in the community rooms of the church, from 10am - 12 noon. We charge £1 per adult and it includes coffee/tea and a healthy snack for the kids. Everyone is welcome, come and join us some time!

Marieke McBean
tel. 07762 689612
info@marieke.co.uk

Go Kart Race

Killin Agricultural Show will again host the home made Go Kart race on Saturday 18 August. Go Karts can be made from any materials you have lying about. A lot of people used pram wheels for their karts last year. The Auchmore team used wheelchair wheels. As long as they go round, they will be a fine basis for a kart!

The rules are simple: The karts must be manned by teams of no more than three people, adults or

children. They must be pushed and no engines are allowed.

A & B Services have very kindly sponsored trophies for the best kart and the fastest kart.

Entries for the race must be made to Kirsty Munro at 2 Lyon Road 07796 070159 by the day before the show.

Entry forms can be obtained from Kirsty or from News First.



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Meteorite in Killin



On Monday morning 18th June, painters Bobby Lafferty and Adam Mitchell climbed to the newly covered flat roof at the back of 8 Grey Street to continue work after the weekend break. To their surprise they saw a golfball sized piece of rock lying surrounded by a patch of melted tar with small pieces of stone from the roofing felt bonded together. Adam photographed the object and took it down to show David and Anna Robertson, who own the cottage. They were all convinced it must be a meteorite and checks on the internet showed that it was indeed a visitor from space.

The rock must have fallen after Bobby and Adam left the job on Friday. "It may explain something that happened on Sunday" said David. "My brother's family were visiting us and whilst we were chatting the front doorbell rang. Anna answered the door but there was no one in sight and the street was empty. I have heard that a meteorite can have an effect on electricity".

David plans to mount the meteorite on a plinth and give it to the school.



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Frost Report

To Protect or Not?

Some mice and other small rodents are getting on a green high by having a wee nip of new bio fuel as the sugar and cooking oils are attracting them to this fuel and its other constituent of ethyl alcohol. Not so handy for the fuel pipes and the wee creatures really should be given advice on a safe number of daily units.

Over the last few years a considerable effort has been made to protect our dwindling numbers of capercaillie. One male which was protecting its territory was killed by a dog with a very irresponsible owner. This lack of control of dogs poses a continual threat to roe deer kids, red deer calves and many other types of wildlife, especially at this time of year. I can't help thinking that if the hinds banded together and retaliated, as they are doing in Richmond Park, there would be an outcry.

There is one tiny creature which no-one wants to protect; new research on ticks suggests that one in three carries Lyme disease and dogs in built up areas are as at much risk from ticks as those in rural areas. European ticks and their diseases

are being found in dogs that have not travelled overseas, particularly in S.E. England. It is worrying that there is a three hundred percent annual increase in both human and canine Lyme disease. Other tick-borne canine diseases to be aware of include erlichia and anaplasmosis which are, apparently, quite nasty and not easily diagnosed so this time it's your dog that needs protection.

Quite a number of residents in Croydon are having trouble with badgers repeatedly digging up flower beds, lawns and even fences. Of course the council is powerless to protect the properties.

Later in the year S.N.H. are chairing a summit of the National Species Reintroduction forum to consider the return of the lynx to Scotland. Mr. Dennis of the Highland Foundation for Wildlife thinks it would be a wonderful thing for eco-tourism but gamekeepers and farmers are not quite so enthusiastic! The sheep and deer aren't too keen either. Lately we have been spending short periods under house arrest. As the squirrels return to the feeders now that they are running short of

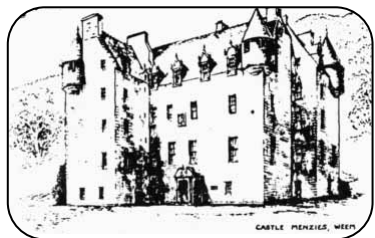
natural food, they are bringing their babies too and we are being wary of scaring them till they get used to us again. We are also being kept in hiding by the baby woodpeckers also being brought in to learn the tricks of the birdfeeder trade. They are parked by their parents on convenient fence post to wait to be fed. One made the mistake of using a chimney pot planter and slowly skidded down the shiny side - I can only imagine the screech that his claws made. With this being such an important time for animals and birds, it is a bit worrying that so many trees at Lix Toll are being felled at the moment.

And so to end with a fox tale - and they are really cheeky. The Olympic shooting events are to be held at the Royal Artillery Barracks at Woolwich and the resident foxes will be eluding 800 of the world's finest marksmen. At the moment they are sabotaging the fibre optic cables to microphones which is being put into place for T.V. equipment. So don't be surprised if the Olympic shooting events are presented by an until now unknown young brunette vixen.

Tim Frost

This spectacular sixteenth century castle, restored by the Menzies Clan Society welcomes visitors. Seat of the Chiefs of the Clan Menzies for over 400 years and importantly situated, it was involved in the turbulent history of the Highlands. Architecturally fascinating, it is a splendid example of the transition between earlier rugged fortress and later mansion house. Castle Menzies stands north of the River Tay at Weem on the B846, one and half miles from Aberfeldy.

The castle is available for weddings, functions and corporate events. Also ghost hunts and historic tours.



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Castle Menzies

Where are they now?

In the summer of last year I travelled to Puerto Vallarta on Mexico's Pacific coast where I spent five weeks volunteering in an orphanage which is home to around 60 underprivileged children from the ages of 0-18. In the short time I spent in Mexico last year I managed to fall in love with this country so in January of this year I decided to return here and make my stay a little more permanent. Since then I have been living in Puerto Vallarta and I have become absorbed in the local culture. The locals are some of the warmest and welcoming people and they have made me feel right at home. In my time here so far I have continued work at the orphanage and have helped out with various charity events. I also spend time teaching some of the locals English and in return they teach me Spanish. I have managed to see some fascinating wildlife such as whales, dolphins and sea turtles. There is a project running here that rescues turtle eggs and I have been lucky enough to volunteer with them. Living in Mexico is a far cry from the comforts of home, however it has opened my eyes to how lucky we are in Scotland - aside from the weather.



Some cuddly toy!

Lisa Hancock

Think About It

As Britain hosts the Olympic Games this month, my thoughts go back to the Scotsman, Eric Liddell, who was immortalised in the film 'Chariots of Fire' for his surprising gold medal victory in the 400 metre race during the 1924 Games in Paris. Just a year after his triumph, Liddell went to China where he spent the last twenty years of his life as a missionary teacher and rural pastor. There he ran the greatest race of his life against opposition we all know well - difficult circumstances, war, uncertainty and disease. Crowded into a Japanese internment camp with one thousand five hundred other people, Eric lived out the words he had paraphrased from 1 Corinthians, Chapter 13. "Love is never glad when others go wrong. Love finds no pleasure in injustice, but rejoices in the truth. Love is always slow to expose, it knows how to be silent. Love is always eager to believe the best about a person. Love is full of hope, full of patient endurance; love never fails." Eric served others in the camp, whether carrying water for the elderly or refereeing games for the 'teens'. When he died of a brain tumour in February 1945, one internee described him as a man "who lived better than he preached". In life's most difficult race, Eric Liddell crossed the finish line victorious through love.

Ladd Fagerson

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Falls of Dochart Retirement Home - Ten Years of Caring

The Start Up

'A pioneering vision'; 'A social enterprise that is working'; 'A great asset to our community'; 'Money well spent'.

These are some of the comments from social workers, medics and professionals visiting our home.

In a recent interview our main funder commented that lots of enterprises they had awarded grants to ten years ago are no longer there.

Many, many things have contributed to the success of the home. In the first instance it was the enthusiasm of the community and then the board of directors to forge ahead with the purchase of the business and to plan for its success. It was apparent from the outset that a ten bedroom care home could not be operated profitably by a commercial company. The only way to retain the building as a care home was for an unpaid board of directors to seek grant funding to purchase and operate the home for the benefit of the community. Grateful acknowledgement must be given to our four grant funders who made the purchase of the home possible. The Scottish Land Fund under their "New Opportunities Fund" now called the Big Lottery Fund was the largest contributor. Forth Valley Health Board, Rural Challenge Fund and Stirling Council were all roughly equal contributors.

On 28th October 2002, after about a year of meetings and organisation, we were clear to go. The new Killin Care Trust commenced trading on 1st November 2002.

A Celebration

Over the ten years that the Killin Care Trust has operated the home we have cared for numerous residents mostly locals or relatives of locals. The interaction between residents, relatives, local groups, school children etc. has been absolutely marvellous. No football team would succeed without their supporters. The team that are the directors and staff of the home owe much of our success to our supporters.

In competition with the "Queens Jubilee", "The Olympic Games" and in



Jeni McCarron
Senior Carer and Keyworker
Elma Wilson Resident
Stephanie Cunningham
Entertainments Organiser and Carer

spite of the gloom of austerity, we have decided to celebrate. Be warned! If you can sing, tell stories, play an instrument, cook, bake or are indeed a local Mega Star we have a team of dedicated sleuths looking for you. Give yourselves up to Mandy Hay, Jane Anderson or Sheona Macaskill. Something IS being planned for October/November.

Where the money goes

Recent publicity regarding care homes has not been good. There have been stories of intolerable abuse, neglect and loss of dignity. Unfortunately dedicated caring, tolerance, understanding and help given to residents and their next of kin is not newsworthy. The cost of residency in a care home has been likened to that of a five star hotel suggesting it is not value for money. Falls of Dochart Home employ fifteen full and part time staff caring for ten residents twenty four hours per day. Our staff are personal carers and receive full training as required. Most have achieved Scottish Vocational Qualification. We are not a hotel! We are a family home for our residents. In the past ten years Falls of Dochart home has had a policy of ensuring that

the cost for all residents is the same regardless of whether publicly or privately funded. During the past few years the payment from public funds has been curtailed. This has resulted in many larger care home operators going bankrupt. The effect on our home is that we struggle to break even. Our room charges are set at the local council rates which for privately funded residents are approximately one third less than the Scottish average. Donations have greatly helped with refurbishment of rooms, bathrooms, equipment and garden etc. and include days out and entertainment for our residents.

The BIG Project

In January the home suffered gale damage to the roof, with dislodged slates and ridging. Closer examination by two brave men and a cherry picker uncovered many years of patching repairs and rot. The answer is that major repairs are needed including replacing a large proportion of the roof. Soon the front of the home will be covered in scaffolding and protective sheeting similar to that employed at the tin church. The cost has been estimated at approximately £47,000. We are actively seeking funding for a proportion of this from our insurers and by application to funding trusts. Contributions from our own funds and donations already received will pay the largest proportion. We will have a shortfall.

Last winter the ancient heating boiler in the home struggled with old age and failing pipe work. It was intended that this should be replaced by a modern fuel efficient system and overhaul of the pipe work. This would cost an estimated £10,000. After much number crunching it is reckoned we will have a shortfall of some £13,700 and this is assuming funds from our contributors is realised. We will be required to try and raise this shortfall from fundraising and donations.

The home has not tried to raise funds before; it has relied on the generosity of other organisations. This is a BIG project and we would welcome any help available.

The board of directors, the staff and residents thank you for past help and support. We look forward to continuing to offer a safe and comfortable home to those in need in our community.

Jim Cushley

Chairman Killin Care Trust

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Improve your health

Walking is a gentle, low-impact exercise that can ease you into a higher level of fitness and health, and which is accessible to just about everybody. It's safe, simple and doesn't require practice. And the health benefits are many. Over the past few weeks, the Walk in the Park Killin group have been using pedometers to monitor their activity levels and many of them are beginning to feel the benefits of regular exercise, and are looking forward to the Summer/Autumn programme of health walks.

One walker reports: "After retiring from my part time job in October 2011, I seemed to have lost the sense of a direction in my life, until April 2012 when I joined the Health Walks in Killin, where I met Eileen who told me of the walks in Callander and asked if I would like to go with her.

I am now walking two mornings, meeting people and going places I had never been before."

The walks are on Wednesdays – meeting at 10.20 and last under an hour. No need to book – simply turn up and join in. To find out more, call local Volunteer Walk Leaders, **Don & Alicia Fraser** on Killin 820690 or **Jane Watts**, on 820141; or pick up a walk schedule from the Doctors' surgery, the Community Nurses, Killin Library, or see posters around the village.

For more information you contact the Project Coordinator, Cathy Scott on 01389 727748 or 01877 330055 or Cathy.Scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org

Walk Schedule - Killin August – September

8/8/12	Capercaillie Restaurant	Craignavie Road
15/8/12	Capercaillie Restaurant	Kinnell Standing Stones
22/8/12	McLaren Car Park (car share)	Moiranich Longhouse
29/8/12	McLaren Car Park (car share)	Glen Ogle
5/9/12	McLaren Car Park	Loch Circuit
12/9/12	McLaren Car Park (car share)	Tarmachan Track
19/9/12	McLaren Car Park (car share)	River Dochart/ Old Railway
26/9/12	McLaren Car Park (car share)	Kenmore



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Sept 14, 28

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Clifton 11.15 – 11.40

Mansefield 11.45 – 12.00

Crianlarich

Willow Square

12.05 – 12.35

Police Station & School

1.40 – 2.30

Benmore 2.35 – 2.55

Suie Lodge 3.05 – 3.25

Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig

Fortnightly Mondays

Aug 13, 27

Sept 10, 24

Glenlochay 10.50 – 12.30

Ardeonaig 2.00 – 2.45

Perth and Kinross

Tombreck 13.10-13.25

Lawers 13.35-13.50

Aug 13, 27

Sept 10, 24

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Benefits Advice for Sufferers with Long Term Conditions

Macmillan Cancer Support, Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannanshire Councils and NHS Forth Valley have been working in partnership since 2007 to help secure a staggering £13 million of unclaimed benefit for local people with cancer and other long-term conditions. In the last year alone £3.2 million has been realised.

Stirling Council's Advice Service is the hub for the Macmillan Long Term Conditions Project, with advisers based in each of the Forth Valley local authority areas. The Project provides a financial well-being service to patients across the area, and explores the best ways to meet the needs of people with cancer and other long term conditions.

Navigating the benefits system can be particularly challenging for someone already dealing with the stress of living with a long term health condition. With welfare reform underway, it's even more important that expert advice and information is available for people at a difficult time in their lives. That's what the Macmillan Long Term Conditions Project has shown it can provide.

For more information or to contact the Macmillan Long Term Conditions Project please telephone 01786 442988. For information on money-related matters, Tel 0845 277 7000.

Protection for Private Tenants' Deposits

The launch of a new national scheme to protect private tenants' let deposits has been welcomed by Stirling Council's Housing and Regeneration Portfolio Holder Cllr Violet Weir.

The government-approved scheme means landlords will not hold deposits themselves, but must now hand them over to one of three independent companies which have been registered and approved through a procurement process. These companies will then be responsible for overseeing the return of the deposit and ruling on any disputes about deductions. The scheme is free for landlords and letting agents.

Landlords and letting agents have until next May to lodge all deposits but can start doing so from now. After 2nd October they will be required by law to hand over all new deposits within 30 working days of a tenancy beginning.

Family Support for Alcohol or Drug Abuse

Are you affected by another person's alcohol or drug use? If so, the new Forth Valley Family Support Service can offer you:

- * Information, advice and support to you and others in your family
- * A better understanding of alcohol and drug problems
- * Ways to help you cope with what is happening with your family
- * Individual, peer and group support
- * To put you in touch with others who may be able to help you

The Family Support Service is a new service and we are planning to set up group support across Forth Valley. We provide a free, confidential service and we can arrange to see you at different locations across Forth Valley. We are also happy to speak with you over the phone.

For further information please contact Louise or Kelly at Addictions Support and Counselling (ASC) Forth Valley www.asc.me.uk

Louise McLaughlin

Falkirk 01324 874 969

lmclaughlin@asc.me.uk

Kelly Reid

Stirling 01786 450 721

Direct Response Transport (DRT)

Stirling Council Officers and a local taxi operator are negotiating a replacement DRT service for the Balquhider area. The negotiations are proceeding well.

DRT is the equivalent of an on-demand bus service. It fills the gap between a big bus and a taxi - but at the cost of a bus fare rather than a taxi fare. Customers pre-book

their journey, ideally 24 hours in advance. A pick-up point and time are agreed and the journey may be shared with other passengers with similar requests within a given zone. The journey can either connect with existing public transport links or another destination in the DRT area. It offers greater flexibility to cope with local people's appointments and

work schedules, shop opening hours and connections with other services. National Entitlement Cards are welcome.

It appears that Ian Armstrong who runs the 24/7 taxi service will be appointed as the firm granted the DRT contract in this area.

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What a win!

At a Book Club meeting at the end of last year, I bought a raffle ticket in support of the Birks of Aberfeldy Cinema and thought no more of it. Just before Christmas I was surprised to get a telephone call telling me I'd won a raffle prize. At that moment I thought I'd won a bottle of the lovely, local malt - handy for Christmas. What I had actually won was two tickets to Centre Court at Wimbledon on Thursday, 28th June, plus Members' Enclosure tickets! I asked my pal, Linda, if she would like to come and off we went. Wimbledon is SO well organised, from getting on the underground, to the buses taking you from the station to the club, then getting through security (which didn't take

long). Everyone there was so friendly and helpful and the military do a great job too. It was magic. We had strawberries and cream (only £2.50 each), then champagne with our lunch, followed by tea with lovely cake and scones later in the afternoon. Everywhere you looked there were beautiful hanging baskets and arrangements of flowers in the Wimbledon colours. We couldn't believe the line up we had that day - Serena Williams, Andy Murray and, finally, Nadal (who took his shirt off several times!) The atmosphere in Centre Court is something else and when Andy won - well, the place erupted and we were all standing cheering and clapping. When players ask for Hawk Eye that also gets the crowd

going, which is great fun. We just loved sitting in the enclosure people watching; we saw Virginia Wade and Ainsley Harriot and some stunning fashions (the men also looked smart having to wear ties and jackets). We had sunshine the whole day (a bit different to the floods and landslides further north!) This was a once in a lifetime experience which we will always treasure. A very big thank you to Sue Hoare (who donated the tickets), Friends of the Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy and Judy Forster (who sold me the raffle ticket). What a very special prize to win.

Jennifer Morris



Linda Fitzgerald

Brownies



One Sunday in June Killin Brownies enjoyed a days climbing and abseiling in Weem Wood with 'Biscuit' from Beyond Adventure. All the girls were very brave with each one testing themselves on the rockface by climbing up and then abseiling down again. A great day was had by all. We look forward to seeing you at Killin Show Parade.

Julie Rhys

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S1 Visit to the Scottish Parliament



14 pupils from S1 accepted a special invitation to champion their school's outdoor learning approaches in a meeting with their Mid Scotland and Fife Regional MSP Murdo Fraser at the Scottish Parliament.

After a tour of the Parliament pupils spent time with Mr Fraser discussing the benefits of timetabled learning outside the classroom. They also spoke about their involvement with the John Muir Award, an environmental award scheme set up by the John Muir Trust. They explained the importance of contact

with wild places in the school grounds, across Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park and further afield.

When asked about his favourite wild place, Mr Fraser paused before settling on, "Highland Perthshire, and the bits around the Ben Lawers range. It is a very special place." This especially delighted pupils living in or close by Killin!

PTA Book Stall

The PTA would like to thank everyone who donated books for the recent Book Stall and all who came along on the day and supported us by buying books. We raised over £350.00!

Duke of Edinburgh's Award (D of E)

The McLaren D of E Group have had a busy Expedition season with groups operating this year at all three levels of the Award - Bronze, Silver and Gold!

Around 40 young people have been on their Bronze Practice Expedition (two days walking, one night camping) and we hope that about half of them will have completed their Bronze Qualifying Expedition soon, leaving only their expedition report or presentation to complete their expedition section.

At Silver level we have two canoe

groups and a walking group who will be doing their Practice and Qualifying Expeditions after the summer holidays. The canoe groups have already started their training with an evening on Loch Tay (see Liam's report below).

Our first ever Gold Expedition Group returned from the Ardeche in France after successfully completing their Gold Expedition. Stuart Berrow and Camilla Tigwell were part of the expedition. The Group undertook some fairly gruelling training conditions including hailstones and snow before they left for France on their practice expedition on the River Spey in the Easter holidays and numerous extra training sessions involving rapids and eddies. I would like to thank Les Berrow and Catriona Kindig, two of our adult leader volunteers, who put considerable time and effort into making this Group's expeditions so successful. Also to mention Iain Mackinnon from Active Stirling who supervised the Group on their trip to the Ardeche

Liam

Tesco Vouchers

Thank you to everyone who collected vouchers for the school. The total collected in 2012 was a fantastic 6,860. We had a grand total, including banked vouchers

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For Learning Support: Jump Baton, Basketball, Memory Stick, Digi Skipping Ropes, Collection of Fiction Novels, Wheely Bag, Hockey Sticks and Gardening Gloves
For Whole School: 5 Memory Sticks
For Science and Technology: Handheld Digital Microscope
This really is quite an achievement - thanks to all parents, pupils and staff who handed vouchers in.



Killin Primary School



Gaelic Choir



Sports Day



P7 Leavers Alaya, Megan, Lesley, Annie, Hazel, Stuart and Aarron

Killin Golf Club

Ladies Open Saturday 2nd June

Scratch: Silver Division:

Laura Aitken (Killin) 81

Scratch: Bronze Division:

Christine Anderson (Grangemouth) 83

Handicap

1st: Liz Stevens (Killin) 64

2nd: Suzanne Graham

(Pumpherston) 72 BIH

3rd: Sandra Johnson (Kilbirnie

Place) 72

Killin Cup (Best overall

Handicap):

Christine Anderson (Grangemouth) 62

Bridge of Lochay Salver (Best

Local Handicap): Liz Stevens 64

Dochart Trophy (Best overall

Scratch): Laura Aitken (Killin) 81

Nearest the Pin:

Sandra Johnson (Kilbirnie) 1.7m

Longest Drive Silver:

S Graham (Pumpherston)

Longest Drive Bronze:

Sheena Chisholm (Killin)

Magic Twos

Jo Miller (Killin)

Diane Colwell (Glencruitten)

Sandra Johnson (Kilbirnie Place)

CSS : 70



Laura Aitken and Kay Dowling

Mixed Open Saturday 26th May

Handicap

1st: Ian and Anne Douglas

(Lochwinnoch) 64

2nd: Andrew and Annie Leitch

(Harburn) 65 BIH

3rd: Jim and Maureen Burton

(Killin) 65 BIH

Scratch

1st: Joe And Aileen Kennedy

(Harburn) 75

2nd: Derek and Catherine

Robertson (Auchterarder) 76

3rd: Gordon Aitken (Killin) and

Caroline Dunbar (Aberfeldy) 78

Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver):

Jim and Maureen Burton

Best Overall (McRobert Thistle Cup):

Ian and Anne Douglas

(Lochwinnoch)



Jim and Maureen Burton receiving the Bill Mitchell Salver from Captains Kay Dowling and Andy Cousins

Nearest Pin

Ladies (14th): Irene Hill (Taynuilt)

Gents (11th): T Lang (Harburn)

Magic Twos

Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin)

Derek Robertson and Catherine

Robertson (Auchterarder)

Chris Martin (Callander) and Louise

Woodburn (Muckhart)

Gun Olympics



As unfortunately none of the Killin Gun Club made it into the 'Team GB' clay shooting squads, it was decided to hold our own Olympic style competition at the Club July shoot. After a hard fought competition, the bronze medal was won by Henry Paterson, silver medal was won by John Sinclair and the outstanding winner of the gold medal and (golden nectar!) was Steve Bennett.

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Wet Dog Show



Harry Potter



Ailsa



Pamela

We simply could not have picked a wetter, colder day for our inaugural fun day/companion show. At one stage four of us tried to hold onto the gazebo. We abandoned the companion show and did our best by moving our furniture out of the front room and setting up grooming tables, Basset Griffon Vendéen club stand etc. We had to do something for the wonderful people who had made the effort to attend. The day started with a grand basset and a petit basset standing on tables next to each other and we talked about the differences in the breed. We then talked about health issues, the importance of keeping eyes, ears etc clean and nails well trimmed.

Our judge for the day, Fraser McCallum, had travelled for over 2 hours to be with us, so it was off to the kitchen for a bacon butty and coffee. After refreshments we had to decide whether to attempt to continue inside, as you can imagine that would have been quite tricky, so we boldly ventured out. The dogs of course didn't care about the weather and the handlers were kitted out in wellies and waterproofs. We had a number of variety classes, fancy dress etc. and a chocolate lab, who won the sausage catching last year at the fun day in Fife, returned to defend his crown which he duly won again. BGV's are not so good at catching!

All in all it was a great day, very well supported and we think the money raised will be in the region of £400. A huge thank you to everyone who braved the weather.

Fiona Buchanan



Rural Stirling

HOUSING ASSOCIATION

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Sporting Successes

Andrew Anderson

This year Andrew competed in the Scottish Six Day Trials for the third year. He was happy to earn the title of "Best Scot" and came in 49th position, riding a Jotagas only launched in this country earlier this year. He enjoyed the experience and would like to thank those who sponsored him this year, namely Lix Toll Garage, David Noble Haulage, Killin Hotel, Putoline Oils, Dunlop Tyres and Highland Leisure Sport,

and family and friends for their support and help. Andrew also came Third in the premier class of the local Bob MacGregor Trial and is currently 2nd place in The Scottish Championship with two rounds still to compete.

Monty Ogilvie

On 25th May a small group from Killin travelled to the Masonic Hall in Alva to cheer Monty Ogilvie on and to enjoy an evening of Amateur

Boxing. Monty, from Killin and representing 1314 ABC was boxing Keith Parker from Madisson ABC and was first on after the interval. Monty took control of the fight right from the start and was very entertaining. In the third round he knocked Keith down twice and the referee stopped the fight declaring Monty the winner by knock out. He also received a trophy for Best Boxer of the night. His Mum, Jenny Martin, is very proud of him.

Bob MacGregor Memorial Trial



A competitor negotiates the tricky section by the Falls

The Gordon MacGregor Memorial Cup was won by Robert Lafferty Killin the only local among the prize winners

Perthshire Quadrathlon

260 people took part in the Great Kindrochit Artemis Quadrathlon on Loch Tay and the Ben Lawers mountain range on Saturday 14th July, reaching the milestone of £5 million pounds raised for charity since the event began twelve years ago. Conditions were perfect for the dawn swim across Loch Tay, a walk/run across seven Munros (including Ben Lawers), an eight mile kayak followed by a 36 mile cycle around the loch. After crossing the finish line to split a watermelon in two with a cavalry sword participants ended off the day dancing reels to a ceilidh band and watching a dazzling firework display on the loch shore.

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The winning time was set by brothers Peter and Rupert Davenport with a blistering time of ten hours and two minutes.

The Artemis Quadrathlon is dedicated to raising money for two Scottish based development charities. This year's event is expected to raise £200,000 to fund Mercy Corps' work with child soldiers in a deadly, cocaine-fuelled conflict which has claimed hundreds of thousands of lives.

The event also fundraises for Mary's

Meals, an international movement that has set up school feeding programmes in some of the world's poorest countries, providing hungry children in places such as Malawi, Liberia, Kenya, Haiti and Uganda with vital nutrition and encouraging them to learn.

There is an 'early bird' discount for anyone who signs up now for next year's Artemis Quadrathlon to be held in July 2013.

www.artemisgreatkindrochit.com

Anna and the Olympian



Anna Stitt (right) with friends who were invited to swim with Duncan Goodhew, British Olympic gold medallist at the 1980 Moscow Games and Silver medalist at the 1978 Commonwealth Games in Edmonton.



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This year's annual Jazz and Blues Festival will commence at 6pm on Friday 28th September and finishing on Sunday 30th September at 12 midnight.

We have a superb line up of International, National and Regional performers to entertain you with over 300 musicians staging in excess of 40 live performances using 22 venues in Callander and the surrounding area.

Check out the full programme on the festival website

www.callanderjazz.com

Printed programmes will also be available from Callander

VisitScotland Tourist Office from early July.

We will be featuring Dance and Music Workshops over the event weekend; the ever popular Loch Katrine Jazz Cruise, Sunday morning Jazz Parade and Jazz Church Service are again a main part of the festival weekend.

Festival tickets are now available from www.ticketweb.co.uk and can also be purchased from Callander VisitScotland Tourist Office. Tel: 01877-330342

Ticket prices are as follows:

Weekend Rover Ticket £45

Friday Rover Ticket £10;

Saturday Rover Ticket £30;

Sunday Rover Ticket £20.

Rover Tickets admit you to every festival performance in the event programme for the weekend or stipulated day, but please note that there is a boarding charge payable if you choose to go on the Sunday Jazz Cruise and that will be £15.50p per person.

Jazz Cruise tickets can only be purchased from Loch Katrine Pier ticket office Tel: 01877-332000 All Debit/Credit Cards accepted.

Free transport to and from Loch Katrine plus a shuttlebus service to McLaren High School, Callander Golf Club and The Gart and Keltie Bridge Caravan Parks will be provided and will leave from and return to South Ancaster Square.

Details from Festival Office on 01877-339399

Graham Oliphant
Festival Director

Doors Open Day

Lodge Room Doors Open

The National Park 'Doors Open' weekend takes place on the 8th and 9th September.

The local Masonic Lodge will be open on both days from noon to 2.00pm. There has been quite a bit of work carried out on the premises, which prevented the lodge from participating last year but now all is back in order.

There will be a printed guide to what is on display and members in regalia will be on hand to assist.

It was a hundred and five years ago that our predecessors began meeting in the present Lodge Room. During this time there have been many changes to both the interior and exterior of the building. All will receive a warm welcome over the September weekend.

Alex Stewart
Secretary

St Fillan's Episcopal Church

The tin church will be open for visitors as part of the Doors Open Day on both Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th for two hours each day from 12 noon. **GA**

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Scottish Chamber Orchestra Strings-

For the eighty or so souls who braved the weather to hear Florian Donderer direct the SCO strings in an exquisite evening of music, the rewards more than compensated for the poor weather. The concert in the McLaren Hall opened with Four Transylvanian Dances by Sandor Veress. The four dances, whose titles were not translated, were very varied with much display of dynamics and heavy accents.

In the second work Florian Donderer was both the soloist in Joseph Haydn's violin concerto, whilst directing the SCO. Here he showed his experience as Concertmaster of the Bremen Kammerphilharmonie, whilst demonstrating his formidable technique as a soloist. His light staccato played with the middle bow and a loose wrist (spiccato in the programme notes) was just superb. This wonderful concerto harking back to the Baroque period was very warmly applauded.

The final programmed work was Antonin Dvorak's Serenade for strings, in five varied movements. The Serenade is a constant stream of joyous melody, happily energetic and hugely tuneful. The SCO strings who had displayed fabulous ensemble and precision all evening really showed their mettle here and whilst giving us whispered pianissimos did not hang

back at all when the opposite was required. Constant well deserved applause brought Florian Donderer back for an encore with the SCO. At this point he commended Seonag Hay for her stillness and attentiveness throughout and asked her age. On hearing she was seven, he advised the encore was by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy, a movement from his eighth symphony, written at the age of fourteen. Indeed his first masterpiece, the string octet was written only four years later. This wonderfully melodic encore brought an exceptionally fine concert to a close.

John Nalepa

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The Big Shed First Birthday!

The Open Day in celebration the Big Shed's first year was held on Saturday afternoon 30th June. The rain held off until most people had gone home, allowing a relaxed and informal event. Outdoors, Laurie performed excellently producing non-stop, delicious homemade burgers of beef and venison and veggie and the Tombreck duck egg mayo as an alternative was also amazing. There is something about fresh open air which really makes for a keen appetite and the food went down extremely well with the hungry hordes gathering as soon as the BBQ was fired up.



The Storytelling in the cosy attic space was captivating, with the skill of the storyteller Eleanor Murray, who was completely engaging and skillful in her craft, and also the reactions of the children who sat spellbound and silent, listening avidly, completely wrapped up in the tales - until all of a sudden, at the given moment, they all joined in with a mighty yell - an enthusiastic collaboration!

An interesting slide-show in the Hall, put together by Ecological Architecture, the Big Shed's architects, displayed pictures of the Big Shed taken over the past couple of years of the various stages of its construction and development. Meanwhile in the kitchen, Sue Gardener demonstrated making a spectacular Swiss roll with lashings of fresh cream and strawberries. As always the home-baking stall seemed to be the highlight of The Big Shed's proceedings.

Outside, the sale of garden plants and potted cuttings went well, while people sat around chilling out and chatting. It was altogether a lovely, summery atmosphere and, to round off the afternoon beautifully and draw the event to a satisfactory conclusion, a birthday cake shaped like the Big Shed was produced by Katy.

The sponsored 24 hour Musicathon on June 9th was also very popular, with thirty four people taking part and others lending moral support. Congratulations and a big Thank You to all the stalwart local musicians who helped to raise money for the Glasgow Royal Hospital for Sick Children.

Two courses were recently held by John Morris; Emergency First Aid and Elementary Food Hygiene. Both were popular and everyone passed the tests.



Future Events:

Talks @The Big Shed: Cluny Gardens on Thursday 16th August at 7.30pm.

Introduction to Permaculture Course: James Chapman Saturday and Sunday 15th/16th September 10am-5pm. Cost £40-£120 (sliding scale)

Yoga Day: Sunday 7th October
Buddhist Yoga Day: Saturday 10th November 10am-4pm
Bringing together Buddhist wisdom with classical hatha yoga methods, this workshop teaches training the mind to be 'present-aware and awake' through yoga, helping to bring a life-changing consciousness into everyday experience. The workshop will combine Yoga Asana, Systematic Relaxation and Meditation under the guidance of Buddhist yoga teacher Sadhita. £35 per person for the day, including a vegetarian lunch.

The Big Shed now has its own blog: thebigshed.blogspot.com

For more information about hiring The Big Shed, running courses or about events please contact

Jane Watts

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



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Book Review

'Shantaram' by Gregory David Roberts (GDR) is a weighty tome at nearly 1,000 pages, not ideal for in-bed reading unless you have an E-Reader. It is also available in CD form (35 CDs!) for those who prefer listening to their books. We all groaned at the size of it and the consensus was that a good editor could easily have shortened it but it was certainly an interesting read and held our attention throughout. The story is almost autobiographical. The author was born in 1952 in Australia where he became involved with several anarchist and leftist causes, was a heroin user and, in 1978, was imprisoned for 19 years for armed robbery. His marriage

disintegrated, he lost custody of his daughter and after serving just two years of his sentence, he managed to escape from Australia's 'escape proof' prison and fled to a remote village in India. This is all consistent with the life of 'Lin' his protagonist in 'Shantaram'. The story follows 'Lin's' 10 years of life in India, his involvement with the Bombay mafia, drug-running, forgery, smuggling, torture, imprisonment, living in the Slum, his move into the Bollywood film industry, and his involvement with the Mujahideen in Afghanistan. 'Linbaba' the character, and GDR the author appear to be the same person - very shallow, no humility,

patronising - he seems to think that by soul searching and philosophising he can somehow gain forgiveness and justification for his criminal activity. The book is being made into a film with GDR writing the script and no doubt the dollars will be rolling in - who says crime doesn't pay?! The book is worth reading if only to 'meet' the secondary character, Prabaker, a wonderfully warm, welcoming, engaging and humorous Indian, who names and introduces the Antipodean 'Lin' to the colourful life and customs of India.

Killin Book Club

Pilate in Caledonia

Was Pontius Pilate really born in Fortingall?

How many times do visitors to Lochayside and Glenlyon ask this question?

Was Pontius Pilate born to a local girl after a Roman emissary had come to the district? But the story is full of improbabilities. A notice to visitors on Fortingall church door refers to the story as being in the chronicles of Holinshed; Holinshed

wrote in the 16th century and his early history is quite fantastical - But if a Roman legate really had been sent to such a remote region as Caledonia, how would he have got on? I started to write his story for our little Fortingall and Fearnan writers group. It's entirely fictional, but does at least fit in with what little is known about our area at that time: then my imagination took over and I've had a bit of fun here

and there!

"Pilate in Caledonia" by Neil Hooper 64pp £5.99 ISBN 978-1-907730-13-1 is available from The Watermill and Wades in Aberfeldy, via Amazon, or from the publisher, Shaun Tyas, 1 High Street, Donington, PE11 4TA

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Monemore parking

I am writing in response to the complaint made in the last issue about parking and 'inconsiderate' ILS carers using people's car parking spaces in Monemore. The ILS carers provide a vital role within the community, giving support to members of the community in order for them to remain independent within their own homes. These are short visits which vary from 15 minutes to 45 minutes, therefore I don't think it is right to complain that they have parked in 'someone's' space. As a resident of Monemore, I contacted the council, who stated that there are no rented or private parking spaces within Monemore, and anyone with a valid MOT and road tax is entitled to park their cars within the road. I would also like to point out that some tenants have more than one vehicle parked on that road and it is not necessary to park in the coach lane as there is a car park directly across from it.

Name supplied

As a previous community councillor for a number of years, I do not recall that the Monemore houses involved had any right to parking behind them. Indeed I remember that when the bus parking lane was introduced and the previous parking spaces allocated to the main street houses of Monemore were taken away, it was agreed at the time that this was under certain agreements. The foremost of these was that from after six o'clock in the evening until 8 o'clock the following morning, the residents were able to use the bus lane as before i.e. as parking spaces for their homes. I certainly do not recall tenants having a 'right' to spaces as though in some way they were paying for them.

The unnamed occupant has therefore doubtful rights to use the parking spaces behind them at all, far less as a tool of complaint against carers in society. In reality, the right course of grievance would be via the Community Council. This was, and I believe still is, the resident's first and appropriate avenue of injustice. The person/s complaining are obviously ignorant of the highest and most prized principles of organised society - the act of human compassion. It is a sad day indeed that this sort of feeling is within our community. I sign without anonymity and without prejudice.

Colin J McRae

In response to the letter on parking issues at Monemore I would like to point out a few facts:

1. The resident complainant had issues about the ILS carer's parked vehicle. The ILS vehicle was parked outside the property of the patient being cared for. As there are no restrictions on parking on that part of the street, there is no problem.
2. On the unwarranted comment regarding the tourists parking, we all know that Killin survives on tourism so tourism should be promoted not demoted.
3. The last issue of no other parking available is not strictly true as there is a public car park thirty metres from the bus par and therefore no need to park in the bus park.

The comments made in the original letter are totally unjustifiable and unfounded.

C. Grant

Killin Community Council

Farewell to Killin

We are friends who have occupied seasonal pitches at Maragowan caravan site over many years. Unfortunately over the last few years the standards at the site have been allowed to fall: grass is being allowed to encroach onto the hard standings, the grass is cut on an ad hoc basis and, probably most importantly, the toilet floors are badly stained. When I sent photographic evidence to highlight these problems, I was told that either my camera wasn't very good (it's a Canon), the lighting was poor or the developing was at fault (it was done at Tesco). They went on to say that they had photographs to disprove what I was claiming. We still have friends at Maragowan and they have told us nothing has changed.

We have all now moved to Pinetrees Leisure Park in Tyndrum, where we have been welcomed by the wardens who couldn't be more helpful. The site is kept in pristine condition and there are plans to further upgrade it.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the various establishments in Killin who have been pleasant and helpful to deal with and the residents of the village, many of whom have become friends over the years. It is with regret we say farewell to Killin.

**Willie and Kaye Archibald
Ian and Kate Parr**

**Jim and Reta Malloy
Lennie and Lorraine McCallum**

Jazz Supper

The Killin Cancer Committee would like to thank everyone who supported our Jazz Supper. We raised £538.93.

Elizabeth Woods

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What a mess!

When I departed from Killin in the past it was always in high spirits and happy. This time I stopped at Loch Lubnaig to have a last look back to the Highlands. You can't imagine the masses of rubbish that were devastating the parking place, the shore, just everything. It looked so sad and I became so angry! If people do this to their beautiful country, the government must react in some way. I would forbid wild camping and raise huge penalties. The poor communities who have to clean that, because no foreign tourist would stop at such a dirty place. Are there any campaigns which I could support? I'm still so annoyed.

Rita Dutz
Germany

Golden Wedding

We would like to thank everyone who sent cards, gifts and good wishes on the occasion of their Golden Wedding. Most importantly, we thank you for your friendship over all the years. We value that greatly.

Sheena and Allan Chisholm

St. Fillan's Stones

On Saturday 14th July I drove a friend from Aberdeen to Killin, to view and use the healing stones of St Fillan. We had been planning this visit for over four years and it sadly turned out to be a great disappointment.

Sadly the stones are no longer in residence at the Old Mill and no-one knew how we could gain access to them. We were told that they had been moved to the church, but when we went looking for them we could find no trace of them. I have been living in Asia and promised myself that when I returned I would make the visit to Killin and the stones a priority. I was saddened that an area that had been the spiritual heartland of Scotland and until recently had respected an ancient custom could disregard and dishonour it so quickly.

I came across the healing stones five years ago and since then I have brought friends from all over the world to Killin to see and use this national treasure. Some of these friends have returned by themselves bringing their friends and family to the Old Mill to see and handle the

stones.

We had a history of honouring tradition and promises in Scotland which throughout time has been and still is being rejected and dismissed and dishonoured in the name of modernity. Without the continuity of care and respect for a unique and ancient living tradition, we will lose all that matters in this country. The Old Mill and the healing stones are listed on every tourist/information web site for Killin. There is beautiful scenery all over Scotland, but not stones that have been used for the purpose of healing for over 1000 years.

While I was in the Old Mill other visitors arrived looking for the stones and the keys to the McNab burial grounds. They too left disappointed. It is our history, spiritual and otherwise, that attracts people to this country and it is time for us to acknowledge and respect this. Please protect the Old Mill and the stones as a cultural investment and not something that can be disregarded, dismissed and forgotten in the name of change.

Kay Irvine
Kirkmuir, Angus



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Obituaries



**Elizabeth Garden Lumsden
(Betty Lumsden)**
17.2.1927–16.6.2012

Betty was born in Edinburgh and was the youngest of four children with two sisters, Mamie and Helen, and a brother, Jim.

As a young teenager, she was evacuated to Australia after the start of the war and travelled there on a navy destroyer which was attacked by Japanese submarines. Betty would recall dancing the Dashing White Sergeant on the ship's deck as the torpedoes narrowly missed their ship.

She lived with her Aunt, Uncle and cousins in Adelaide and made many friends at school, but she missed her family and returned to Scotland after the war ended. Sadly, her brother Jim was reported 'missing in action' and never returned from Arabia where he had been stationed as a pilot. Years later Betty visited his headstone in Aden, Yemen.

She enrolled at the Napier secretarial college in Edinburgh and had a very successful career as a private secretary.

In 1947 she met Albert Lumsden, a land surveyor, on a tennis court and they were married in Morningside Church in Edinburgh in 1949. In 1956 they and daughter Frances started a new life in Rhodesia. They bought a home which they called Muiry Cottage and began to create a beautiful garden which was a great joy to them both. Betty's lifelong love for animals meant that the family was not complete without its pets. They had a dog called Chips and a cat called Fish. Every day Chips would wait for Betty and Albert to return from work and one day he took Betty's hand in his mouth and proudly led her into the bush to show her a litter of puppies he had fathered.

Rhodesia was a beautiful country and Betty and Albert spent many happy weekends and holidays touring the country. They loved going up to the Eastern Highlands to stay in the Government rest houses

as it reminded them of Scotland. They loved the game parks and the scenery. On one occasion they went camping in the Wanki game park in their Morris Minor car where they pushed the back seat down and opened the boot and slept in the car. During the night they were awoken by lions wandering around the car! Betty held a number of senior jobs in Rhodesia. She worked as the personal assistant to Sir Albert Robertson, the CEO of Anglo American and also as personal assistant to the Secretary of State for External Affairs and was very involved in the time of great political upheaval in Rhodesia. She was even offered the post of Assistant to the then Prime Minister, Ian Smith, but she turned it down because she did not agree with his views!

In the latter half of the 1970s things in Rhodesia began to get difficult politically and in 1976 Betty and Albert returned to Scotland. They moved to Tir Artair Barn near Killin and turned it into a beautiful home and garden, planting lots of trees and rhododendrons which still look beautiful now.

They loved it, but Albert found the weather too cold and in 1987 they moved to Perth, Western Australia, to join Frances, son-in-law Richard and grandsons Ross and James. Here Betty studied for a degree in Art. She loved it and never looked back.

In 1989 they moved back to the Scotland to Riabhach just outside Killin. Betty spent many happy hours there painting, gardening and attending to her Burmese cat, Maitai. Riabhach was also the location for many happy family holidays, when the family came back to the UK for the summer. Betty was secretary of the Killin Arts and Crafts Group and also joined a painting group in Stirling with whom she went on a number of painting holidays. She was a winner of the "best artist" in the Killin show for several years running.

Although Betty lived abroad for many years, Scotland was always her home. She was very close to her family and they were her world. Unfortunately, in her last few years she struggled with dementia, but never lost her wonderful sense of humour. She moved into a care home in the Bridge if Allan in 2008 and passed away on 26th June after a short stay in hospital.

She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Frances Baker



Sally Munro/ later Watson
1927-2012

Sally was born in Liverpool in 1927 to a Scottish father and English mother but always considered herself outright Scottish and to suggest otherwise would have been fatal for anyone not convinced!

She moved to Glasgow at around 22 years old and later to Killin sometime in the early 50's, after answering an advertisement looking for Hydro Workers in Killin. (She thought 'hydro' meant hotel..?) She walked all the way from Glasgow to Lochearnhead, sleeping behind hedgerows on the way, and from there managed to get a lift to Killin.

She became a cook at the Cementation Camp, (Tir Artair farm - Morenish end), built to accommodate and feed those involved in the construction of the Hydro Dam, and worked with Jeannie Rossiter, Peggy Lambie, Peggy MacPhail and others. She was also a house keeper at Tir Artair which paid for rental of one of the cottages on the farm - Tigh-An-Altain.

Her days in Killin were the happiest of her life and, being the sort of person she was, she became well known and popular. Killin in those days was very busy and with possibly more services than today. She enjoyed shopping trips from Tir Artair to Killin very much as these were quite an event! The 'Boss' dropped her off at Willie Allan's newspaper shop and she eventually returned carrying all the shopping, and the 'Boss' was lazily waiting. It was quite a long walk for her and involved a lot of chatting with people she bumped into along the way. The 'Boss' (Ian Watson, Gentleman Farmer?) would amuse himself talking to Arthur Forster, who had the TV and electrical shop next door to Willie Allan's and his 'filling in time pal' Marquis, who ran the Drapery Shop further up the street. Sally's regular shops were Colin Campbell the Butchers (he made the

Obituaries

best haggis) MacGregor's Fruit and Vegetable shop, and 'McEwans' the General Store and Hall Farquharson had the Dairy. Willie Allan's newspaper shop was always the last call, with young Dougie Allan ending the weekly shopping trip with jokes and wild laughter!

Sally loved Killin so much she was a regular financial supporter of The Killin News up until last year, when she became unwell.

Sally was very fond of the Scottish Dancing and would often walk miles between the villages of Aberfeldy, Lochearnhead, Callander and Strathyre - no distance was too far for a good dance! She always managed to prepare breakfast for the men at the camp, even though she might creep in at 4.00am to 5.00am! This was another time and era in Killin.

Sally died peacefully in Speldhurst, Kent, with Tom and Yvonne, her two children at her side on the 12th July. Her funeral was in Tonbridge, Kent and her ashes will return to Killin at the end of the year. Sally's name is etched inside a section of the pipe connecting the Dam to Killin Power Station, which she personally scribed during the Dam's construction.

For those who remember Sandy Munro in Killin and wish to contact her family, please telephone 07818492939 (Yvonne UK) otherwise an email to: tommunro58@yahoo.co.uk or a letter to: Tom Munro, 1139 Skyline Road, Christmas Hills, Victoria 3775, Australia.

Sally was blessed with a wonderful heart which refused to die at the end.

May you rest in peace Sally, until the 'next' dance...

Tom Munro



Sandy Macmillan

1924-2012

Sandy retired over twenty years ago but was still very much loved and missed by our community. He would be called upon to bring us a message from Callander, always ready with a "second hand" cooker or toaster for the needy (no skips in those days) and kept the children very happy with toys that he would have repaired, painted and brought back to Killin - no nursery or government help then.

He will always be remembered as the happy smiling gentleman who we were so fortunate to have for so many years as our "dustman".

We send our love and deepest sympathy to his wife Moira and family in Callander.

From all who remember Sandy during the good old days.

Morag MacNee

Sandy Green

6.5.1920 - 28.5.2012

Very peacefully on Monday 28th May after a long productive life, Sandy Green FIA, aged 92, of Kilconquhar, Fife.

Originally from Peterculter, he and his family moved to Aberdeen where he started school and then moved on to Robert Gordon College. Sandy spent the war years in the RAF serving at home and abroad, most notably in Greenland and Iceland where his squadron helped protect the Atlantic convoys. He was mentioned twice in Dispatches. After the war he started his long and successful career as an auctioneer, ending up in Ladybank, Fife with his own Auction Market which he had for over thirty years.

In 1984 he arrived in Killin and visited High Creagan Caravan Site duly staying for seven months every year until 1995. Sandy and his wife Florence enjoyed a love of the outdoors, climbing, cycling and walking. During this time many good friends were made. They attended both Morenish Church and Morenish Chapel. Sandy got involved with local activities and with a little help from his friend organised two Christmas services at Morenish Chapel. Mulled wine (made in the tea urn) and stovies were served. He also held a carpet auction for funds for the Boys' Brigade, Cheese and Wine evenings, Going for a Song and a 50/50 Auction all for local charities. All of these were well supported. Looking back, Sandy had many happy memories of his time in Killin.

Sandy donated his body for medical research.

Florence Green

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Fortingall Art Summer Exhibition

The Fortingall Art Exhibition will open for its 8th year on Saturday 28th July and run daily from 10am to 6pm until Sunday 5 August 2012. A selling exhibition of painting, photography, printmaking, sculpture, jewellery, furniture and more, the event is being held once again in the Molteno Hall, in the delightful village of Fortingall. It has become something of a Mecca for collectors and art lovers who have high expectations of this Highland Perthshire showcase. Visitors are unlikely to be disappointed with the array of innovative and traditional creative pieces on show. Fortingall Art has always tried to encourage young people and its popular local children's competition featuring CD-sized artworks, will be on display in the hall.

Fortingall Art was formed in 2004 by a group of Perthshire artists with a vision to establish a professional annual art exhibition in Highland Perthshire. Fortingall, with its unique Arts and Crafts style of architecture and elegant Molteno Hall, provides the perfect setting and venue. The summer exhibition has grown from year to year, and has made its mark on the Scottish cultural scene. The area has many

important historical and spiritual links with Scotland's development as a nation and is well placed for visitors to enjoy the beauty of Loch Tay and the surrounding mountains and glens.

The backbone of the Fortingall show is still provided by paintings and an excellent pool of work by Richard Alred, Keith Brockie, Morag Cummings, Bill King, Malize McBride, Maryanne Ryves, Audrey Siorance, Eric Timms and Zanna Wilson among others. These are complemented by Kate West's jewellery, Heather Cumming's metal sculptures, photography by Jamie Grant, Martin Knight, Dave & Gillian Hunt as well as furniture by Angus Ross. Printmaking is represented by the Grandtully-based wood engraving group, 'The Splinters' whose display will also include Linda Farquharson's vibrant linocuts and Malcolm Appleby's prints. For further information visit www.fortingallart.co.uk

WRVS Volunteers

Age positive charity, WRVS, currently requires volunteers to help make a positive difference to their local community. WRVS has over 70 years' experience in helping older people to live independently at home and stay active in their community. We currently require volunteer helpers and drivers, from Killin, to assist older people through the delivery of new services. These would include a variety of activities such as attending hospital outpatient visits, prescription collection, shopping, social activities and befriending. For driving roles, we require volunteers to have their own vehicle and mileage expenses will be fully reimbursed at 45p per mile. The time our volunteers choose to donate is entirely flexible and you will be fully supported throughout your time with WRVS.

To find out more about the roles we have available, please get in touch with our Stirling office on 01786 450 718 for an informal discussion about the valuable contribution you can make to your community. Due to the nature of these volunteering roles, successful membership to the PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) Scheme is required. There are no costs involved and WRVS will assist with the completion of paperwork.

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Local Planning Applications

National Park

10 April

Proposal: New Biomass heating unit and fuel storage shed
Location: The Green Welly Stop Tyndrum

Applicant: Mr Ian Wilkie

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve

16 April

Proposal: Change of use of disused steading to form 2 holiday units
Location: Leskine Farm Crianlarich
Applicant: Mr Doug Ashbridge
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

17 April

Proposal: Relocation of existing satellite dish on existing mast
Location: Tyndrum Upper Railway Station Station Road Upper Tyndrum
Applicant: Everything Everywhere Limited

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Approve

27 April

Proposal: Erection of conservatory extension to holiday let unit
Location: Wester Lix Steading
Applicant: G Hunt

Application Type: Householder Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Decision

23 May

Proposal: Erection of replacement rear extension to dwellinghouse and landscaping works

Location: 1 Clachaig Gray Street

Applicant: Applecrest Inns Ltd

Application Type: Householder Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

25 May

Proposal: Discharge of legal agreement relating to planning application dated 27th Feb 1996
Location: Minerals Cononish Road Tyndrum

Applicant: Scotgold Resources Limited

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

29 May

Proposal: Change of use from dwellinghouse (Class 9) to Guest House (Class 7)

Location: Dunfraoich Crianlarich

Applicant: Miss Louise Rolfe

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

30 May

Proposal: Renewal of temporary planning permission for retention of front extension to form covered seating area

Location: The Real Food Cafe

Tyndrum

Applicant: Ms Sarah Heward

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

06 June

Proposal: Amendment to Condition No.1 on previous consent to extend the period of consent

Location: Fairview House Main

Street Killin

Applicant: Mr Jim Wood

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

Proposal: Amendment of Condition No.6 of Planning Consent to alter the occupancy restriction on the caravans

Location: Glen Dochart Caravan Park

Applicant: Mr Robert McCready

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

08 June

Proposal: Amendment to previous permission to alter the house design

Location: Station Cottages Killin

Applicant: Mr Daniel Gardiner

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

16 July

Proposal: Alterations to existing outbuilding to accommodate installation of bio-mass boiler and flue

Location: Falls of Dochart Inn

Gray Street Killin

Applicant: Applecrest Inns

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Pending Consideration

Perth & Kinross Council

07 June

Proposal: Erection of a dwellinghouse (in principle)
Location: Elm Cottage Boreland Farm Fearnan Aberfeldy

Applicant: Mrs Fiona Winter

Application Type: planning permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

19 June

Proposal: Alterations and change of use of outdoor centre to form a dwellinghouse and erection of a boat house

Location: Outdoor Centre Fearnan

Aberfeldy PH15 2PQ

Applicant: Mr Archie Maclean

Application Type: planning permission local

Decision: Pending Consideration

Stirling Council

10 May

Proposal: Proposed rear extension and alterations to form a larger master bedroom on the first floor and open plan kitchen/dining area

Status: Pending Consideration

Location: Glenlochay Schoolhouse

Applicant: Mr Trevor Shaw

Application Type: Full

Decision: Pending Consideration



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LEJOG Bike Ride and ...

Fundraising for the charity The Taylor family is fundraising for the charity SOBS – Survivors of Bereavement by suicide and would appreciate any support/involvement. In 2005 Oilly, Harry and Robert tragically lost Fee – beloved wife and mother (daughter of Captain and Judy Bowser). The shock and loss was enormous and it wasn't until 2009 that they discovered the charity organisation SOBS. After several phonecalls, attendance at monthly meetings in Nottingham and London and the 2010 October Ross-on-Wye weekend retreat, their feelings and healing have unfolded in such a way that they would like to "give something back" by raising the profile of SOBS and some funds. At the 2010 retreat it became apparent that young people like Harry and Robert did not have an avenue to discuss their feelings with their peers. The concept of a "young member group" was born and as a result the creation of the online forum. Harry has been instrumental in the development of this forum which is available to everyone. SOBS exists in the UK and provides people with all levels of support whilst they come to terms with their loss. The main avenues to access support are the national Helpline

0844 561 6855 9am to 9pm everyday, various support groups and the online forum. Groups meet on a regular basis, usually monthly, in forty one different places throughout the UK. Each group is run by volunteers who have been affected by suicide in some way. Generally the format is low key and allows for discussion, conversation and private sharing. The get-together is often the only place that people feel safe to be or to talk openly about their feelings and experience with suicide. Through sharing healing occurs. Oilly, Harry and Rob Taylor will cycle from Land's End to John O'Groats. This ride is commonly known as LEJOG, hence the name for this event. They aim to raise £15,000. Starting at 7am on Sunday 30 September they will embark on the thirteen day journey and hope you will support the riders to help achieve their objectives. For more information contact: sobs.lejog2012@gmail.com or Tel: Oilly or Katie 07922 218123 or Harry 07903 649062 or Rob 07771 93435 Donations may be made on www.justgiving.com/Oliver-Taylor3

... JOGLE on Horseback

A rather wet and bedraggled young lady went into Eureka Pet Foods recently and asked for horse food but wanted an amount she could carry. Dani only had a large bag but told her it could be delivered. "Where are you going?" she asked. "Lands End" was the reply. At this point Dani noticed there was a horse tethered outside the shop and asked a few more questions. The rider was Katrina Littlechild and the horse was Cognac, aged 22. They were on their way from John O'Groats to Lands End to raise funds for the British Heart Foundation as Katrina's little nephew, Noah, had been born with a heart problem. Katrina fed Cognac and had her lunch with Dani who heard the full story before sending her on her way with all available bags and pockets filled with horsefood. Katrina is unable to book ahead as she doesn't know when she will arrive anywhere so it is important to stock up when she can. The journey is likely to take about three months but may take longer as everyone she meets is so interested and helpful that she has been spending a lot of time talking and being photographed. After leaving Scotland they are aiming to join bridle paths which will make easier going for Cognac. You can find out more and follow her progress on her website .WWW.jogleonhorseback



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Celebrations



Allan and Sheena Chisolm with their Golden Wedding cake and two of their grandchildren Katy and Mathew



Claire McCarron and David Robertson married on 19th May



Lee Burton born 24th May in Northern Ireland son of Lauren Gall and Sam Burton first great grandchild for Mary and Dicky Lewis and grandchild for Jamie Gall



Franny, David, Gill and Jay Allen at the wedding of David and Gill at the Roman Camp in Callander on 7th April



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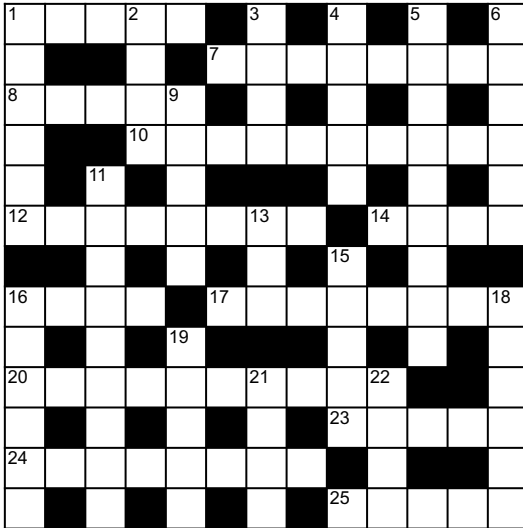
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Crossword by Scorpio



Across

- 1 Revolves, reverses or changes direction (5)
- 7 Car in heartless plots gets praise (8)
- 8 Thorn hesitantly points towards the Arctic (5)
- 10 Absolutely certain as features develop (4,2,4)
- 12 Without frosting and taking heed of it (8)
- 14 Left wing radical at a brisk pace (4)
- 16 Parent is the word for secrecy? (4)
- 17 A young Elizabeth (8)
- 20 Murder during performance or exhibition of agricultural life (6,4)
- 23 A strange thing of darkness (5)
- 24 Sad purge oddly improves and enhances (8)
- 25 Snake counter (5)

Solution 128

- Across** 1. opal 3. crackers 9. car boot 10. brier
11. urn 12. locum 13. fudge 15. clout 17. arena
18. nod 19. Iraqi 20. iceberg 21. enhances 22 eyes
Down 1. once upon a time 2. Arran 4. rotund
5. cobblestones 6. evinced 7. scrambled eggs
8. notification 14. eyewash 16. office 18. needy

Down:

- 1 Metal container briefly incorporated in pigmentation (3,3)
- 2 Sub-machine gun turns up in fish traps (4)
- 3 A hint, or just another one of those pesky anagrams? (4)
- 4 Sue and American soldier come around in fancy dress (5)
- 5 Dissents or is incompatible with (9)
- 6 Sanest sort of agreement (6)
- 9 Animal cage holding unusually tiny coneys hostage initially (5)
- 11 Gloomy yet confused about origin of words (9)
- 13 Ron comes up for a negative alternative (3)
- 15 A marriage or alliance of equals (5)
- 16 Reconcile and assemble (4,2)
- 18 Resist distressed sibling (6)
- 19 I call out purple (4)
- 21 Views palindrome (4)
- 22 Turn breeze (4)

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What's On in Killin and District

August

- 6 NTS event page 15
- 7 NTS event page 15
- 8 Walk in the Park page 21
- 8 NTS events page 15
- 9 NTS events page 15
- 10 Strathfillan CC meeting
- 12 Clanscape/Fingalferly
- 15 Walk in the Park page 21
- 15 NTS events page 15
- 16 Talk at the Big Shed page 32
- 18 Killin Agricultural Show
- 21 NTS event page 15
- 22 Walk in the Park page 21
- 22 NTS event page 15
- 25 Crianlarich Fun Day page 12
- 31 U3A meeting page 6

September

- 5 Walk in the Park page 21
- 5 NTS event [age 15
- 8-9 Doors Open weekend page 31
- 11 Killin Community Council meeting School 7.30pm
- 12 Walk in the Park page 21
- 19 Walk in the Park page 21
- 15/16 Course at the Big Shed page 32
- 26 Walk in the Park page 21
- 28-30 Callander Jazz page 30
- 29 Killin Community Choir Concert McLaren Hall 7.30pm

Bowling
July and August
when the kiosk
is open

Choir
Usually Tuesdays
Church 7.30pm
phone Franny
01567 829048

Craft Group (Tyndrum)
Tuesdays
Tyndrum Village Hall
10.30am-1.30pm

Internet Cafe
Thursdays
Killin Library
11am-4pm

Internet Cafe
Tues, Wed and Friday
Tyndrum Hall 11am-4pm

Junior Golf
Fridays
Golf Club 6pm

Tai Chi
Thursdays
Big Shed
10.30am

Tai Chi
Wednesday
Tyndrum Hall
9.30am

Tiddlers & Toddlers
1st and 3rd Thursday
Community Rooms
10am - 12 noon

Youth Group (Killin)
Tuesdays 7.30pm
Sports and Social Club

Yoga
Fridays
Big Shed
10.30-noon

Ads Index

1st Choice Roofing	30	Julie Baird Pilates	6
24/7 Cars	22	Karelia House	35
Aberfeldy Opticians	35	Killin Hotel	15
Ally Baird Ltd	11	Killin Kutz	34
Andrew Anderson & Sons	38	Killin Library	7
Andrew Baird Optometrist	10	Killin Post office	41
Back Pain Clinic	41	Kinnighallen Lamb	20
BL Decorators	29	KP DIY	38
Breadalbane Bookkeeping	28	Learn to Sing	31
Bridge End Mill	24	Lix Toll Garage	44
Bridge of Lochay Hotel	31	Loch Tay Pottery	22
Capercaillie	37	Luib Hotel	9
Castle Menzies	18	MacFarlane Grey	12
Catering by Carlotta	27	Mains of Taymouth	14
Coach House Hotel	42	Mairi Wilkie Counselling	28
Crianlarich Store	12	Marieke McBean Photography	26
Cruachan Restaurant	24	McAllister, Eric	8
Douglas McRobbie Electrical	34	Murphy, Tom	16
Drain Dragon	34	News First	26
EA Architecture	13	Old Flax Mill	12
Eco Carpet Cleaning	4	Old Smiddy	4
Eureka Garden Shop	19	PFK Performance	42
Fabric Studio	5	Portnellan	40
Gatehouse Nursery	28	Reid Tree and Garden Services	17
Gaulds Funeral Directors	21	Rob Roy Homes	8
Gourlay	17	RTA Plant Hire	32
Grant and Welsh	8	Rural Stirling Housing	27
Grant, Charles	6	S. Forster Electrical	21
Grants Laundry	41	Shutters Restaurant	4
Green Welly Stop	33	Stitt Bros.	39
Hairdressing at Home	16	Tay Fitness 10K Run	29
Heart to Heart	32	The Studio	10
Highland Safaris	13	Wallace Properties	19
Internet Learning	7	Watts, Jane	5
Jasmine Beauty	39	Window Cleaning	39
John Morris Safety	23		

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