

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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Issue 131

December 2012



**Merry Christmas to
all our Readers**



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

The cold dark days are here again and even the most reluctant shopper is beginning to realise that Christmas is nearly upon us. Killin is quieter with fewer visitors about and this is when those in the tourist business set about any changes or improvements which need to be done before next season. The village can also take a clear look at itself and consider how it appears to outsiders and what changes either have to be made or would be desirable. Change is inevitable whether we like it or not and many changes are made to us rather than by us but where possible we should have our say.

The question of a new pharmacy is topmost at the moment and the public meeting will have given us the chance to thrash out the pros and cons. There are always those for and those against any change but no-one can be sure either way how things will work out after a decision - the unexpected always has a part to play.

There is one thing, however, on which everyone is agreed. We do not want to lose the public toilets. It seems incredible that in the 21st century it is proposed to go back to pre-Victorian times and areas of the village will be fouled because of lack of provision for a basic human need. Fortunately discussions are still going on and perhaps a solution will be found.

Outside the village another development is planned by the National Park on Glenoglehead which will provide public loos, as well as a hot food outlet, overnight camping places and a campervan park. (Check exact wording) Will this help Killin? Will it be a threat to the village? Or will it have no effect at all? This will no doubt be a matter for great discussion over the coming weeks.

Meanwhile the future of the Old Mill is still under discussion. The Council first proposed closing the Mill four years ago but kept it going a further two years because of the community interest in acquiring it. It closed last year but the Killin and Ardeonaig Community Development Trust (KAT) opened a thrift shop there on a three month trial basis, run by a group of volunteers. This has proved successful financially and it will open again next March on a longer lease once a business plan has been agreed with the Council. Applications will be then made for grants. The volunteers involved in the Mill are united in their enthusiasm for the project and this is attractive to the visitors and generates positive thinking about the Mill future.

Volunteering there has also been a good way for people new to the village to get to know residents and become part of the community. The more people who get involved, the more momentum will be generated to make acquisition of the Mill a long term success.

In the world outside there are many problems about which we can do little but for the moment at least we can take time off worrying to enjoy the coming festivities with families, friends and our community.

MM

Front page by Ron Allner

Issue 130 Apology: The front page photo of Danny MacAskill was also by Ron Allner and was not attributed to him in that issue.

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A Pharmacy in Killin?

Forth Valley Health Board has accepted an application from Davidsons Chemists to open a pharmacy in Killin.

If this happens the Medical Practice in Killin will no longer be able to dispense drugs and this would potentially have a devastating effect on our medical services.

Whilst we appreciate the skills a pharmacist can bring to our medical services and we currently work with pharmacy colleagues in Callander and Aberfeldy, we feel that, as we

are in a remote and rural area, this application should be refused, just as a previous application in Aberfoyle and Drymen was refused a few years ago for similar reasons.

If a Pharmacy opens in Killin:

- 1 Doctors will not have access to drugs outwith normal working hours.
- 2 Doctors will no longer be able to provide a full course of drugs to remote patients in Crianlarich, Tyndrum and Lochearnhead when we visit them and will not have quick access to a range of specific medications for terminal care patients.
- 3 Patients will have to pick up their prescriptions from our Medical Practice then go to the pharmacy to get their medications.
- 4 It is not clear whether the pharmacy will dispense to the patients in the more remote areas of Crianlarich, Tyndrum and Lochearnhead. If not, how will they get their medications? (Forth Valley Health Board is unable to tell us.)

Killin Medical Practice itself will be under threat because:

- 1 We will lose a GP so patients will have much longer waiting times to see a doctor and care will be compromised.
- 2 Staff will be made redundant.
- 3 When Dr Syme retires, the Practice will no longer be so attractive to an incoming doctor which could mean a once three-doctor practice would have only one doctor and patients might have to travel to Callander or Aberfeldy for medical services.

Services in the Killin areas would also be under threat because:

- 1 FVHB currently has one pharmacist per 4,500 people. As a pharmacy in Killin would provide one pharmacist for

approximately 700 people. We do not feel that would be financially viable in the long term so the promised opening hours could be reduced and the pharmacy could end up closing. The Killin Medical Practice would have already lost its dispensary so patients would then have to travel to Callander or Aberfeldy to pick up medications.

- 2 The pharmacy would also be directly competing with other shops in the village which may suffer in the current economic crisis.

Except for opening on a Saturday morning, the pharmacy proposes to provide the same services that the Practice already provide. Time is short and support is vital to make authorities aware of our feelings on this very important matter affecting us all. You can help by signing the petition at the Surgery and the News First and writing to:-

Fiona MacKenzie, Chief Executive
Forth Valley NHS Board
Carseview Business Park
Stirling FK9 4SW

Rt Hon Anne McGuire MP
Parliamentary Advice Office
22 Viewfield Street
Stirling, FK8 1UA

Bruce Crawford MSP
3:3 Wallace House
Maxwell Place, Stirling, FK8 1JU

Dr Elizabeth Watson

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Niall, Sandra, Stuart and
Jillian wish all our customers
a Merry Christmas and Best
Wishes for 2012

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NEW PHARMACY APPLICATION

NHS Forth Valley has received an Application from Walter Davidson & Sons Ltd to provide NHS pharmaceutical services from proposed premises at:

**Eastmost Shop
Myrtle Grove
Killin
FK21 8UX**

Details of this Application and the process for consideration of new applications can be found on the NHS Forth Valley website:
www.nhsforthvalley.com/get-involved/public-consultations/

As required under the Regulations this public consultation will last for a period of 60 days, ending on Monday 7th January 2013.

Should you have any comments or views, regarding this Application, these can be sent to:

Primary Care Contractor Services, (Pharmacy),
NHS Forth Valley, Room 300A, 3rd Floor North
Wing, Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET
Or emailed to: evelyn.hadden@nhs.net
by Monday 7th January 2013

Points of interest from Killin Community Council November Meeting

Glenoglehead Development

Grant Moir, National Park, presented information on proposed Glenoglehead development. This is part of the Five Lochs Plan designed to reduce damage, vandalism and contamination resulting from free camping in the National Park and comprises a new car park, overnight car park with motor home spaces, toilet facilities and an associated kiosk together with a BBQ seating area and fire facilities. It is hoped that the development will replicate the success and savings achieved at East Loch Lomond. Glenoglehead is the last piece of this development and will not come to fruition for a couple of years. Access for cars to the cycle track area will be curtailed to discourage wild camping in the vicinity of Glenogle Cottages. The project is considered to be sustainable because of the overall benefits demonstrated by the original East Loch Lomond project. Killin Community Council has requested more time to obtain details and make a considered response. It was acknowledged that there had been a deficiency in local consultation. The Community Council would like to receive your comments on this development.

Pharmacy Plans

An application has been made by Davidson's Pharmacy to establish a pharmacy in Killin. This is a very unusual request in a community of under 800 people as that number is not considered to be viable for a full time pharmacist. The Killin Surgery will be required to stop dispensing to Killin residents, as a pharmacy takes precedence in these decisions, and residents will be obliged to go to the pharmacy to have their prescriptions dispensed. The surgery will no longer have a trained pharmacy dispenser and dispensing to the outlying regions will

probably not be sustainable. The number of doctors in Killin is dependent, to a degree, on the practice being a dispensing practice so it is likely that doctor numbers will be reduced with an increase in waiting times for appointments. It was also suggested that the practice would become less attractive for future incoming General Practice applicants should a doctor retire. The basis for accepting the pharmacy in this circumstance will be judged by Forth Valley Primary Care Trust and based on it being "necessary or desirable for the adequate provision of pharmaceutical services in the neighbourhood". Guidelines include "evidence of local deficiencies in the services". Decisions are made on the facts of each individual case. The Pharmacy intends to set up in what was Pride of Place. Should the pharmacy fail or withdraw, the Killin community will need to look further afield to have their prescriptions dispensed.

The various concerns expressed included:

- *access would be difficult for elderly or disabled drivers who would be required to park on the narrow busy Main Street;
 - *emergency prescriptions for terminal care patients at night or out of hours would be difficult to obtain from the nearest duty emergency chemist, probably in Stirling;
 - *Davidson's Pharmacy, having been invited by the practice, were not present to give their views;
 - *there has not been any local consultation. (Apparently, we hear, local consultation has taken place - 25 people have been approached for their views.)
- Forth Valley Health Board may be swayed by public opinion. Martin Earl gave the community his support. The open public meeting will have taken place before this issue of Killin

News comes out. Make sure you pass on your opinions to the Killin Community Council and send your comments, before the 7th January, to Primary Care Contractor Services (Pharmacy), NHS Forth Valley, Room 300A North Wing, Viewforth, Stirling, FK8 2ET.

Job Reference Numbers

We were reminded that every Council repair job has a job reference number. When reporting to Stirling Council it is always wise to take a note of the number to quote should the problem not be resolved.

Public Toilets

Martin Earl informed us that Stirling Council policy is to close down all public toilets once a comfort partner is in place. He reported to Lesley Malkin (Stirling Council) that one of the two comfort partners, both situated near the Dochart Bridge, has reduced opening times to winter hours. In his opinion it would have been better if comfort partners were located at each end of the village. Lesley Malkin's usual process is to remove or sell off redundant toilets quickly but she has agreed to delay this until June next year. The next Killin Community Council meeting will be held on Tuesday 15th January.

WA

Minutes Secretary Required

Killin Community Council
is looking for a
Minutes Secretary
which is a paid appointment.

For further information please
contact Fiona Kennedy at
8 Monemore, Killin



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Remembrance Sunday



Rev. Graham Willey, Rev. John Lincoln, Willie Dunn, John Nalepa, Roy MacGregor, Jim Callan, Captain Denis McBride of Scottish Transport Regiment (Royal Logistics Corps), Warrant Officer Bob Skinner (Adjutant General's Corps), Maj. George Fraser (Adjutant General's Corps) and Scottie Wilson

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15th December

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*Mince Pies, Mulled Wine
Killin Community Choir
Carol Singing
Christmas Trees
Christmas Wreaths
Plants and Gifts*

The Old Mill

The Mill Project ran from 1st July until 30th September. The time and patience of fifty volunteers and the supply of articles for sale with craft sales, group work and donations resulted in an income of £5,860. £2,112 in expenses was deducted giving a profit of £3,748. This will go towards acquiring the Old Mill for the community and work on this continues. The project was designed to help us show Stirling Council that this community can responsibly sustain the building. It also has to demonstrate that the community can acquire £59,000 to undertake repairs that are needed, some urgently, develop the building to make it suitable for community use and provide an income stream sufficient to maintain the building for the future. So far we have had enthusiastic support for our project. This process is a test for the community and for Stirling Council who are working with us to ensure that the business plan we present will satisfy Stirling Councillors. Many problems have surfaced. Who could have anticipated that activities in the Mill would be dependent on the proximity of the public toilets without

which business in the Mill will have to cease? The Council has informed us that the toilets will close for good in December but we hope there are ways around this. The trial period has been tedious and tortuous but we hope the results will be well worth all the effort. In summary, we are seeking sources of funding and trying to obtain assurances from funders that they are keen to support us for the repair of the building, to help us to develop it to make it suitable for the community to use and be independent of the toilets. We must show that we can generate excess funds to cover the costs of running and maintaining the property. We plan to employ a part time manager for two years to develop the business and to increase the income year by year. Thank you all for your generosity and your help with this project.

Report from the Mill Group

At the start of October Stirling Council offered a further three month lease to the Old Mill community project, to enable them to get their business plan completed. This will be submitted to Stirling Council in

February and meanwhile funding is being sought for re-furbishing and repairing the building.

Opening hours were reduced, as the holiday season had come to an end and the number of visitors had slowed down. However, a good number still visit and make a significant contribution to the income.

It is pleasing to see that support from the villagers has not dwindled and donations are still coming in almost on a daily basis. Many people from Killin and surrounding villages continue to use the thrift shop and visitors still come in for information about the local area. It is clear from feedback that the majority are enthusiastic about the mill project and its aims. They also appreciate the information volunteers give them face-to-face and the time that is spent talking to them.

The first floor continues to be used to exhibit arts and crafts and as a small meeting place and class room.

Eleanor Murray held a story telling session which was very well received by locals and visitors. The Callander U3A group met there to discuss the possibility of supporting Killin to develop a U3A group for our village.



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Merry Christmas to all our customers

The business plan is well on the way to being completed and further discussions with funders in under way.

The Mill will close on 14th December for the winter and will open again in March.

Thank you to all volunteers and supporters of the Mill project.

Without them this would never have been the success that it is. So many people have supported us in so many different ways – an example of true community spirit within our beautiful village.

Alicja Fraser

Breadalbane Park

Connan Design Associates have been employed by Stirling Council to produce a design for the Park based on ideas generated from the Park support group. They met up with the group on 8th November with a digital site model in three dimensions that incorporated the results of the last meeting. This was discussed by the group and will go out to public consultation soon. A meeting will be advertised nearer the time.

Priorities include, park drainage and the Play Park but the proposed developments are much more extensive than that.

If you have a particular interest in the developments or would like to help please contact me on 820238 and I will ensure that your name is added to the Park support group.

Sports and Social Club

Discussions continue between representatives of the Sports Club and Stirling Council about the future of the Sports Club building when the 21 year lease ends on the 31st March 2013. Stirling Council have declared that they would be happy to see the

leasehold transferred to the community provided they can be assured that the building can be repaired and maintained by the community.

Project Officer

The application to fund a part time Project Officer to help KAT manage and coordinate the Sports and Leisure Club developments, the Breadalbane Park drainage, other Park developments and do an audit of spaces that could be made available around Killin is still in the process of seeking funding. This is not to be confused with the Old Mill application for the part time manager mentioned above.

Public Toilets

At the meeting to discuss the provision of public toilets in Killin we were informed by Stirling Council that as they have two Comfort Partners in Killin they can cease public toilet provision and close the toilets at the end of this year. A Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park representative and Martin Earl, Stirling Councillor, were also at the meeting and we hope some agreement can be reached before we see similar unhygienic problems to those that occurred when toilets were closed in the past. The two Comfort Partners at the top end of the village are to be well signposted in the village.

Willie Angus
KAT Chairman

MacGregors Market

Having obtained the necessary permissions for the alterations we now need to refit the two shops and to install a new disabled toilet and baby changing facility.

Unfortunately, when we started on the work, we discovered problems with the floor, so we are now working on repairing the affected area. If all goes well we should have all the work completed and both shops up and running by Easter next year.

The old garden shop will be transformed into a Tourist and Community Information Centre with publicly accessible toilets, whilst the original fruit & veg shop will become a local food shop and delicatessen.

We are also working with the National Park and the owners of the building to obtain the funding needed to completely restore the shop frontage to its original state. There is a display in one of the windows detailing our plans and keeping everyone up to date with progress. You can also follow progress online at www.macgregors.org.uk

We are asking local businesses to let us have details of the services they offer so that the information can be made available to visitors and residents. We are also looking for any suppliers of local food, arts and crafts to get in touch so we can help them market their products.

To get in touch with us prior to the shops opening please contact:
Killin Community Enterprise CIC,
5 Craignavie Road, Killin, FK21 8SH, 01567 829050 or
mail@macgregors.org.uk

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to all our customers.*



Audrey Weaver,
Liz and David Howard,
Liz Stevens and Mark Lincoln
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Christmas Cards this year.
Instead we will be donating
money to local causes.
We wish you all a Merry
Christmas and a
Happy New Year



Computer o r n e r



Windows 8 is released

Windows 8 was launched on 26 October and is now installed on all new computers and Windows tablets. As mentioned in previous articles, the look and feel is different to all previous versions of Windows, as it is really designed for touch screen devices and not for a mouse and keyboard.

The current advances in technology and the launch of Windows 8 now marks a revolution in the way we use our computers. Soon the mouse and keyboard will be ancient and we will use voice to command and drive our computers and touch screens to control the display.

There will be a steep learning curve if you move to Windows 8 and this might be too much for some people – but the changes are the way the industry is going and at some stage it will be important at least to try to get used to it.

If you decide to upgrade your existing computer to Windows 8, then you should be aware that applications and programs on Windows XP will need to be reinstalled, although Windows 7 applications "should" run on Windows 8 (according to Microsoft).

It will now be increasingly difficult to find a new computer with Windows 7 installed and impossible to find one with XP or Vista. If you believe you need to keep Windows 7, VISTA, or Windows XP systems (for instance in your business network) then you should consider your options before it is too late.

Windows 8 is designed for modern devices including Windows phones, tablets and all in one computers. These will benefit from its new user interface as it is geared up for touch screens. However, older laptops will not be able to use all the Windows 8 features due to the limitations of the mouse.

New features within Windows 8 include :

Skydrive, which is an internet storage facility for you to use to back up your data

Microsoft Store – where you can download "apps" for Windows 8

Integration with Microsoft Office 2013 (early days yet, but big promises have been made)

Email/Calendar/Word Processing handling

Personally I am cautious about any new launch of operating system, as history has shown that it takes a while for bugs to be fixed, and security loopholes mended. But we will see.

Shopping for Christmas

It is that time of year again and we are looking to find new technology for our loved ones as gifts for Christmas. As the past 12 months have seen rapid changes in the way we use our computers/phones/tablets, I believe we should now be looking at using Smart Phones and Tablet computers for internet access whilst on the move and other touch screen devices for fixed locations. The age of the desktop for home use has now passed us by.

My only concern is that Windows 8 compatible devices are new to the market and, perhaps, will become cheaper as they become more popular – but this will not happen before the end of the year.

But for me, I will be looking for a "convertible" device, which is a touch screen tablet, but one that has a removable keyboard – so it can also be used as a laptop.

Mark Lincoln
07786 633877

Congratulations to Mark

(He came 3rd nationally in a Bridge competition, Charity Event for Children in Need)



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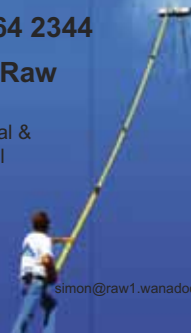
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Frost Report



Friends and Foes

I was sitting having my morning coffee in the garden, as we retired folk do, when a chiffchaff came to the feeders. After a moment or two he must have mistaken me for a tree as he came down and sat on my knee and stayed there for quite a while, until my coffee was cold at any rate. On a similar occasion it was the regular pheasants who came to my attention. There was a commotion amongst them as a sparrowhawk was diving down attacking one of the hen pheasants. One of the cock pheasants sprang into action attacking the sparrowhawk till it retreated.

Another interesting encounter took place on a wet day with a gale force westerly wind in the stag season at Glen Falloch. We were spying fairly low down the hill when a bird dived past at high speed. The next second we realised why. An eagle was chasing it. The bird was a guillemot - these are sometimes blown into this area in stormy weather. On my way home I found him by the roadside, alright but a bit traumatised. I was able to move him to a safer spot from which I hope he found his way safely back to sea after the storm.

While we were away in Speyside recently we observed a pheasant totally perplexed at a different encounter. The said hen pheasant was feeding on the fallen scraps below a bird feeding table when six red squirrels charged along chasing each other around the table at full pelt. All the squirrels looked paler and greyer than the ones here. Maybe it was their winter coat but ours still seem very red and I have noticed that many along the south side of the loch have a very dark, almost black band along their backbone and tail. I wonder if any work has been done on locality colour variations.

Thinking about squirrels and animals not really recognising a human I can, maybe answer Mrs. Paterson's query in the last Killin News when a squirrel ran up Ian's leg while on the hill. This summer in Yorkshire we had noticed on several occasions that grey squirrels were about quite long distances from woodland. Maybe the one at Auchlyne was just widening the range, indeed thinking that it had found a lone tree and he was investigating in search of some nuts! We are not told how long the squirrel took to decide whether the younger or older of the 'trees' would be the best bet for the best nuts.

On the bird front things have quietened down a bit. This year there were huge flocks of fieldfares and redwings feasting off this year's. For days there was their constant chatter but now they have left in search of further food sources.

The big news at the moment is the spread of Ash die back disease. This is believed to be caused by a fungus that may also affect Scots pine and it is also believed that it can be harboured in garden plants such as lilac, forsythia and privet while these plants are not themselves harmed. Another disease is affecting larch trees and there are plans to fell over 100,000 in an attempt to halt the spread of this disease.

The R.S.P.B. wants to install wind turbines at the Loch of Strathbeg nature reserve in Aberdeenshire. Since the organisation has, itself, objected to many other wind farms, including the 'Donald Trump' one, the plan has come under fire from protest groups who accuse them of using double standards. I expect the reply will probably have more spin than a squirrel's tail.

Tim Frost

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Call Andrew or Lynnette
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Strathfillan Community Development Trust

The SCDT Christmas Fair will be held on Saturday 1st December in Tyndrum Village Hall from 12 o'clock until 6pm. There will be a variety of stalls offering high quality arts and crafts goods, delicious produce, soft furnishings, jewellery and more besides. Why not buy some truly unique Christmas gifts for someone special this year and bag a bargain too?

Weather permitting we will have outdoor covered stalls, complimented by mulled wine and mince pies. To book a stall, please get in touch with me soon.

CiA Success

Following Alan's "Paths for All" award the CiA (Crianlarich into Action) working group were winners of a Provost's Civic Award for the Crianlarich Heritage Paths project. Isla Craig and Alan Smailes represented the group at the award ceremony at Stirling Castle. The hard work on the project was recognised once again when Isla Craig was awarded "Volunteer of the

Year" by the Community Partnership at the annual Gathering held in Drymen. As well as her certificate Isla was given £100 towards the project. It's heartening that the hard work on this project has been recognised so much this year. Congratulations to all our award winners!

The Gathering

As directors of the NP Community Partnership, Alan Smailes and I attended the recent annual "Gathering" in Drymen. This is an opportunity for all member community groups to get together and find out what's going on in the National Park community. The focus this year was on Realising Community Assets and the guest speaker was Pam Warhurst, chair of Incredible, Edible Todmorden.

Speaking without any notes but straight from the heart, Pam told how a simple idea has transformed their community. Using the common denominator of food, they have brought their community together, improved their environment, their health, local businesses and much, much more besides. It's a truly inspirational story.

Alan spoke about the first steps to developing the local veg boxes in Crianlarich this year and, given the example of Todmorden, who knows what may develop!!

Joyce Russell
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)



Isla, Joyce and Alan

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Strathfillan

Strathfillan Community Council

Provost's Awards 2012

Alan and Isla attended the awards ceremony and dinner at Stirling Castle on behalf of the CiA to receive the Provost's Community Award. Copies are on the notice board and in the shop. The Award will be placed in the Village Hall.

Tyndrum to Oban Path

Alan attended the inaugural meeting concerning the proposed Tyndrum to Oban Path in Oban on 5th November, chaired by SNH. It was agreed that Oban Council should lead the formation of the path and SNH agreed to set aside funding for a feasibility study to be carried out on behalf of Oban Council.

Outcomes for Stirling

Alan attended a meeting on 6th November at Killin regarding the above. Barbara Allen (SC) gave a short talk on Outcomes for Stirling which is a 10 year plan based on the needs and aspirations of the community as a whole. A workshop ensued for the group to express their opinions on rural issues that affect our area with Breadalbane. These issues will be included in the plan.

Car Parking in Willow Square

The proposed parking solution for 12 marked parking bays has met with opposition from residents and tenants alike. Moira contacted Neil Newlands (SC Housing) about these concerns and reminded him that this was not what was asked for in the first instance. A lay-by was requested to ease the pressure of parking. He explained that the LEAP fund would not be able to go this far and that Housing tenants were in a minority therefore requiring house owners to pay a proportion of any major works and it would be highly unlikely for planning to be obtained for such a project. It was decided



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by the Way

that the 'status quo' should prevail in this instance. No further action is to be taken and the residents will have to resolve the issues among themselves.

Police Report by Craig Murray

There have been two reported thefts from properties/vehicles in the area. A report on an attempt to obtain money through false pretences in our area and further north was highlighted. There were two mountain rescues over the period.

Grontmij

Raymond Travers gave us details of the timescales and work patterns during the building of the by-pass. It was assumed that work will start around August 2013 and will last for about 52 weeks. We discussed facilities signage and the removal of the 'Gateway' feature sign at the western end of the village as this does not conform to current road safety designs.

Proposed Pharmacy at Killin

Doctors Syme and Watson along with Fiona Buchanan, Practice Manager, attended the meeting to discuss the proposed application to open a pharmacy in Killin. A robust discussion in favour of our present situation ensued. We will all write letters of opposition to the proposal to the relevant authorities. A petition is available to sign at Brodies,

Crianlarich Store and the Surgery, to name but three places.

Crianlarich into Action

We received funding for the solicitors fees to allow the lease of the Lower Station Yard to proceed. Funds provided by Stirling Council's Community Pride Fund. Planning permission has been applied for the network of paths around Crianlarich.

Fiona Rides to the Top



Fiona Robertson, joint owner of the Green Welly Stop at Tyndrum, has been appointed as the Honorary President of the Forth Valley Advanced Motorists. Fiona recently passed her 'Advanced Motorcycle' test after having achieved her 'Advanced Car' test a few years ago. She and her husband Edward are keen 'bikers' and, living in rural west central Scotland, appreciate the extra riding skills that the IAM course gives. Further information on driving/riding courses visit our website - www.forthvalleyiam.org.uk



FESTIVE FARE

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Lochtryside Race Weekend



The third year of the Meall Nan Tarmachan Hill race weekend was held on 13th and 14th October with turnout not too bad considering a busy race calendar across Scotland. Saturday's Meall Nan Tarmachan race was wet and cloudy as usual but not too cold on the tops.

Top International female runner, Angela Mudge led stunningly well all the way up the hill and along the ridge but was just passed by the three males on the descent of the south ridge before Meall Garbh. Angela set a new women's record of 55 mins 51 secs and Brian Marshall won in a time of 53 mins 48 secs. Bob Wiseman was second in 54 mins 37 secs and third was local runner Stephen Rawlinson in 55 mins 41 secs.

The Cancer Committee made a stunning lunch that has been the talk of the Scottish Hill running community ever since. A big thank you to Sarah Heward of the Real Food Café who generously gave us our goody bags and to all the marshals and helpers on the day. Great prizes were on offer for all the hill runners along with raffle prizes at the Ceilidh on Saturday night. We are really grateful to everyone who came to the Ceilidh and helped raise a final total of £1,000 for Cancer Research UK, with the raffle providing most of that. We hope everyone enjoyed both a lovely meal provided by Craig and Carlotta and the dancing to music from Jack McRobbie and his friends.

To finish the weekend, Sunday's Sron a Chlachain race was a nice warm and sunny run with showers holding off. The race was won by current record holder Stephen Rawlinson in 22 mins 59 secs chased strongly by Angela Mudge who broke the record in 25 mins 13 secs. Interestingly, this is faster than the current record for the Highland Games race too, so still much to talk about on this small but sharp hill.

We hope to see even more runners next year and if you are interested in taking part just pop into the Killin Outdoor Shop and have a chat with me.

Stephen Rawlinson

Thrifty Christmas at the Old Mill Saturday 8th December

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Killin Tourism Forum

The Killin Tourism Forum held an open information meeting in The Bridge of Lochay Hotel on Wednesday evening, 7th November. Some 70 tourism-related businesses within the Killin area were invited by email and 12 businesses were represented at the meeting.

Stuart Brain, Senior Grading Advisor with the Perth-based Green Tourism Business Scheme gave a presentation about the nature of the scheme, the benefits of membership and the possibility of marketing the area as a "green" destination. A number of participants stayed behind afterwards to get more details of the scheme from Stuart. Other items reported at the meeting included:

Brown Tourism Signs The National Park will pay for modification to existing signage and improvements to the visibility of the signs at Lix Toll. Hopefully, this work will be completed by March 2013.

The Park is applying (to itself!) for planning permission to erect one of the new stone Park Entrance signs at the Bridge of Lochay.

If funds are available at the end of the Park's financial year, a Welcome to Killin sign may also be erected.

Suitable locations for two Tourist Information Points (TIPs) have been identified in consultation with the Park Planning Officer, one incorporating an improved Community notice board. Designs are required before site owners can be approached and planning permission sought. We will shortly apply for funding for two sets of designs and construction of the first TIP.

The Killin tourism web site (www.killin.net) was launched on 1st September. Visits to the site in October were 50% higher than in the first month. Businesses are asked to make use of the site to advertise events, special offers etc.

Concerns have been expressed by visitors about the appearance of the village (empty shops; derelict buildings; unattractive frontages). The need for a community initiative to make the village more attractive (flower baskets; winter lights) is apparent.

Ken Chew

Ring of Breadalbane Explorer

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 pilot service, operated by Kingshouse Travel, ran four days a week in each direction until 16th September.

A total of 1,400 passengers used the service in the nine-week period and it attracted a lot of positive comment and reviews, appearing on BBC Scotland's *Out of Doors* radio programme and *Landward* TV programme. Political figures such as Roseanna Cunningham, MSP, and Mike Williamson, P&K councillor, promoted the service actively in the local press.

The feedback forms returned by travellers indicate a 50:50 split between tourist users and local residents, suggesting that it has both a tourism benefit and public transport function. The service was rated as either "Excellent" or "Good" by 97% of travellers. The benefits of the service included the outstanding landscapes and walking and cycling opportunities access by the service and the major visitor attractions served by the bus. 68% of passengers would not have made the journey if the Explorer hadn't been running. 23% would have made the journey by car, evidence of carbon saving.

Unfortunately, such a rural service can never be economic on fare revenue alone and requires considerable subsidy. The finance for this year's pilot trial came from Loch Lomond & The 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 Breadalbane Tourism Co-operative is now preparing plans for 2013 and beyond, in an effort to obtain long-term funding.

Ken Chew

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Falls of Dochart Retirement Home 10th Anniversary

On Friday 7th December Killin Care Trust is celebrating the 10th Anniversary of its ownership of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home. After an Afternoon Tea for residents and friends at the Home, there will be a concert and ceilidh in the MacLaren Hall in the evening. Posters for this event are displayed throughout the village. Together with our celebration we hope to raise funds for the roof repairs and heating upgrade in the home. The first half of the evening will be a concert with dancing taking over in the second half. This should be a great social evening for all ages.

Jim Cushley

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GIFT VOUCHERS

Off-duty Dog to the Rescue

About 1.30pm on 15th October, Constable Andy Fleming returned home to Killin Police House, after being out with his family. It had been a dry and sunny morning but, despite the autumnal sunshine, the temperature was very cold. He let the family dogs (including Mountain Rescue Search Dog, Dugald) out into the garden and shortly afterwards Dugald began to bark frantically at the rear of the police house. The persistent barking went on for several minutes and Andy went out but there was no-one about. However the dog continued to bark which was unusual for him to do without good cause. Andy quietened the dog and then heard soft cries for help and moans nearby. Looking around, he discovered his neighbour, Mrs Margaret MacDonald, lying flat on her back on the gravel in her back garden. Clambering over the fence, he hurried to assist her and with some help Margaret was able to get back onto her feet and walk back into her home, where medical assistance and an ambulance were called and she was taken to hospital. Margaret, who has mobility problems, was extremely cold after falling several hours earlier and lying there unable to get up. Her cries for help had gone unheard until Dugald came to her rescue. 2 year old Dugald, a black Labrador retriever, is a Mountain Rescue Search Dog with SARDA (Southern Scotland) and is trained to detect human scent in open spaces. Although this wasn't a 'dog find' in the traditional sense, the remarkable aspect was the persistent way Dugald reacted to the cries for help, using his deep booming bark to draw Andy's attention to Margaret's plight. Happily she has since recovered and returned home.

Incy Wincy Whoppers

In the October issue of the Killin News there was a photo of a large 'House Spider'. Although I can't definitively tell you what species it is, I can tell you that there are five species of 'House Spider' found in Britain. These large bodied, long-legged, brown spiders spin a sheet web that leads to a tubular retreat. The Common or Domestic House Spider (*Tegenaria domestica*) is the smallest of the five, with a body size of up to 10mm, and is found throughout Britain, including my house. The spiders you see most often running across the carpet are males, searching for females. They have longer, more agile legs than females, as well as having bloated pedipalps (the two appendages at the front of the spider that make it look as if it is wearing boxing gloves) and more elongated abdomens. Females that reside indoors can live for several years on the same web, with some living for as long as seven years in rarely disturbed places. The Giant House Spider or Cobweb spider (*Tegenaria gigantea*) is more commonly found in southern England where it occurs in houses and out-buildings as well as outside. Female Giant House Spiders can have a body size of up to 18mm in length and a leg span of around 45mm, with males having a slightly smaller body, but a leg span of up to 75mm. There is a closely related species (*Tegenaria saeva*) that is more common in the north and west of Britain that is similar in size to the Giant House Spider and can be found in similar environments. My best guess would be that the spider photographed by the Lang family is a male *Tegenaria saeva*. The largest of the house spiders is the Cardinal Spider (*Tegenaria parietina*) which can have a body size of up to 20mm. This species is restricted to southern England. It gets its common name from the legend that the spiders living in Hampton Court used to terrify Cardinal Wolsey.

John Holland

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Mervyn's Weather ... and More

That brief spell of settled weather which is an almost infallible feature of mid-October and which was once known as "St. Luke's little summer" has come and gone on cue. The Saint this year however was rather grudging in his provision, there being but two days of brilliant sunshine, the remaining four or five being, although rain free, dull and drab. To one, among many others, who has experienced the dramatic evolution of farming practices since World War II, it is a far cry now from the horse-drawn harvesting implements, mowers, turners, rakes, and "Tumbling-Tams", for the hay crop, reaper-binders, corn carts and so on for the grain harvests. Nowadays it is round-baling of hay and wrapping and baling for haylage/silage, while combines, ever increasing in size, deal with corn crops. During the miserable weather conditions of 2012 it has been interesting to see some of my neighbours snatch, with literally minutes, rather than hours, to spare, crops of silage and indeed some hay,

from the jaws of the next fast approaching weather front by dint of considered observation of impending conditions plus efficient use of speedily operating baler and wrapper.

... and More

Continuing our journey eastwards from Balnassuim, along the north shore of Loch Tay, we come to Croft An Tygan – Croit An Taghain – the croft, or perhaps hillock, of the Fomarts i.e. Polecats or Pine Martens.

Overlording the above is the mighty bulk of Ben Lawers, at 3,984 feet the tenth highest mountain in the British Isles. There are several derivations for the name of this peak - Beinn An Latha Ur – "the mountain of the new day" due to the summit being the first visited by the rising sun. In Manx gaelic there are several hills in The Isle of Man called Cronk Ny Airey La - the equivalent of Cnoc An Eirigh Latha in Gaelic – the hill of the rising day i.e. dawn, which could add credibility to this suggested translation. Secondly Beinn Labhair – loud sounding or loquacious,

possibly due to the noise of the Lawers Burn or noisy winds. Finally the word Ladhar meaning hoof-shaped seems as likely as any. Coir'Ladhar is a huge cirque on the eastern side of the mountain, more indeed of an amphitheatre, bounded on the South side by the eastern ridge of Ben Lawers itself and on the north by the "Munros" of An Staic – the steep one, Meall Garbh – the rough hill - and Meall Gruaidh – the hill of the cheeks - (alternatively Meall Ghreigh – of herds, mainly horses). There is a correlation to Ben Lawers in the Garbh Chrioch - "the rough bounds" in Western Inverness-shire – Ladhar Bheinn, also hoof shaped and also with a large east-facing corrie, Coire Dhorcaill – the dark or mist filled corrie.

Mervyn K. Browne
Ardtalnaig

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A Night at the Opera?



For some folks, the thought of sitting through a night at the opera would have them scrabbling for excuses not to go, but in September the Killin Community Choir treated us to a night of fun, laughter and tears and that was just the raffle.

The evening started well and the main hall was packed so latecomers were directed to the balcony. We had been well supplied with the offerings from the bar, thanks to the hard work of John and Marion Strang, so when the choir burst into the "Drinking Song" we were happy to raise our glasses and join in.

The choir was then joined by members of the Scottish Opera and for the rest of the night we enjoyed a range of solos, duets, the choir and the whole ensemble. To pick out a favourite in the first half would be difficult, but amongst the front runners has to be the hilarious "Cat Duet" by Karen and

our own Franny, closely followed by the choir with a funky "All That Jazz". Further stellar performances included Fiona's beautiful rendition of an aria from Carmen, Nigel's aria from Tannhauser and Bronagh's haunting "Kiss my Lips".

Along came the interval, and little did we know what was in store. Fiona revealed her hidden talent – calling the raffle. She had us rolling in the aisles with her quips about every ticket, every prize and every winner. It really was worth buying the tickets just to hear her "patter".

On to the second half with the choir bobbing along to "A Policeman's Lot is not a Happy One". The gentlemen were appropriately attired with hats, helmets and truncheons thanks to Bob the ex-Bobbie.

Highlights of the second half have to include the poignant "Soave sia il vento" from *Così fan Tutte*. Franny,

Nigel and Karen gave us an insight as to how real meaning can be conveyed by such expressive voices.

The choir excelled in their rendition of "Va Pensiero" (The Hebrew Slaves' Chorus) - so difficult to control the power, they did it with such passion that they raised the roof - well done. Nigel showed us what he was made of by giving us a twirl at the end of the "Scots Song". Franny sang her heart out with "Can't Help Loving that Man of Mine" (where were you, Jay?) and she Whistled a Happy Tune in the Broadway Medley in which the choir were ably taught by Bronagh to sing "Do-Re-Me".

Many thanks to the amazingly talented accompanists Frances and Oliver. A night of great entertainment - please give us more of the same - will you not come back again?

Alistair Ferguson



Christmas at Luib Hotel

Thank you all for your support through 2012

Nelly and James wish you a Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy and prosperous 2013

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New Year's Night Dance

The traditional New Year Ceilidh Dance will take place in the McLaren Hall on the evening of Tuesday 1st January. The doors will open at 8.30pm and admission is by ticket only. Tommy Walker and the guys will be in charge of the dancing for the umpteenth time and hot soup with a selection of sandwiches and mini sausage rolls will be served during the interval. The usual raffle will be drawn with a good selection of prizes for the lucky winners.

Tickets can be reserved and paid for from News First, Bobby Lafferty (820854) or Alex Stewart (820224). The price remains unchanged, Adults £8, Juniors 5 to 15 years, Senior Citizens £6 and a Family ticket (two Adults and two Juniors or Senior Citizens) £22. Extra members can be added to the Family package at a cost of £7 and £4 respectively.

Alex Stewart



A Local U3A?

U3A stands for University of the 3rd Age but

don't be put off by the word "university". It is based on learning for pleasure with no qualifications needed. It is for people who are no longer in full time employment eg. retired/semi retired and this applies both to tutors and learners. Classes are held in the daytime, usually fortnightly and generally last about two hours, including a break for refreshments. They provide educational, creative and leisure opportunities in a friendly environment and the choice of subjects is enormous.

The Callander and West Perthshire U3A is going from strength to strength, with all courses highly popular. For an annual membership of £16 you can attend any number of classes, which is a tremendous bargain as you could potentially go to twenty or more different classes. (Further U3A information from www.u3a.org.uk)

Some Killin folk are already keen members and there has been a fair amount of local interest but with most classes being held in Callander, distance and transport could be a problem for many local hopeful students so the idea of setting up a local U3A group is under discussion. To achieve this we would need a minimum of forty people interested in membership, plus local tutors to take the classes. Possible venues would depend on numbers but could include The Old Mill, private houses and some hotels. To assess whether it might be feasible to start a local U3A we need to establish possible local interest so if you are interested, please complete the questionnaire below and return it by 16th December.

Questionnaires can be left at Killin Library, Killin News office, Brodies at Tyndrum and Crianlarich Store

A meeting for those interested will be held in mid-January to discuss the results and future plans.

Questionnaire re proposed local U3A

Name

Address.....

.....

.....

Tel No..... Email.....

1. Would you like to attend U3A classes if they were held locally? Yes No
2. What subjects would you like to see on offer
Current examples are gardening, French, history, painting, Astronomy, creative stitchery, history, current affairs but any suggestions are welcome.
Please list below:

3. Would you be willing to be a tutor ? Yes No

NB. As a tutor, no qualifications needed, just an enthusiasm for your subject with some knowledge, skill and experience.

4. What subject(s) would you be happy to teach?
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Smoked Salmon and Prawn cocktail
Chicken and Olive terrine with oatcakes
Creamy Garlic Mushrooms on toasted ciabatta

Main

Butter Roasted Turkey
Pork Loin wrapped with Cranberry Jus
Festive Nut Roast
Fresh Salmon Fillet with Cranberry & Herb Crust
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Dessert

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Work on the Birk's cinema has been coming on in leaps and bounds in recent weeks. The old roof has now been removed and replaced, walls repaired, some additional steel reinforcing introduced and holes punched in where the new floor to roof windows will face out on to Chapel Street.

Internally, the necessary modifications have been made to prepare for the installation of the mezzanine floor, the under-floor cooling structures have been completed and the auditorium wall built. Our contractors are broadly on schedule. We anticipate that the work will be completed in February and the cinema will open for business around Easter next year. Our cash flow is broadly as expected and, thanks to the generosity of our funders, we have sufficient funds to complete all the work.

At our AGM at the end of August, Charlotte Flower stood down as Chair, having completed her full term. Following Charlotte's

retirement, I was voted in as the new Chair. It will be a hard act to follow but, having been involved with the project for over three years now, I have had the opportunity to work with Charlotte and the rest of the team during that time and I am confident that together we can see the project through to completion of the cinema and beyond. Charlotte is now Chair of the trading company "The Birks Cinema Ltd." (TBC), which has been established as agreed at the EGM earlier this year. The Board of TBC met for the first time in July and is now in the very final stages of recruiting a Manager for the cinema; we expect the successful candidate to be in post at the beginning of December, in time to take forward the recruitment of other staff and volunteers as well as influencing the final fit-out of the building and making the necessary preparations to open for business.

Muriel Dunbar

Chair of the Board of FoTB

The Screen Machine

The Screen Machine in will be at Aberfeldy (behind Girvan's) in December:

Thursday 13th & Friday 14th :
Madagascar 3:

Europe's Most Wanted (PG) 17.30
Skyfall (12A) 20.00

Saturday 15th:

Madagascar 3:

Europe's Most Wanted (PG) 14.00

It's a Wonderful Life (U) 17.00

Skyfall (12A) 20.00

Callander Jazz Club

This new club was launched on Sunday 28th October in the Waverley Hotel Callander. Meetings will be held monthly, on Sunday afternoons, 3pm to 6pm, in the Waverley's Function Room. They will be hosted by a house band or a guest line up or sometimes by both. Next dates are Sunday 25 November (Moodswing); Sunday 23 December (House band and guests)

Admission fee is £2.50 per person per session, payable at the door.

This will give access to three hours of good live jazz music.

For further information contact Graham Oliphant 07963 311 483 or email: graham@callanderjazz.com

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McLaren High School

Senior Awards Ceremony

Peter Martin, Headteacher, opened the evening by introducing Dr Morag Hardy (née Arkieson) a former pupil who in 1942 won one of McLaren's most prestigious prizes - The War Memorial Prize for services to others. She went on to win the Dux in 1945 and was Head Girl!

Dr Morag Hardy and Magnus Haughey



Danny Murphy, a former Headteacher of the school, gave the keynote speech illustrating how 'ordinary people' can make big contributions to society through resilience and hard work. A trait ably demonstrated by Liam Burnett and Caitlin Cameron, who took this year's War Memorial Prize for their charity work, along with others, for example, Aimee Higginson who climbed Mount Kilimanjaro and personally raised over £8,000 for research into Parkinson's disease. The formal part of the evening was brought to a close by the outgoing Head Boy (Liam Garvie) and Head Girl (Megan Rhys) who encouraged the pupils to take full advantage of all the support both inside and outside of the classroom offered to them at McLaren.

Football Victory for McLaren!

On 28th September our senior football team battled it out against

Cardinal Newman High School (Bellshill, North Lanarkshire) for a win in their first match for six months. Throughout the match Calum Wyllie, in goal, stopped any shots that came his way in his own unorthodox way! When the referee blew the full-time whistle McLaren celebrated their unexpected, but well deserved victory, beating Cardinal Newman 1-0. With the McLaren team on top form, we look forward to seeing the boys back on the pitch!

Under 16s Hockey v Stirling High

The Under 16 hockey team played against Stirling High on 27th September and won 13-8!

Senior Rugby Match v Alloa

McLaren travelled to Alloa on 9th October for their quarter final match in the Brevin Dolphin Plate. They performed exceptionally well and won the game 69-0. Try scorers were Hamish Innes (2), Angus Perrie (2), Andrew Howells (2), Ollie Wesley, Angus Leishman, Michael Crow, Cameron Reid and Ryan Williamson. Harry Milligan added to these tries with seven successful conversions. Well done to all players! The boys now await the draw for the semi-final.

Under 16 Rugby v Alva (11 October)

McLaren travelled to Alva Academy on a wet and windy day determined to improve on their last performance. The team was strengthened by the return of some key players and won the game 82-5. Try scorers were Andrew Nixon (3), Alistair Orr (3), Cameron Hendry, Craig Arnott, Will Cartwright, Angus McIntosh, Logan Trotter, Sam Frost, Connor Clark and Finn Rhys. The boys shared the kicking duties and between them successfully converted six of the twelve tries. Well done to the team!

Ski Team Success

On 26th October Regan Dingwall, and James Ronald took part in a ski race qualifier at Tillicoultry dry ski slope. There were a total of 6 secondary school teams entered into this qualifier and around 5 different qualifying events around Scotland. There were two categories: Experienced Racers and Novice Racers. The McLaren Ski Team was ecstatic to find that they had come 1st in the novice section. They now move on to the Final at Snowfactor in Braehead on 12th November where they hope to get as good a result!

Regan Dingwall S3



Winning Ski team

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Killin Primary School

Skiing Success for Crianlarich and Killin Primary Schools

On 12th November Crianlarich/Killin School came 4th in the final in the schools dual slalom relay, held at Braehead. They just missed out on a medal with a 3-3 score in the head to head race novice section. They skied brilliantly and did their schools proud. McLaren High took first place in the Senior Race with determined fast skiing. Well done to them all.



Winning Ski Team

Logan Mailer - Crianlarich Primary
Anna Stitt- Killin Primary
Ross Ronald - Crianlarich Primary
Catriona Gammons - Crianlarich Primary

Sunflower Competition Winners



Largest Open Flower 1st Seonag Hay, 2nd Ellie Ridgewell, 3rd Caitlin Grant

Tallest Sunflower 1st Ellie Ridgewell, 2nd Caitlin Grant, 3rd Seonag Hay

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Killin Primary School

Staffing

Mrs Tyrell will be leaving us to take up a Principal Teacher post at Crianlarich on 26th November. Mrs Tyrell is an excellent teacher and although we will all miss her at Killin, she will still be very closely involved in the school developments across the three schools. We wish her all the best in her new role.

Mrs Marie Law has been appointed the new Class teacher for Class 3. She is currently working at Crianlarich Primary School. Mrs Law will liaise very closely with Mrs Tyrell to ensure a smooth transition for all the children in Class 3 and will be visiting them before taking up her post on 26th November. We have also said a fond farewell to Jo Robinson who has now moved across the playground to Killin Nursery. Jo has been a very dedicated member of our team and we all miss her.

Mrs Sammy Hibbert has been appointed to work in Class 1 on Thursday and Fridays and we are in the process of recruiting an SLA for the beginning of the week. I will let you know who the successful candidate is as soon as we have appointed one.

Vue Cinema Trip

On Friday 2nd November Killin Primary School took a trip along with Strathgry and Crianlarich Primary Schools to the Vue Cinema in Stirling. We went to see Dr. Seuss The Lorax. We chose The Lorax because it is a lesson to a man not to cut all the trees down and there was only one seed for a real living tree. This tree is not like any other tree, it is a Truffula Tree.

Erin & Lydia

Killin & Crianlarich Nursery

As part of our Improvement Plan we are taking a closer look at the nursery vision and values. We believe that learning is a life long process and that we all learn from each other, so to reflect this, our vision statement for Killin and Crianlarich Nursery is "Learning Together; Learning for Life". To support our vision we selected values that are appropriate to our nursery environment. We are in the process of making this visible in both nurseries through our values tree. We chose a tree as it symbolises continual growth. Each month we focus on one value to support and develop everyone's understanding of what it means.

Our tree will evidence the current value in practice through documentation from educators, management and families. Our hope is that families will support the growth of the tree as they contribute to it. In Crianlarich Nursery our tree "grew overnight" and has received many positive comments. The children have been involved in making choices about the development of the tree for example materials required, colours, shapes of leaves etc. We would like to thank our local artist for his involvement (you know who you are). We would like to involve the wider community in nursery life and if you would like to see our tree please feel free to pop in to either nursery and have a look.

Soft Play Party

The Soft Play Club held a Halloween party which was enjoyed by the children and parents alike. We had spooky games and even spooky party food. Thank you to all who provided food and to the children for dressing up. The Soft Play Club is for pre-school children and we meet every Tuesday in the Sports Pavilion.

Kirsteen Riddell & Fiona Boath



Killin Youth Group



Killin Community Council nominated KYG for a Provost's Award which Pete Waugh and Finn Rhys were delighted to receive on behalf of the group from Stirling Provost, Councillor Mike Robbins, at a very grand occasion in Stirling Castle. KYG was presented with the award for its hard work to encourage pride in the community – organising events like litter picks and lay-by clean-ups and car washing to raise funds. The Group offers young people living in a rural area fun things to do in a structured, safe way. KYG meets every Tuesday evening for a varied programme of activities. Coming up: Wide Games, Film night, Christmas Craft making and a trip to Edinburgh for ice skating and panto. A recent grant from the Scottish Community Foundation will help keep the group going this year. Open to all local high school age young people. Call Pete Waugh for more information: 07786 558 861



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The Big Shed

The Big Shed has been the venue for a variety of very popular activities over the last couple of months and the landscaping in front of the building has finally been completed. The diggers are away and the land is flat, well drained and seeded so by the springtime it will be looking very neat and tidy and ready for use in outdoor events.

Artist Anne Gilchrist, is displaying her paintings in the main hall until the spring. Anne is hoping to become The Big Shed's artist in residence when she comes to live and work in the artist's studio upstairs for nine months from April 2013.



Tuesday Club

Killin's Tuesday Club came for tea, home-baking, a tour and a chat. Killin Youth Group came for Tai Chi and local teacher John Connelly gave a demonstration and then gave the local youngsters a taster session with swords, fans and precise foot work! They are returning for craft sessions with local artist Georgia Crook and in December a Christmas pizza night. Clare Stephens ran a sellout yoga day in October and returns on February 24th. The next Buddhist yoga day will be in March. Register your interest for either of these dates early to avoid disappointment because places are limited.

Cunningly arranged to follow our annual AGM last month, we held a curry night and enjoyed a whole range of delicious curries and also raised funds for the Bhopal Medical Appeal, and in particular the Herb Garden.

In October we welcomed a return of the Classical Concert Series, starting with a sell out performance from the Scottish Clarinet Quartet 'Around The World in 80 Minutes'.

Future Events:

12th January Baby Issac Jazz/Blues Band Bar opens 7.30pm for 8pm Tickets £10

26th January Burns Night at The Big Shed 7.30pm Tickets £10

10th February Tai Chi Day Sunday 10am - 4pm Tickets £30 including lunch

23rd February Classical Concert Maxwell String Quartet 7.30pm Tickets £10

Tickets for any of these events and information about hiring The Big Shed, or about running courses can be obtained from **Jane Watts** Project Development Officer 6566935 or jane@bigshed.org.uk

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Double Celebration for Ardeonaig Rural

The last few months have been a busy and successful time for the ladies of the Ardeonaig and District SWRI. Celebrating 40 years of sumptuous suppers and tantalising talks, friends old and new were invited to a seventies-themed tea party at the Craggan Boys' Brigade Centre on Sunday 30th September. Ladies from across the Breadalbane Group, as well as the National Chairman of the SWRI Isobel Robertson, took to the lochside for the event and an enjoyable (and suitably over-indulgent) time was had by all.

Following on from this (and in an effort to work off the many sandwiches and cakes consumed), a team of the Ardeonaig lasses eagerly donned their trainers to take part in the much-anticipated 'Ruralympics' national finals at Bells Sports Centre in Perth on Saturday 6th October. Representing Perth & Kinross Federation, the Ardeonaig squad saw off some tough competition in the darts and beanbag throwing, to take the gold and put South Lochtayside well and truly on the sporting map (in 'rural' terms at least!).

Changes at St Fillan's Episcopal Church



Ladd Fagerson, who has been the priest in charge of the Anglican community at St Fillan's Church for the last 12 years, has retired. At present Graham Willey, who has assisted Ladd in recent years, is holding the fort. Bishop David of St Andrews, Dunkeld and Dunblane and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church is in the process of finding a solution to the vacancy. The congregation is small so it is unlikely that the post will be filled by a priest with sole responsibility for the church. Although Ladd has retired, he will take the occasional service at St Fillan's. Those of us who have been part of the congregation will miss him and Thea, his wife, who have been an important part of the church life in Killin but at least we will see him when he takes a service now and again. We wish him a happy and long retirement and perhaps his love of writing will have time to flourish with his new found freedom from responsibility.

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New Illustrated Booklet on the "Lost Gardens of Perthshire"

An attractive new colour booklet describing some of the old gardens of Perthshire has been written by David M. Robertson and published by the Friends of Perth and Kinross Council Archive. The book is illustrated by old photographs and postcard pictures and tells the story of a small selection of old gardens from around the County which are now either entirely lost or greatly diminished.

The ten gardens which are featured in the booklet include the former pleasure grounds of the Dukes of Atholl which attracted visitors to Dunkeld in the 18th and 19th centuries, the Japanese Gardens created at Dundarach House in Pitlochry at the beginning of the 20th century and the stunning terrace gardens which graced the mansion of Dunira near Comrie between the two World Wars.

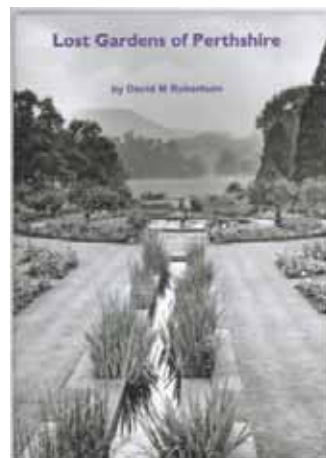
Killin residents will be particularly interested in the accounts of the largest vine in Great Britain which

once grew at Kinnell and of the former Perth Nurseries on the slopes of Kinnoull Hill (which may well have supplied the vine).

Other lost gardens to be featured are those of Fisher's Hotel in Pitlochry, Methven Castle and Strowan near Comrie, as well as Seggieden (once the home of one of Perthshire's leading naturalists, Colonel Drummond Hay). The booklet also recounts the story of the Great Michael plantation at Tullibardine which was the subject of recent archaeological research.

Mr Robertson says he wanted to capture something of the spirit of these old gardens from such few illustrations as remain and to introduce the residents of the County to this previously neglected aspect of their heritage.

Copies of the booklet can be purchased for £6.00 from Gillean Ford of the Killin Heritage Society at Invertay House, 01567 820492



Photograph courtesy of Perth Museum & Art Gallery

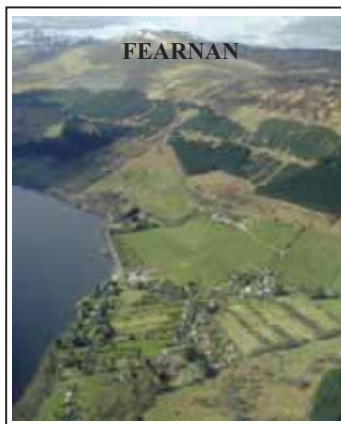
Fearnan, The story of a Highland village of Northern Perthshire

This newly published book tells the story of the people who lived in the offshoot of Fearnan from Neolithic times to the present day. It is suggested that the name Fearnan was first used when the crannogs were established. The story really gets under way when Robert Robertson of Struan was given Fearnan as a freebarony by James II for his assistance securing the killers of James I. In 1766 the Robertsons were replaced by the Campbells and their tenure lasted until 1922 when the Marquis of Breadalbane died with no heirs or money. Fearnan was not exempt from the 19th Century clearances but the building of the present crofting village reduced the number of families cleared. The book then deals with the fundamental changes in education, church and

family life throughout that whole period. These were difficult and challenging times for the residents of Fearnan, with the forced introduction of the English feudal system and all that it entailed. However the period from the 1870's until the Great War would have been the best time. The final section, from 1922 until the present day, records some of the significant opportunities, problems and disputes which the villagers faced with the change from a tenant to a property owning community: and over these last years to one mainly of retired people and holiday homes.

The book is for sale at £5/copy from Killin Post Office, News First, The Old Mill and Lawers Hotel and from the author:

Ian McGregor
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SOBS LEJOG



Will Goodwin, Harry Taylor, Alex Goodwin, Rob Taylor, Anna Nicholson, and Olly Taylor at the bridge at Auchlyne

Olly Taylor, along with sons Harry and Rob and friend Will Goodwin, arrived in John O'Groats after 12 days of cycling over 900 miles. Until now they have raised over £22,000 for the Survivors of Bereavement by Suicide (SOBS) Charity that has helped them so much since Fee's death in 2005. Fee was David and Judy Bowser's daughter and this photo was taken as the "team" cycled into Auchlyne.

Olly said they were humbled by the amazing amount of support they got en route and grateful for the opportunity to meet others affected in the same way and who didn't know where to turn to for help.

SOBS is hoping to start a group in Oban in the coming months and more information can be found at www.uk-sobs.org.uk

or phone Joyce 01397 700 958 or 07760 650 292

Anna Nicholson

Sponsored Swim

Anna and Lucy Nicholson, daughter and granddaughter of Judy and David Bowser are organising a sponsored "dip" in Loch Tay on Boxing Day to raise money for the Falls of Dochart Roof fund.

Please look out for posters around the village with more information and encourage the brave members of the community to take part by sponsoring them.

Forms are available from The Studio and from me at Craigdarroch

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Heart of Scotland Herb Society

I expect by now most of us have harvested and put our herb borders to bed until next spring. Now is the time to put our efforts to use with many of our dried plants being handy through the winter during hot pot, soup and casserole season. It is always nice to get a scent of summer while enjoying a good stew on a winters day. It is also nice that our next season of meetings has begun and below is a list of some of our events.

November 21st: AGM and 'Spice Mixing for Cooking', Aberfeldy Lesser Hall 7.30pm.

December 12th: Christmas Luncheon, Green Park Hotel in Pitlochry 12 noon

January 16th: Cookery Demo by Lee Patrick of Cafe D'Amour, Aberfeldy Lesser Hall 7.30pm.

February 20th: 'Success with Preserves' by Kate Thornhill of Perthshire Preserves, Aberfeldy Lesser Hall 10.00am.

March 20th: 'Starters & Puddings' (to be consumed afterwards) Aberfeldy Lesser Hall 11.00am.

April 17th: 'Bone Health' by Herbalist Jacqui Calder, Aberfeldy Lesser Hall 7.30pm.

May 15th: Annual Summer Outing to The Botanic Gardens, Glasgow with High Tea at The River House, Stirling.

Our herb of the month theme this year is Mint, with monthly discussions on Peppermint, Curly Spearmint, Ginger mint, Chocolate mint, Pineapple mint, Lemon mint, Swiss mint and Lavender mint. Should you wish any further information on this year's programme and our organisation, or like to join us for any of our meetings, please contact either Judy Forster at 01567 820298 or Patty Hope at 01567 820408. We aim to encourage the wider use of herbs by exchanging knowledge and ideas in friendship.

Patty Hope



Walks happen every Wednesday morning at 10.20 and last under an hour. To find out more, call local Volunteer Walk Leaders, Don & Alicja Fraser on Killin 820690 or Jane Watts, on 820141

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5th December
12th December
16th January
23rd January
30th January

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Credit unions let people and organisations in a local community save and borrow money. They are owned and controlled by their members, so they have no outside shareholders to pay and are run by volunteers elected by the membership. Any profit that a credit union makes is used to develop the credit union and provide a return to savers.

Saving with a Credit Union

Credit unions are licensed deposit takers, authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. They are fully covered up to the standard limit (£85,000 from January 2011). They can now pay interest on savings, which will mean that people will be able more easily to compare the rates of return with other savings providers and it will help credit unions attract more savers.

New rules mean that organisations themselves can join a credit union (up to a maximum of 10% of the members) and use the financial services it provides. A community group or local employer, for example, may now be able to use a credit union to manage its money, with the added advantage that the money is kept in the community

Borrowing from a Credit Union

When someone borrows from a credit union, they are encouraged to save too, meaning that by the time they finish repaying the loan their savings will have grown as well.

Loans from credit unions are generally cheaper than loans from most other providers for smaller amounts and do not incur set up fees, administration costs or early redemption fees.

Many credit unions loans, for example, will cost 1% a month on the reducing balance of a loan (an APR of 12.7%). This means that if you borrowed £1,000 repaid over one year, you would repay £1,067 in total.

Credit union loans come with no hidden charges and no penalties for repaying the loan early.

Is there a local Credit Union?

From January there will be more information available about a Credit Union in Stirling which will be open to members from this area. This will be publicised in a variety of ways throughout the community.

If enough people are interested it might be possible to have a local collection point for the Stirling based Credit Union so that people can access these services without travelling too far.

Suzanne Player

Stirling Council Rural Development Worker
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If so, Rural Stirling Housing Association may be able to help.

The Association's aim is to support rural communities in north and west Stirling by providing and managing affordable good quality homes for people in housing need.

We currently have 450 homes for rent throughout the Stirling Council area

If you would like more details and an application form contact

Rural Stirling Housing Association

Stirling Road, Doune

Tel: (01786) 841101

E-mail: Enquiries@rsha.demon.co.uk

Registered as a Scottish Charity No SC037849

SCOTia dePICTa

Murray Grigor exhibition Watermill Gallery Aberfeldy 27th October–13th January

Murray Grigor originally designed a set of images as Christmas cards for his friends and contacts, until his daughter Sarah had the bright idea of releasing them as Giclée prints. The original images, which have since been added to, depict a wry view of Scotland, from the shrinking of the once bonnie banks of the RBS and BoS, to the mac-wearing architect of the Glasgow School of Art, well drenched in a plummeting dooncome of rainy words in the auld Scots tongue.

For further information contact Kevin or Jayne Ramage on 01887 822896 or gallery@aberfeldywatermill.com



The beautification of the Forth Road Bridge by William Morris following his slur that it was the 'supreme specimen of all ugliness.'

Exhibition website: www.aberfeldywatermill.com/art/exhibition/scotia-depicta

Killin Medical Practice

Flu Clinic

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Killin & Crianlarich MacMillan Cancer Support ladies for all their help once again, providing tea/coffee and some wonderful home baking; it would not be possible without you.

It has been drawn to our attention that perhaps the clinic in Killin did not run as smoothly as in previous years. We have discussed the reasons for this as a practice and hopefully next year we will be back into the swing of things.

Christmas and New Year Hours

Monday 24th December

Appointments 9–11am & 3–4pm

Tuesday 25th December – Closed

Wednesday 26th December – Closed

Thursday 27th

Surgery will be open usual hours

Friday 28th

Surgery will be open usual hours

Monday 31st December – Appointments 9–11am & 3–4pm

Tuesday 1st January – Closed

Wednesday 2nd January – Closed

Thursday 3rd January

Surgery will be open usual hours

Friday 4th January Surgery will be open usual hours.

Please contact NHS 24 on 08454 242424 if you require a doctor out-with surgery opening hours.

Please make sure that you have enough medication to see you through the festive period. We would like to wish our patients a healthy and happy new year.

F. Buchanan
Practice Manager



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SWRI Programme

6th December:

Christmas Cooking Demonstration, Bridge of Lochay Hotel

7th February:

Book Binding & Wicker Work, Georgia Crook

7th March:

Linus Trust, Nikki Webb

4th April:

Stirling Council Recycling Department

Meetings are held throughout the winter months, October to April on the first Thursday of the month. Visitors are very welcome - £3.00 per meeting.

Christmas Church Services

Church of Scotland:

9th December Service with Killin Community Choir

24th December Christmas Eve Service 11pm

Roman Catholic Church:

24th December Christmas Eve 7pm

Mass at St Fillan's Church

St. Fillan's Episcopal Church:

Holy Communion Christmas Day 10.30am

Strathfillan Parish

16th December Crianlarich Church 11.30am Carol Service

23rd December Bridge of Orchy Church 11.30am Carol Service

24th December Watchnight Service Bridge of Orchy 11.30pm

Christmas Day Crianlarich Church 11.30am

30th December Bridge of Orchy Church 11.30am



Monty Ogilvie travelled to Aberdeen on 5 October with 1314 ABC. His fight was billed as the main event of the evening and he was up against the much fancied Amir Nezhed. Monty's slick skills caused problems for Amir. It was a great performance from Monty and he was announced a unanimous winner by all five judges. At the end of October, Monty joined the other lads from 1314 ABC for a boxing bootcamp in Southern Ireland and enjoyed his experience there immensely. On 4 November Monty was boxing for the home show at Fallin Miners' Club. He boxed against Craig Henderson from Dunfermline ABC and once again Monty put on a great performance and outboxed Craig. A huge thank you to everyone who came and gave their support. Monty's very proud mum.

Jenny Martin



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Celebrations



Arran David Campbell, born 19th July at 1.13pm weighing 8lb 10oz. Jonathan and Kirsty would like to thank everyone for their kind gifts and cards which were much appreciated



Rhiannon Shanto graduated from the University of Glasgow in June with BSc Hons in Anatomy. She is currently working at the Royal Hospital for Sick Children in Glasgow.

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Local Planning Application

National Park

Week 38 commencing 17 September

Proposal: Amendment to Condition No.1 of planning permission for erection of dwellinghouse to extend the time period
Location: Land Next To Dalchenna
22 Craignavie Road Killin
Applicant: Mrs Janet Willison
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Amendment of approved application for the erection of agricultural worker's/retired farmers dwelling house and erection of barn.
Location: Land At Acharn Adjacent To Killin Community Curling Pond Near Killin
Applicant: Mr & Mrs M. Campbell
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Approve

Week 41 commencing 8 October

Proposal: Erection of 25 'wigwam' holiday let accommodation units and 1 facilities chalet (retrospective)
Location: Auchtertyre Camping Site Crianlarich
Applicant: Mr John Curry
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Neighbour Notification

Week 42 commencing 15 October

Proposal: Formation of new car park and upgrade of existing car park;
Formation of overnight car park with Motor Home spaces; Erection of building

incorporating toilet facilities and hot food takeaway kiosk; Erection of store;
Alterations to signage; Formation of footpaths and bridge; Creation of BBQ seating area and camp site and associated infrastructure/landscaping works
Location: Glenoglehead Picnic Area Lochearnhead
Applicant: Ms Lynda Frazer, Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Advisement: Development by Planning Authority Public Interest

Week 43 commencing 22 October

Proposal: Erection of 4m high replacement threshold sign
Location: Land At A827, Opposite Bridge Of Lochay Hotel, Killin
Applicant: Ms Lynda Frazer
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Development by Planning Authority
Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Formation of all-ability path and community open space
Location: Former Railway Line Rear Of Village Hall, Crianlarich
Applicant: Strathfillan Community Council
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Advisement Type: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Formation of informal paths and viewpoint feature
Location: Network Of Trails South East Of Village Of Crianlarich
Applicant: Mrs Moira Robertson
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Advisement Type: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Landscaping improvements works to village gateway (West Highland Way crossing point) adjacent to A82 and steps to Crianlarich Railway Station, and erection of Welcome signage.
Location: Network Of Paths From West Highland Way To Crianlarich Station, Crianlarich
Applicant: Strathfillan Community Council
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Advisement Type: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Installation of seating, information panel and landscaping works
Location: West Highland Way Link Cairn, Crianlarich
Applicant: Strathfillan Community Council
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Advisement Type: Neighbour Notification

Proposal: Erection of 2 interpretative signs
Location: Crianlarich Village,
Applicant: Strathfillan Community Council
Application Type: Advertisement Consent

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**Christmas and New Year I will be closing 12 noon Sat 22nd
and reopen 8am 3rd January 2013**

This and That

Week 44 commencing 28 October

Proposal: Alterations to dwellinghouse including formation of french door and sliding patio doors, block up existing door and installation of LPG tank
3 Dochart Road
Status Pending Consideration

Perth & Kinross Council 17 September

Proposal: Erection of a dwellinghouse
Location: Morenish Cottage Killin
Applicant: Mr And Mrs Allan
Application Type: planning permission local
Decision: Pending Consideration

26 September

Proposal: Modification of existing consent to include amended layout and design of units, replacement of commercial block with reception building and revision of condition 21 (restriction to holiday occupation)
Location: Former Tigh An Loan Hotel Fearnan

Applicant: Shoreside Homes
Application Type: planning permission local
Decision: Pending Consideration

2nd October

Proposal: Erection of 3 chalets, associated function suite and a dwellinghouse
Location: Land At Craggantoul Farm Lawers
Applicant: Mr Greg Deacon
Application Type: planning permission local
Decision: Pending Consideration

Stirling Council Nothing to Report

**Hogmanay
Fireworks
will take place
as usual at the
Dochart Bridge**

Christmas Dinner Dance

Saturday 22nd December

Killin Hotel

Tickets £25

from

Charlie Grant

07768 333 792

or David Noble

07880 508 012

Costcutters Site

After a delay for contamination on the site to be dealt with, work has restarted and the latest estimate for completion is mid to late summer next year.

Old Mill Thrift Shop

**Clear your attic and
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**Please keep donations
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Killin Calendars

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WRVS Volunteers Wanted

Lend a helping hand!

Most people will experience situations in their lives where outside help is needed, maybe due to disability, ill health, family circumstances or accidents. As we get older the likelihood of these situations occurring will increase.

Fortunately we can often rely on friends or family to help out. If they are not available, neighbours may step in. In a village community like Killin this happens a lot and it is a credit to the inhabitants that there is such a strong community spirit.

But there may be times when a person needing help comes unstuck: the neighbour he or she relied is no longer able to help for various reasons. There will also be people who live in remote rural spots who require help or even just a bit of company.

For all these occasions the WRVS Community Support Services was set up. Most people know the WRVS as the ladies at the café in the hospital, but the WRVS has become one of the biggest charities dealing with the needs of older people. It has in recent years undergone a massive reorganisation and can now offer a range of "good neighbour" services. WRVS has secured additional funding to offer this service. What is required now is a good number of

volunteers to carry out the services. At the moment I am the only volunteer in Killin and we are very keen to increase the numbers. Both men and women of all ages are welcome. As a volunteer you may be asked to drive an elderly person to the GP surgery, the hospital or the hairdressers etc. They may need help filling in forms and a volunteer could assist with this.

If you are an older person and would like to register to use the Community Support Services then please phone the Stirling office on 01786 450750. For driving roles you must have your own vehicle. Mileage expenses are reimbursed at 45p per mile.

To talk about volunteering please call **Jennifer Kaney at the Stirling office on 01786 450750 or Jennifer.kaney@wrvs.org.uk.**

Jennifer is the service manager responsible for the Killin area and is a lovely person to deal with, very committed and always willing to help. Or if there is anything you want to ask me first I can be contacted on **(01567) 820068.**

Due to the nature of these roles a PVG (Protection of Vulnerable Groups) check is required. There are no costs involved and WRVS will assist in the completion of forms.

Anneke Mayo

Mobile Libraries

Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays

Dec 7, 21,
Jan 11, 25

Tyndrum

Station Road 10.50-11.10
Clifton 11.15-11.40
Mansefield 11.45-12.00

Crianlarich

Willow Square
12.05-12.35
Police Station & School
1.40-2.30
Benmore 2.35-2.55
Suie Lodge 3.05-3.25

Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig Fortnightly Mondays

Dec 3, 17, 31?
Jan 14, 28
Glenlochay 10.50-12.30
Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

Perth and Kinross Fortnightly Mondays

Dec 3, 17, 31?
Jan 14, 28
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**** Brownies Christmas Post ****



It's nearly that time of year again! This year we will share the money raised between Killin Youth Group and The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

During December (until 1pm on Sunday 16th) you will be able to hand your Christmas Cards in to either News First or the Library along with a donation of 20p per card. This is our first price increase in 10 years but we hope you agree it's for a worthwhile

cause. We consulted with various people about this and most agreed that it is a charitable donation so they would be happy to pay 20p – especially as the price of a 2nd class stamp is now 50p.

The cards will be delivered for you on Sunday 16 or Monday 17 Dec.

Please note that we can only deliver cards to those houses within reasonable walking distance around the village.

If there is anyone (young or old) who wants to come along to help sort and deliver cards on Sunday 16th then please get in touch - 820 851 – we need your support! You don't need to be a Brownie to help!

Thanks to everyone who helps us with this annual event.

1st Killin Brownies

The Tuesday Club

Are you fed up
sitting at home?

Would you like to get out and meet new people?

Why not come along to

The Tuesday Club

**Bringing people together
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Tuesday afternoons 2pm–4pm
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Obituary



Iain Gordon Fraser

3.8.54–24.8.12

Iain Gordon Fraser, better known as Jock, was born in Aberfeldy Cottage Hospital in early August 1954. He was raised in Ballechroisk and attended Killin Primary School followed by McLaren High School, Callander. Jock was a happy, easy-going child who enjoyed fishing and playing football. He was popular in school and throughout his entire lifetime. He spent summers at his Aunt's farm in Keltneyburn, cementing his love of animals and having a little flock of lambs of his own, which he kept in a field near Dochart House. Jock enjoyed every aspect of life but was particularly interested in football. His footballing career began at McLaren High where he played for the school team and progressed to Killin and Breadalbane football clubs. Later in life, he took great enjoyment from coaching his boys, David and Neil, and latterly his joy was complete when watching his grandsons, Frankie and Georgie, kicking around a football. Of course, he was always an avid supporter of Rangers Football Club and could usually be found with a Guinness in hand whenever they were playing! On leaving school, Jock entered his father's business, AC Fraser and Sons, and served his time as a

plumbing and heating engineer. Following the completion of his apprenticeship, he moved to Canada, where he spent a year working with Alistair, his brother. In 1985, Jock left Killin and moved to London where shortly after his arrival he met Geraldine in the Three Blackbirds pub. They were married in 1989 and were blessed with two boys, David and Neil. Jock worked with several companies in London during his career and was very well known for his work ethic, his pride in his work and his infectious and bubbly character. It was always known when Jock walked into a room as the laughter and hilarity that he brought with him were ever present. His ever ready supply of jokes and stories kept everyone laughing, ably augmented by his colourful vocabulary from which no-one was safe!

Throughout his lifetime, regardless of where in the world he was, Jock never lost sight of his roots. His family, friends and acquaintances were always aware of where his heart lay and he returned frequently to visit his mother and friends in the village. In 23 years of marriage, Jock missed only two New Years in Killin claiming Hogmanay was simply not the same anywhere else.

Jock's illness began suddenly in May 2010 when he was admitted to hospital as an emergency. Unfortunately, during that admission he was found to have prostate cancer, which had spread to other parts of his body. He bore his illness with great courage and fortitude, managing to maintain his unique sense of humour to the end. Throughout his illness, Jock and Geraldine received exceptional and enormously kind support from their many friends throughout the country, which helped them to bear the huge burden that they faced.

Jock's funeral took place in London on 6th September at the City of London Crematorium. Reflecting his

popularity during his lifetime, there was standing room only as people came from far and wide, including Killin, to say goodbye. This was followed by a wake at Jock's local, "The William" pub where many a glass was raised to a sorely missed husband, father, brother, friend and workmate. He would have loved to have been there.

The London funeral was followed by a memorial service in Killin, which was equally well attended by many from the village and surrounding area. Many also travelled from London and further afield for this service. A further wake took place at the Capercaillie in Killin, where the stories and reminiscing continued into the small hours. The combined collections from these two services amounted to £2,400, which Geraldine has decided to split between MacMillan Cancer Support, St Barts Hospital and St Margaret's Hospice, Whipps Cross. All three of these organisations offered great support to Jock during his illness. In addition to this amount, Jock's employer H20 is also carrying out a collection of money and some of his workmates are running the Brighton Half Marathon, early next year in Jock's memory.

Geraldine, Flora and family would like to give their heartfelt thanks to everyone who has supported them throughout this incredibly difficult period. The generosity has been overwhelming, with offers of accommodation, baking, cooking and support in so many other forms. They wish to thank Reverend Lincoln for his comforting service in Killin Parish Church and also Mrs Chisholm, the church organist.

For those left behind, my Uncle Jock will never be forgotten and will be sorely missed. A light has gone out but our memories hold him close in the hope that we will one day meet again.

Lynn Dickson

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for Christmas Shopping**

Obituary

Judy Holden

1962–2012

My sister, Judy Holden (nee Cockburn), who had lived in Killin since 1999, passed away at Strathcarron Hospice on October 3rd. After a private funeral at Perth Crematorium, a memorial service at Killin Church on Saturday 13th October was followed by a celebration of her life at the Killin Hotel. The church was all but full and people struggled for elbow room in the hotel conservatory afterwards – a vivid testament to the high regard in which she was held by family, friends, neighbours and former work colleagues alike. Judy – or Judith as she was in the family, and as I still think of her – was born in Kirkcaldy just over fifty years ago, in September 1962. She went to the West School in Kirkcaldy and then began a daily commute to Mary Erskine's in Edinburgh, as had our mum a quarter of a century earlier. After leaving school she studied Dietetics in Glasgow, but that wasn't for her, and she expanded her horizons au-pairing for a year in Switzerland, where she also learned to ski. On her return to Scotland she studied Nursing in Aberdeen and began her career as a nurse on the Isle of Wight, where she met her first husband, Tomas, and where their son Daniel was born. They moved back to

Scotland and lived in Bridge of Earn. After Judith and Tomas separated she met Chris, her second husband and father of Katie and Anna. The family lived first in Errol, then moved to Killin in 1999 when Chris became a GP here. Judith worked for several years in the local primary school, but as her marriage with Chris ran into difficulties she updated her nursing qualifications. She was on the verge of taking up a post based in Callander when tragically, in July 2010, her brain tumour was diagnosed.

Despite a gruelling course of radio and chemotherapy over the autumn and winter, she still managed to cheer on the Scotland rugby team at Murrayfield, and raise a significant amount of money for a new scanner for the Western General in Edinburgh. With the help of family and her many friends in Killin she moved into her flat at Ballechroisk Court in spring 2011 and relished being in the centre of the village. That summer she was well enough to be able to return to Switzerland with her three children to visit our relatives there. Her health remained good until the start of this year and, even as it declined over the summer, it was never an option for her to cancel the 50th birthday party she had been planning since the start of the year. It went ahead, with her active participation, at the Killin Hotel on a fine afternoon in mid-September. Shortly afterwards she was admitted to Strathcarron Hospice, where she received excellent care from the nursing staff and was surrounded by family and friends until she slipped peacefully away. The last two years of her life were not easy, but she maintained her good spirits, and was greatly helped – practically, emotionally and spiritually – by the kindness and attentiveness of her friends and neighbours in the village.

Ken Cockburn

Letters

Money for walk

The Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers would like to thank Euan MacKenzie, Peter Campbell and Kirsty Erskine very much for their generous donation to our funds from the money they raised walking the West Highland Way. This will be a big help to running the group and buying new toys. Your help is very much appreciated.

Killin Tiddlers and Toddlers Group

Getting Better

Following my recent operation I would like to thank everyone who sent me Cards & Gifts.

On my return home thanks to all who came to visit and enquire about me. I am making good progress. Thanks also to all at the Killin Medical Practise and The District Nurses for their care & attention.

John Stewart

90th Birthday

I wish to thank all my family and friends who came to the house to join with me in celebrating my ninetieth birthday. Thank you to everyone for the beautiful cards and presents which I received. It was a wonderful day thanks to Victoria and Rachel for organising it all.

Len Fenton

Christmas Shoeboxes

A big thank you once again to everyone who donated a filled shoebox or handed in money and items for the boxes. Thirty four boxes were collected which I took down to a central collection point in Crieff. You will have made someone very happy when they receive their shoebox and for many that will be the only gift they get all year.

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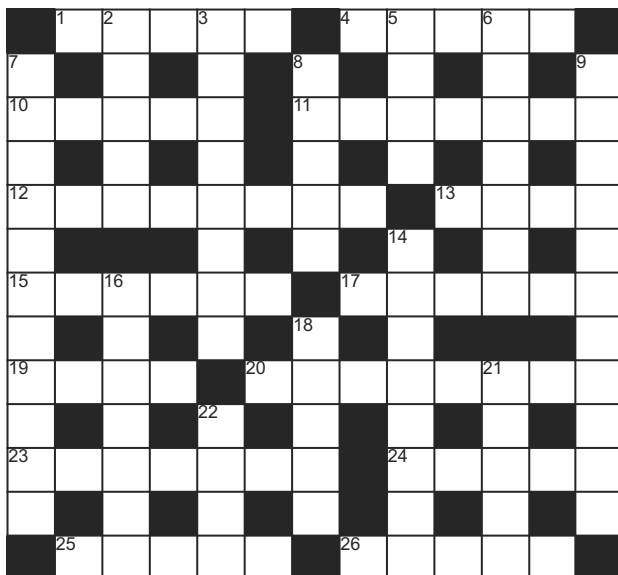
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Gatehouse Nursery is situated 2 miles south of Aberfeldy on the Crieff road (A826)

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Crossword by Scorpio



Across

- 1 Modern era suitable for change (5)
- 4 Observe timepiece (5)
- 10 Fear and panic in Feudal Armagh (5)
- 11 I retain odd disinclination to move (7)
- 12 Mortal remains found in Manse Road Killin (8)
- 13 Overlook young woman (4)
- 15 Explanatory note or myth (6)
- 17 Understand unit of depth (6)
- 19 Brag about seizure (4)
- 20 Getting rid of Sid's opal strangely (8)
- 23 Small whirlwind or conman (7)
- 24 Theatrical production oddly on tap (5)
- 25 Very surprised when a page is turned (5)
- 26 Ian dressed as oriental (5)

Solution 130

Across 4. Abridge 8. U-turns 9. Camelot
10. Inform 11. Kindle 12. Unicycle
18. American 20 & 21 Safari Supper
22. Harvest 23. Fetish 24. Narrows

Down 1. Curious 2. Funfair 3. Energy 5. Black eye 6. I leant 7. Google 13. Chainsaw
14. Sceptic 15. Anarchy 16. Banana 17. Carver
19. Roused

Down

- 2 Stage play where medic gets a masters degree (5)
- 3 Vegetable predominantly sold in October (8)
- 5 Sage upset for a long time (4)
- 6 Cash fit produces feline swimmer (7)
- 7 Flighty airs provide seasonal illumination (5,6)
- 8 Ransack firearm (5)
- 9 Sweet bog plant (11)
- 14 Secure smoking devices for wind instrument (8)
- 16 Snacking on open pastures (7)
- 18 Very small electric heater (5)
- 21 Susan takes in seasonal visitor (5)
- 22 Prevent pots being upturned (4)


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What's On in Killin and District

December

- 4 Craft Fair and Coffee morning Dall Lodge 10am
- 1 SCDT Christmas Fair (page 10)
- 5 Walk in the Park (page 27)
- 7 Guild meeting Falls of Dochart Home with music group
- 7 Ceilidh and Concert McLaren Hall (page 13)
- 8 Green Team meet school 10.30am
- 8 Old Mill Thrifty Christmas (page 12)
- 12 Walk in the park (page 27)
- 13,14 Screen Machine (page 19)
- 22 Dinner Dance, Killin Hotel (page 33)
- 26 Loch Tay Sponsored Swim (page 26)
- 31 Hogmanay Fireworks

January

- 1 New Year Dance (page 17)
- 12 Big Shed Concert (page 23)
- 15 KCC meeting Killin School 7.30pm
- 16 Herb Society Meeting (page 27)
- 16 Walk in the park (page 27)
- 17 Guild meeting Community Rooms 2pm
- 19 Green Team meet school 10.30am
- 23 Walk in the park (page 27)
- 23 Big Shed Concert (page 23)
- 26 Burn's Night at the Big Shed (23)
- 30 Walk in the park (page 27)

Badminton
Mondays
McLaren Hall

Badminton
Mondays
Crianlarich Hall
starting November

Brownies
Mondays
Lesser Hall

Choir
Usually Tuesdays
Church 7.30pm
phone Franny
01567 829048

Crianlarich Youth Group
Thursdays, Crianlarich Hall
6.30 - 9.30pm

Internet Cafe
Thursdays
Killin Library
11am-4pm

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

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

Tai Chi
Thursdays
Big Shed
10.30am

Yoga
Fridays
Big Shed
10.30-noon

Tai Chi
Wednesday
Tyndrum Hall
9.30am

Softplay Club
Tuesdays
Sports Pavilion
12.30 - 2.30pm

Tuesday Club
Community Rooms
2pm

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

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

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Recycling Centres

Callander

Monday-Friday: 5pm-8pm
Saturday: 10am-2pm
Sunday: Closed

Aberfeldy
Tuesday and Thursday
10am to 7pm
Saturday and Sunday
10am-5pm

Crieff
North Forr, Brioch Forr
All Year
Monday-Friday 9am-7pm
Saturday & Sunday
9am-5pm

Which bin which week?

Week beginning
3 Dec Grey/Green
10 Dec Brown
17 Dec Grey/Green
24 Dec Brown
31 Dec Grey/Green
7 Jan Brown
14 Jan Grey/Green
21 Jan Brown
28 Jan Grey/Green



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