

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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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

Summer is here and it seems to be quiet on the visitor front perhaps on account of the World Cup Football or maybe in anticipation of the Commonwealth Games. Here's hoping that visitors to the Games will take the opportunity for an extended break to have a look at the attractions in the National Park and come our way.

The Queens Baton Relay, while it didn't go through Killin, honoured three local people who were chosen to take the baton over part of the course. We, the people of Scotland are part of the great unity and diversity of the Commonwealth of Nations that take part in the Games.

Surprisingly Killin facilities have suddenly been boosted for all those visitors who come our way in EVs with a car charging point (not operational as we go to print) appearing unannounced in the car park beside John MacPherson Court. Rapid charging takes about 30 minutes, fast charging 3-4 hours and slow charge 6-8 hours for a full charge. Not all vehicles can use a rapid charge and it may shorten battery life. We will soon find out what is on offer and if it will boost tourist numbers... Meanwhile the space will need to be left vacant for those who wish to top up in the busy car park - and the path blocked by the charger will need to be rerouted.

Economic recovery is in the air. We welcome the Courie Inn (page 29) as an addition to the local scene. It is good to see the former dereliction tamed and developed to such a high standard. We hope they do well in their venture. Swords has been bought as a 'retail unit' to be known as "Escape In Killin" (page 28) which may provide another active unit in the village - very active judging by the title. The third interesting addition to the local scene will be Heartland Veterinary Services (page 29) based in Pitlochry and Aberfeldy who intend to have clinics in the village on a regular basis and specialise in both small and large animals.

One of the most enjoyable aspects of visiting Scotland is the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. It enables anyone to roam in places that would not be accessible to the public in most other countries including England. With that right comes the responsibility to use it and treat the land, animals and others with respect. Leaving litter is a criminal offence. Why is Scotland so much worse at dropping litter than many of our European neighbours? **WA**

Front page picture by Ron Allner  
The Annual Tractor run (page 8)

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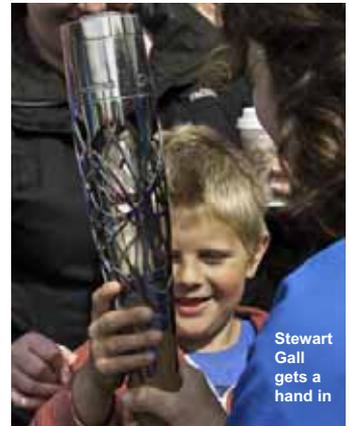
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# Commonwealth Games -The Queen's Baton



Suzanne and friends in Aberfoyle



Stewart Gall gets a hand in

Although the Queen's Baton sadly did not come through Killin, Killin's Suzanne Player had the honour of carrying it in Aberfoyle. She reports that she had a really good time in Aberfoyle and saw many old friends from there and from Killin in the crowd. Suzanne's son, Robbie was also a bearer but in Callander. Diane Mailer of Tyndrum took the baton in Tyndrum and it also went through Crianlarich. Everywhere it was cheered on by locals and visitors, many of whom were keen to get their hands on it - if only briefly.

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Diane and baton with the Blue Knight bikers at the Green Welly



Robbie at his Callander handover

## Killin Community Council - July Meeting

**The bottle bank area and Callander Recycling site:** It was agreed that the majority of problems are created by commercial waste, including holiday homes. The law has changed, making it the duty of all commercial businesses to recycle their waste. Outlying rural areas have still not received all the recycling bins. David Hopper stated that Stirling Council was not obliged to collect this recycling as it is not cost effective. However they have still made a commitment to roll this out next year.

**Roadside litter:** Stirling Council and the National Park are currently in discussion about providing recycling at strategic points combined with notices to identify where rubbish can be taken. David Hopper will speak to Land Services to ensure that bags of rubbish at the roadside are picked up and that the car park is cleared. He will also ask the litter wardens to come to Killin. He also stated that Stirling Council could not afford to extend the hours of the Callander Recycling Site, as that would directly lead to cuts in other services.

### Matters Arising:

#### Traffic speed on Lyon

**Road/Ballechroisk area:** Fiona Kennedy will ask for a meeting with Mr. Roberts of Stirling Council.

**Road Naming:** Lochay Road has been formally adopted for the section beyond the Main Street to the former Youth Hostel site.

**Dog Fouling:** The dog warden has visited Killin and met with Yvonne Gillies and local police officers. Specific areas were identified and the warden has painted temporary notices directly on to the pavement. Yvonne Gillies will speak to the school after the summer break. Complaints had been made about Craignavie Road and another dog warden visited. Local people are encouraged to pass specific complaints along to the police. Bags are available from the library for clearing up after your dog. A lack of bins around Craignavie Road and Manse Road was highlighted and

Councillor Wood will pursue this.

**Support for Local Businesses:** Councillor Wood raised the option of support from the local Chamber of Commerce and Stirling Enterprise Park and will pursue the issue of unused Council land not being available for a local small business wishing to expand.

**Bridge of Lochay:** Tim Frost has spoken with someone from Stirling Council regarding the state of the bridge. Someone else will come out to look at signage. Work will not happen in this financial year. It was noted that the Dochart Bridge has again been hit by a vehicle.

**Speed Restrictions:** The Police have carried out speed checks on the Dochart Road and Gray Street and detected no incidents of speeding. The extension of the 40mph zone past the golf course entrance can happen, but not in this financial year.

**Planned Road Closures:** Craignavie Road is to be closed from 29<sup>th</sup> September to 10<sup>th</sup> October for roadworks from the junction with the Main Street to Manse Road with local diversions in place. Residents will receive letters to explain what will happen. The South Loch Tay Road is to be closed in October 2014 for roadworks, from Fiddler's Bay to Cromaltan. In both instances the Council aims to minimise disruption and get the work completed as soon as possible. The extent of the work will depend on the money available.

**DRT:** The new timetable comes out in September and KCC has asked for a 6 month progress report. It was clarified that DRT links bus areas - it does not provide Hospital transport.

**Hospital transport:** The lack of hospital transport for residents in Killin was raised and members of the public who have been affected are urged to contact Bruce Crawford MSP as the health budget comes from the Scottish Government.

**Police Report:** The charity box in Killin Church was broken into and money stolen. There was a break-in at A&B Services. Officers have been on

foot patrol in Killin and policing the loch sides at weekends as part of Operation Ironworks.

**Accident:** There had been a tragic accident on Loch Tay involving a 29 year old man who was drowned. KCC expressed condolences to the family and would like to highlight to all loch users that life jackets are essential.

### Stirling Council:

**Local Development Plan** - this was discussed but postponed to October. Bob Jack will retire in September. Armed Forces Day ran at a loss. Stirling International Angling Festival runs from the 6<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> August and the game fishing is based in this area.

**Grass Cutting:** A reduction in the number of cuts per year and the lack of raking up is affecting Breadalbane Park and the Cemetery with longer grass being left lying which smells. Councillor Wood will investigate.

**Kenny Taylor:** KCC expressed their thanks for the efforts of the late Kenny Taylor, in particular his contribution to the upgrade of Ardeonig Road.

**Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park:** Suitable sites are requested for a threshold sign beyond the end of Lochay Road.

**Grounds:** MacPherson Court, the Ambulance Depot and the car park are all overgrown. Problems with MacPherson Court are currently being addressed. The Ambulance Depot belongs to the Ambulance Service and it was recognised that staff are not there as often as before.

The bushes blocking the sightlines by the Dochart Bridge have been reported and this is being dealt with.

**Post Office:** The mobile van will stop in mid-July and the Post Office service will be available for 10 weeks at the Killin Hotel before being taken over by MacGregor's.

**Doctor's Surgery:** Tim Frost will invite Dr Watson to the next meeting for an update.

**Flower Beds:** Fiona Kennedy will contact the Floral Association.

**Date of next meeting:** 7.30pm on 9<sup>th</sup> September in Killin Primary School.

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## Breadalbane Park

Phase 1 is on track to start construction early September. This will include drainage, hard standing, path network and the installation of the play equipment that Stirling Council have in storage for KAT. City Design Co-operative, our park designers, are in the process of bringing together the final specification for the park and drawing up tender documents. The KAT solicitor is working on legal documents required by the BIG Lottery before work can start. Once all this has been completed and a contractor chosen, we will be ready to get started, though this will not be before 1<sup>st</sup> September as there are events being held in the park right up until then.

For Phase 2 we have a draft design for the play area, which incorporates new and old equipment. We need to develop the skateboarding area now and hope to do this with the help of some young people who are keen on skateboarding.

## Old Mill developments

We now have a full outline Schedule of Works costed for the development. This is more than originally thought,

but does incorporate costing for all display units, furniture and equipment required for the building. We had received an indicative offer of grant from Historic Scotland last year, but the development plans now include more than the minimum work required so we have resubmitted an outline scheme of works package and hope to be successful in getting a revised indicative offer of grant. A grant application will be submitted to the BIG Lottery 'Growing Community Assets' Stage 1 by the end of July and, if successful, we will have to apply for Stage 2. These two grants should enable us to carry out all the development works on the building. We await confirmation of a building warrant application and will shortly be submitting a planning application. We have been successful in obtaining a grant from Community Energy Scotland to enable us to carry out a feasibility study on producing hydroelectricity using the wheel. The company who will be carrying out this study will be Highland Eco-Design which has the specialist experience of using waterwheels. The lade wall that was worked on in March has now been uncovered and

is looking great. There is still some work required on the lade floor and some pointing on the wall further down which will be carried out in late summer. We are now waiting for the wheel engineers to come and service the wheel and then it will be up and running, hopefully shortly.

## Space Audit

All the data has been collected for the space audit and the report will be worked on soon.

## Killin & District Sports & Leisure Club

We are still applying for funding for the synthetic turf. The club is open every day during July and August from 12pm – 6pm for tennis, putting and bowling (see poster around the village for prices).

For funding applications we need to show community support for the facilities and one way everyone can do this is by using the facilities, not just during the summer holidays, but also the rest of the year. The Pavilion is ideal for holding a meeting, children's parties, a small event and more. If you are looking for a venue for a one-off event or to hold regular meetings come and have a chat and a look at the facilities.

**Theresa Elliot**

Project Support Worker

07789265823



Heart to Heart now has 2 projects It continues to support adults coping with divorce and/or separation. Our second project brings hope to young people affected by parental divorce or separation.

H2H continues to impact and change the lives of 11–18 year olds living in the rural district of Stirling by an individual support plan delivered by young adult volunteers who have been through a similar experience. These volunteers are called *Lifeguides*. Lifeguides are trained in a unique toolkit that employs basic cognitive behavioural therapy principles to alleviate anxiety and put in place positive coping methods. H2H also supports young people through group work with an adaptable toolkit delivered by the Lifeguard Coordinator and Lifeguides to equip young people to better cope and deal with change and loss.

**Hannah Sanderson**

01877 339966

07790 437713

[hannah.sanderson@hearttoheart.org.uk](mailto:hannah.sanderson@hearttoheart.org.uk)

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**The Old Mill**

The Old Mill continues to be busy with visitors and donated goods and we are on target for a very successful year. We have finished the Art Classes and the Baby and Toddler Music sessions for the summer. These will start up again in the autumn.

If you would like to hire the first floor of the Old Mill for a workshop, course or small conference then we would like to hear from you. It is now available for hire. It is a lovely light space and suitable for many uses. Our volunteers are constantly making goods from materials and items that are donated to the Mill. A wide selection of these will be on sale at the Cancer Research Ladies Lunch on 6<sup>th</sup> September.

We are always trying to find ways of raising funds for the Mill and there will be a charity walk in the first week of September from the Old Mill in Killin to the Watermill in Aberfeldy and back which is a distance of nearly 50 miles. We are in the process of setting up a Virginmoneygiving donations page and we will post details on the KAT website and our Facebook page. Our target is £600.

Thank you for your continued support and donations. We accept most things but unfortunately we now

cannot accept baby car seats and buggies. If you have a large number of things to donate, please could you arrange in advance a time to bring them to the Mill in order for us to have the appropriate number of volunteers to help deal with them. John Sinclair has made a fantastic pine bench/storage chest for the Mill which is situated opposite the front door at the top of the ramp walkway. If you wish to leave any small donated goods after opening hours, please leave them in the chest. We aim to remain open 7 days a week from 10am-4pm and can only maintain this by having volunteers. If you wish to help in any way or would like information regarding any of the above. Please contact me on 07802 929796 or call during opening hours 01567 820628 or francesmorrison@killincdt.co.uk We can also be contacted on our Facebook page.

**Franny Morrison**

**Public Toilets**

In 2012 Stirling Asset Management informed us that the public toilets beside the Falls of Dochart would be closed down and demolished in early 2013 so Stirling Council sought Comfort partners to replace both public toilets. KAT was funded to find out what would happen if the toilets

were to go and "The Feasibility study into a Public Toilet" for Killin is now complete. This document is now available and can be downloaded from the KAT website, under Contacts click on KAT DOCUMENTS and you will find it named "Killin Public Toilet Report".

In 2014, *Priority Based Budgeting, ASPO11* was circulated requesting public comments on a wide range of possible savings to enable the Council to take hard budgeting decisions. Closure of Stirling Council's public toilets was one of the options. Fortunately public toilets were considered a priority and closure was turned down with the proviso that it "will move to a commercial model akin to the Buchlyvie model and this will be supported by capital funding for refurbishment. The Council will not support toilets in the long term, instead letting them as commercial opportunities". Unfortunately the commercial opportunity for a public toilet in Killin with an income to cover the cost of maintenance is a bit of a non-starter in view of the seasonal fluctuation of Killin visitors. Unfortunately also the space identified as the best site for public toilets is now occupied by the EV electrical charger. A copy of the study will be sent to Stirling Council Asset Management.

**Willie Angus**



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## Annual Tractor Run

We held our annual tractor run on Saturday 31st May. The weather was fantastic again this year and we had thirty eight tractors of all shapes and sizes. We left Kinnell farm (by kind permission of the Dowling family) and travelled down through Killin, up Glen Lochay, over into Glen Lyon and had a brief stop before going around Loch Lyon. Due to the rough track and long drive, we stopped for refreshments at the top of the loch. The scenery was fantastic. We then came back down the other side of the Loch to the Dam where Ron took the photo on the front page. Then we drove to Bridge of Balgie for a late lunch and back over Ben Lawers for the final drive along Loch Tay side back to Kinnell. I felt that I had driven round the whole of Scotland by the time I got back to Kinnell! We were all glad to be back and we had tea, baking and a wonderful raffle. Thanks to Yvonne at the Bake Shop for donating the scones, to everyone who supported us again this year and for donations of baking and raffle prizes. We raised £1,400 for Yorkhill Hospital in Glasgow which is a fantastic achievement. Well done everyone!

**The Macaskill family**

## Where will you be on 18<sup>th</sup> September?

If you are on holiday or away from home due to work or educational course etc. you should apply NOW for a postal vote for the Scottish Independence Referendum.

Existing postal voters and new applicants who apply before 8th August will be posted their ballot papers by 28<sup>th</sup> August, anyone who applies after this date will not be issued ballot papers until 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> September.

To vote in the referendum you need to be registered at a Scottish address by 2<sup>nd</sup> September. If you have moved address or will move address before then, apply to register as soon as possible.

Application forms to vote by post or to register to vote are available to collect in local libraries and can be downloaded from

[www.saa.gov.uk/central](http://www.saa.gov.uk/central). Young voter registration forms for fifteen year olds who will be sixteen by 18/09/14 are available from the website below.

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## KILLIN 10K & 1KM FAMILY FUN RUN

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# Killin Community Choir



The Choir at Strathyre Music Festival in May

The choir has been rehearsing and performing in and around Killin for over four years now and has a great number of members including some from as far away as Loch Tummel and Comrie. We have performed in many varied venues and raised a great deal of money for various charities.

It has all been made possible by having Frances Cushley as our pianist. Frances has given so much of her time, expertise and musicianship. The level of her skill is exceptional, measured with her humility and patience. We are very sad therefore that Frances has decided to leave as our regular accompanist. We will really miss her and cannot express enough how grateful we are that she has given so much to both the choir and the community. The choir will resume rehearsals on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> August and we welcome anyone over the age of sixteen.

**Franny Morrison**



Franny Morrison and Frances Cushley

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## Strathfillan Community Council

### Hybrid DRT Proposal

Following recent discussions, a "final" proposal has been circulated by Stirling Council. This gives 3 fixed timetable services per day from Criarlarich to Killin and allows for forty five minutes in Killin each time. Following consultation with the CC and Stirling Council, 24/7 cars have agreed to continue to provide pre-bookable links with the early morning and late evening services from/to Killin. DRT will continue to operate in its present form within Strathfillan. Passengers from Tyndrum or Inverarnan wishing to travel to Killin will be able to book a DRT to/from Criarlarich to tie in with the timetable link and pay one fare to cover both portions of the journey.

### Lower Station Yard

Picnic benches and Parking signage have now been erected on Lower Station Yard and the site is being well used. Stirling Council have provided a litter bin for the site and are emptying it regularly. A Community

Pride grant has been successful and will be used for additional landscaping and a feature round tree bench, as well as to purchase plants for the tubs across Strathfillan.

### Environment

Flower and vegetable tubs in Criarlarich and Tyndrum have been planted and are being maintained by volunteers. Alan has given notice that this will be his last year physically planting the tubs in Criarlarich and volunteers are sought to take on this role. Alan will still be available to assist with seeking funding. Please let Alan know if you are interested!

Complaints have been made about the untidy appearance of the gardens of some council houses in Criarlarich. The CC will contact Stirling Council and ask that their tenants keep their outside space tidy.

### Transport

After numerous requests from the CC, the white lines on the pedestrian crossing in Criarlarich have been repainted and traffic is now stopping correctly to allow pedestrians to cross.

Transport Scotland report that work is progressing well on both the Pulpit Rock upgrade and the Criarlarich Bypass. Both sections of road are expected to open later this year.

The next meeting of Strathfillan CC is on Monday 9th September at 7.30pm in Criarlarich Hall. All are welcome to attend.

Isla Craig



## Strathfillan Community Development Trust

After nine years as Development Officer for the SCDT I am leaving for pastures new. The Directors have been busy putting together a new Job Description and Job Specification with the intention of having a new person in post by late September. For my part it has been a rewarding, occasionally frustrating, often funny but a very interesting and challenging job. I have worked with and got to know many interesting and inspirational people over the years from all walks of life, not least the variety of personalities who have sat on the Board of Directors! I will miss them all.

Joyce Russell

The Trust Board would like to thank Joyce for all her hard work and for bringing the Trust to the position it is

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# Fillan by the Way

now at. She is a fount of knowledge and has many useful contacts and she will be sorely missed. Fortunately she will not be leaving until the new Development Officer is in place.

## **PART TIME JOB OPPORTUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER FOR STRATHFILLAN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

We have advertised locally [Strathfillan, Killin, Lochearnhead, Arrochar & Tarbet and Dalmally] The Board look forward to working with a new enthusiastic Development Officer who may bring new ideas with her/him.

The Community Action Plan 2014-2019 will be the basis for taking the Trust forward.

"Our vision has been our guide and goal since our first Action Plan was published in 1998 and it has lost none of its relevance over the years. Our vision for the future of Tyndrum, Crianlarich and Inverarnan is one where all the communities work together as Strathfillan but still recognising and respecting their individuality. We continue to see regeneration making the best sustainable use of our local resources, unique location, environment and heritage as our way

forward. With increased local control and influence over local land, resource use, services and housing we can create opportunities for locals and visitors alike." **Moira Robertson**

## **Another Award for Crianlarich Store**



Local retailers Bryan and Isla Craig were named the best Community Involvement convenience retailers in Scotland at a prestigious awards ceremony held on Thursday 5th June at the Grand Central Hotel in

Glasgow and were presented with a commemorative trophy by Gerry Hooper from sponsor company Paypoint. They were considered worthy winners for being the heart and soul of the Crianlarich community they serve, 365 days a year and playing a role that's much wider than just retailing.

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# Strathfillan by the Way

## The Standing Stones at Kilmartin

On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> July, I accompanied a group on the annual trip of Strathfillan Pensioner's Lunch Club Outing to the Crinan Canal via Inveraray. On the return journey, we stopped at a group of standing stones near Kilmartin. There I went across the field with one or two others and had a very interesting experience.

The tourist information boards referred to the stones as ancient monuments but my experience provided another perspective. I am a Reiki healer and often experience the energy flowing into the recipient; both as heat, cold and sometimes as lights of different colours. As I stood by one of the stones I became aware of beautiful waves of white light rippling up the stone and all around. This wonderful energy balanced my own energy field and provided immense peace: it was healing me! This reminded me of an experience related to me by David Cowan, when he was Vice President of the Scottish Dowzers Association.

He once followed (dowsed) the energy lines emitted from a group of cup marks in a standing stone near Crieff, where he lives. He was guided to a river, up the side of the

river for a mile or so and into the surrounding land where he came across the foundation stones of an ancient village. The pattern of foundation stones was identical to the pattern of cup marks on the stone and the energy field went round each dwelling as if protecting them in some way - but what from? Some years ago, David visited Tyndrum and investigated negative energy being emitted from the lead mines, which were caused by the deep shafts created by the mining operation damaging the Earth's energy field. The energy pattern is sinusoidal, which when earthed creates negative spirals, which can in the very long term drain the life energy of living beings; weakening their resistance to disease. David showed me how to divert the energy around a house; protecting the occupants from negative spirals. Just think, our ancestors must have been well aware of how to tap and control these earth energies: knowledge that has been lost through aeons. David dowsed the house of a friend who lives in Crianlarich and much to her surprise asked whether she had a cat and whether it tended to lie in a particular position on an upstairs bed. My friend confirmed this and David explained that cats like lying in

negative spirals. Another observation by David was that positive white energy flowed at 3 inch

parallels through an ex- church at Dalrigh. This church was completed in 1829 and surely such an energy field didn't occur just by accident!

**John Riley**



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This is a great opportunity presented on your doorstep! For more information and to book your place please contact: Zoe Bishop at [zoe.bishop@coeliac.org.uk](mailto:zoe.bishop@coeliac.org.uk) or 01494 796727 or Sarah Heward or Stuart Gibson at the cafe.

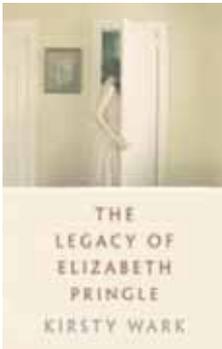
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## Book Review

### The Legacy of Elizabeth Pringle by Kirsty Wark



The main selling point of this book to the Killin Book Club was the author. Kirsty Wark is well known to us as a Journalist and TV Current Affairs Presenter who often

courts public controversy with her aggressive and abrupt style of interview technique with politicians, which on occasion has been perceived as hostile, rude and dismissive. However, if you were looking for any of that tenacious, dog-with-a-bone, formidable Scots woman you will be disappointed to know she is nowhere to be found in Wark's first novel.

The story is centred around the lives of three women: - Elizabeth Pringle a resident on the Isle of Arran, aged 90, dies and leaves her home and all her possessions to a stranger - a young mother named Anna who she watched push a pram passed her cottage thirty years previously. This young mother, now elderly herself, is

suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and it falls upon her 30 year old daughter Martha - that baby in the pram - to decide on whether to accept the property on behalf of her mother.

Essentially it is a holiday read and a reasonable one at that, albeit a bit sugary sweet with a soupçon of Mills and Boon thrown in. The descriptions of Arran and Holy Isle will have you beating a trail to CalMac's door for a ferry ticket to Arran. The human element is there, it has been well researched - Stevenson's Lighthouses, fairies of Robert Kirk the minister at Balquhider, the First World War and its impact on the Clyde, farming on the west coast of Scotland - an engaging story line with a surprise twist at the end. It is an easy read, a romantically charged 'page turner'. Our disappointment lay in her overuse of adjectives, stilted writing, lack of editing, and the fact that our expectations from Kirsty Wark (Presenter of Newsnight) were so very much higher than this.

All that being said, if you are planning a trip 'doon the watter', forget it is written by Kirsty Wark and it will keep you intrigued and entertained.

**Linda FitzGerald**  
The Killin Book Club

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Fortnightly Fridays**  
Aug 1, 15, 29 Sept 12, 26

**Crianlarich**  
School 10.50-11.30  
Glen Falloch Road 11.35-11.50  
Willow Square 12.0-12.25  
Suie Lodge 3.05-3.25

**Tyndrum**  
Station Road 1.35-1.50  
Green Welly 1.55-2.20  
Mansefield 2.30-3.00  
Benmore 3.15-3.15

**Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig  
Fortnightly Mondays**  
Aug 11, 25 Sept 8, 22  
Glenlochay 10.50-12.30  
Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

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## Ben Lawers

### National Nature Reserve

#### Guided walks & Events August

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> August  
and Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> August:**

#### Close Encounters - a children's walk

An exploration of the habitats on the lower slopes of Ben Lawers; we hope to bring you close to some of the less obvious animals and plants that live here.

**Duration:** 2 hours

**Cost:** adults £2, children £5. (Adults must be accompanied by a child and vice versa).

**Bring:** Wellies and waterproofs

**Meet:** 10.30 am Ben Lawers NNR car park.

**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> August:**

#### Grey Mare's Tail: hunters, munchers and management

Richard Clarkson, Property Manager, introduces some of the inhabitants of this diverse site and how they affect management. An

illustrated talk at the Ranger base, Main Street, Killin, starting at 8pm - there is no

charge, but donations are always welcomed.

**Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> August:**

#### An introduction to navigation

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

**Duration:** 6 hours

**Cost:** adults £15, children £7.50.

**Bring:** Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing, food, map (OS Landranger 51 or Explorer 378) and compass.

**Meet:** 10.30am Ben Lawers NNR car park. **Booking essential**, please telephone 0844 4932 136 or [benlawers@nts.org.uk](mailto:benlawers@nts.org.uk)

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August:**

#### Hillside safari

Experience the rich flora of the lower slopes of this famous botanical nature reserve and the varied wildlife flourishing in restored native plant communities.

**Duration:** 2½ hours.

**Cost:** adults £5, children £2.

**Bring:** Walking boots, warm, waterproof and windproof clothing.

**Meet:** 1.30pm Ben Lawers NNR car park. No need to book

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> August:**

#### A migrant's view of Ben Lawers

Gwen Raes, Seasonal Ranger Naturalist, on a seasonal ranger's temporary input to a lasting contribution on this internationally important nature reserve. An illustrated talk at the Ranger base, Main Street, Killin, starting at 8pm - there is no charge, but donations are always welcomed.

For further information

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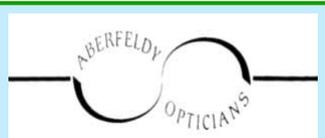
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Bethany Semple



Jayne Kerr and Lisa Semple

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Photos by David Robertson

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# Mervyn's Weather

To depart briefly from what seems to be a repetitive litany of less than acceptable weather conditions, it would perhaps be interesting to hark back into the history of weather reporting and maybe establish the fact "that there is nothing new under the sun" and touch on the weather patterns over millennia.

We are told that subsequent to the retreat of the most recent ice age, some 10,000 years ago, written and archaeological records show that between about AD 801 and AD 1300 a relatively warm period obtained, when tree lines crept higher as did cultivation, such as it was, at that time. Around 1300 AD a spell of wet and cold summers caused hardship among humans and domestic animals. This was in turn followed around 1430 AD by a period of severe winters, producing a similar effect, aided by severe easterly gales, which resulted in the blowing of coastal sand along NE coasts of Scotland and NW Ireland whereby whole villages such as Forvie in Aberdeenshire, the Culbin Sands and

the area near Dumfanaghy, in Co. Donegal, were inundated by sand. "This little ice age" of 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> centuries saw lowering of temperatures in the north, coupled with cold NE winds causing losses of crops, in particular around 1690 and the massacre of Glencoe. Poor summers and severe winters again resulted in losses of livestock and privation for humans, while snow was reported to be more or less permanent on the Highland mountains. During more recent years a gradual warming, though with occasional blips of severe winters, has become the norm. The increased use of fossil fuels has no doubt contributed towards the general trend of warming, along with other factors such as "clear felling" of rain forests, the release of methane from domestic and other ruminant animals and so on. One must realise, however, that perhaps 100 years ago, the smoke from "the dark Satanic mills" must have caused pollution of the atmosphere and indeed ruminant animals then also

behaved naturally! Overruling then these factors, the cyclic oscillations of climate must surely be the prime mover in what is now described as "Global warming/climate change". Returning to 2014 on the home stretch, a mild and very wet winter, when on low ground around Loch Tay, snow lay on only two occasions and then only briefly, although above about 2500 feet snow cover has been the deepest and longest-lying for many years. Blossoms have been prodigious, though fairly short lived. The subsequent fruiting of rowans, hawthorns, rosehip etc., while highly productive, does not, as so often suggested, necessarily imply a cold winter to follow, but is the result of a good flowering season. Grass growth too, unlike 2013, has been, and is, prolific, but the setting of seed is taking place somewhat prematurely.

**Mervyn K. Browne  
Ardtalnaig**

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# Killin Golf Club

Ladies Open: 7th June

Mixed Open: 31st May

## Handicap

- 1st** Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan (Killin) 62.5  
**2nd** Bruce Ford and Jean Faichney (Killin) 65  
**3rd** Gary Dryerre and Mairead Hume (Auchterarder) 66

## Scratch

- 1st** David Simpson and Lesley MacKenzie (Crieff) 73  
**2nd** Gordon Aitken (Killin) and Caroline Henderson (Aberfeldy) 76  
**3rd** Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin) 78

## Best Killin (Bill Mitchell Salver)

Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan 62.5

## Best Overall

### (McRobert Thistle Cup)

Andy Cousins and Jackie Crossan (Killin) 62.5

## Nearest Pin

**Ladies (14th)** Una Woodburn (Crieff)

**Gents (11th)** Gordon Aitken (Killin)

## Gents and Ladies in 3 (9th/18t)

Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin)

## Magic Twos

Helen and Tony Lang (Harburn), Gary Dryerre and Mairead Hume (Auchterarder), Jim Ronald and Laura Aitken (Killin)



L-R: Kay Dowling, Laura Aitken, Sandra Johnson, Sandy Bushby and Heather Anderson

## Scratch

- 1st** Laura Aitken (Killin) 76  
**2nd** Sandy Bushby (Blairgowrie) 80  
**3rd** Heather Anderson (Blairgowrie) 81

## Handicap

- 1st** Sandra Johnson (Kilbirnie Place) 69 BIH  
**2nd** Susie MacDougall (Aberfeldy) 69  
**3rd** Diane Gannon (Muthill) 70

**NB** Scratch takes precedent over handicap

## Killin Cup (Best overall Handicap)

Sandra Johnson (Kilbirnie Place) 69

## Bridge of Lochay Salver (Best

## Local Handicap)

Laura Aitken (Killin) 68

## Dochart Trophy (Best overall

Scratch) Laura Aitken (Killin) 68

## Nearest the Pin

Laura Aitken (Killin)

## Longest Drive Silver

Laura Aitken (Killin)

## Longest Drive Bronze

Kay Dowling (Killin)

## Magic Twos

Susie MacDougall (Aberfeldy)

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## Frost Report

### Einstein and Beth Tweddle

The last of the snow on Lawers visible from Ardeonaig only disappeared in the last days of June. Now into July there is still a great deal on Ben More and Stob Binnein and drifts of twenty eight feet on Ben Lomond in May. We had such an open winter down lower that we tended to forget that our rain was falling as snow higher up. Apparently it is the most snow left on the hills since 1994.

As we came into early summer the squirrels returned to our garden. The south shore of the loch has so many hazels that they seem to get enough wild food through autumn and winter but are glad of our fast food outlets in the garden when the wild stocks dry up. It's always exciting when they return and everyone around here who feeds them exchanges information on their return. Shortly after their first sighting this year we had a large posse of grandchildren here and as a squirrel arrived to feed they all raced to peer over the back of the seats in the conservatory. I can't imagine the shock in the squirrel's mind as a row of faces suddenly popped up like a family of meerkats. But it didn't put him off his peanuts.

We have been overjoyed this year by the arrival of three baby squirrels. The first went straight to opening the feeder top to collect the nuts, a learning curve which many of the adults do not manage. He then stayed inside the feeder till he had eaten his fill, just watching out of its window. Because of his nifty

tricks we called him Einstein. A second baby soon followed but preferred to hang upside down on the bird feeders for her breakfast so has become known as Beth Tweddle. The third appeared a few days later, copied Einstein and even joined him in the box - their little bodies both finding enough room to share the meal.

It all shows that animals have more in their furry heads than we often realise. In a German National Park a seven year study has revealed that the deer were still very wary of crossing an area where the electric fence for the iron curtain once was - the fence was removed twenty five years ago. This would seem to point to animals teaching their young of this danger.

These natural wonders never cease to amaze and every year we are reminded by the return of our migrating birds. How such tiny little creatures can navigate and travel such huge and dangerous distances is amazing. The swallows are fewer in number and, though the martins returned to Ardeonaig, they failed to build - in our case for the first time in nearly 20 years. The same was noted by the late Kenneth Taylor at Dall. We must remember how important records such as his of the daily, monthly and yearly happenings in our countryside are. Have any others of you noticed martins nesting or not this year? Does anyone have any ideas as to why this is as it is surely very worrying?

Speaking of country folk - are we destined to become an extinct species? The BBC Trust has

criticised the corporation for its bias over not reflecting the real economic and social concerns of those who live and work in the countryside. (Much the same as the National Park then). Though the urban bias is less strong in Wales and Scotland than in England, the BBC was said to rely too heavily on a small number of charities for views. In most cases the RSPB has been the first port of call. The Trust report calls for more input from the people on the ground. There was found to be a lack of balanced coverage of areas of country sports. Maybe this was why a recent Countryfile attempted to give a more balanced view.

We will also be greatly (terminally?) affected if the proposed land grab (sorry - land reform) Act goes through. Not only sporting estates but any larger land area will be destined to be divided. How this will work has not been identified. This could happen with or without independence. The worry over urban bias and lack of knowledge is also worrying in the context of the proposed named person for each child policy. Will country families be understood by urban minders?

Never mind, if we do become extinct, someone will decide to reintroduce or rewind us one day - hopefully with more success than a project in the Pyrenees to rewild brown bears. This is being severely jeopardised by the 'sexual vigour and dominant attitude' of one male bear! Remind you of anyone?

**Tim Frost**

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## Breadalbane

The Breadalbane Tourism Co-operative has unveiled a new look for the region, "The High Ground of Scotland", a translation from the Gaelic name for the area 'Braghad Albain', bidding to capitalise on increased tourism to the region ahead of this year's Ryder Cup.

Breadalbane, (incorporating Crieff, Aberfeldy, Kenmore, St Fillans and Killin) skirts the areas that will play host this year to the Ryder Cup and next year to the T in the Park festival, both of which expect to attract hundreds of thousands of visitors to the region.

As part of the roll out of the new brand, the group are highlighting a series of new "Rings" of Breadalbane which builds on the success of the popular, award-winning Ring of Breadalbane Explorer bus, which opened for the 2014 season on the 1st June. Additional "Rings" include a series of circular walking trails, cycling trails and, aptly, a Golf Ring and Angling Ring to highlight the area's extensive golf courses, lochs and rivers. The project has secured funding from VisitScotland's Growth Fund to assist with its promotion.

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## Paradise Lost

When we first moved to Killin, over ten years ago, the little patch of woodland where the rivers Dochart and Lochay meet, was a virtual paradise. Seemingly undiscovered by out-of-town anglers, or even other walkers, it was a haven for all sorts of wildflowers and plants, and wildlife especially birds. The final piece of good fortune - for me - was that it was close to where we live, and I often went there.

Sadly, it wasn't very long - two or three years - before I began to find litter scattered around the woodland and river-banks and the situation has steadily worsened ever since. I am disappointed and saddened to bring the subject up again, but the littering of the countryside - our countryside - is becoming unbearable and the manner in which the garbage is flagrantly strewn around is a direct challenge to us and the public authorities who are supposed to administer and protect the environment.

In the latest and worst example of littering, which I came across on 12th July, garbage was openly strewn along 20 metres of riverbank - beer cans, vodka bottles, soft drink bottles, discarded fishing tackle, food scraps, bait containers and at least another 25 items scattered within a further radius of 10-15 metres.

Under low trees nearby there were human faeces and many pieces of soiled tissue. A hundred metres further along the riverbank were more faeces, more soiled tissue-paper, torn-up newspapers, more drink cans and coke bottles. A fishing-line, caught in a tree, dangled a near-invisible triple hook just at ankle-level where it might easily harm a child or a dog. I was lucky - it only snagged my boot.

Why do we have to put up with this kind of thing? Since the individuals concerned are unable to control themselves - or may actually be issuing some sort of challenge to society, ways to meet the challenge and control them must be found. Sanctions could be introduced, and a start could be banning all angling and camping along the vulnerable stretches of riverbank at weekends. Killin Angling Club members would be exempt from this ban, which could be policed by the existing bailiffs. The National Park Authority, Stirling Council, s environmental department and the police all have interests and responsibilities in this area, and I implore them and all those who recognise this problem, to do something about it.

David Paterson

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## Reading Promotion

A new reading promotion for adults connected to the Commonwealth Games is on display in Stirling's Central and Dunblane libraries. A Wealth of Reading is a great collection of books either written by an author from a Commonwealth country, or set in a Commonwealth country. This is a national promotion funded by the Scottish Libraries and Information Council (SLIC), who are also funding a competition connected with this promotion and offering the prize of a tablet.

In order for everyone to be able to take part in the competition, a booklist has been made up and circulated around all our libraries and with our free requests, books from the promotion can be accessed by every adult library member in the Stirling Council area. All you have to do is read one of the books, fill out a comments card, go online to: <http://www.scottishlibraries.org/wor/> or hand back the comments card to your nearest library.

For more information:  
[www.stirling.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.stirling.gov.uk/libraries)  
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## Tuesday Club

The club will be starting again on 7th October. We meet in the Community Rooms (next to Church) at 2pm every Tuesday. Why not come along and enjoy an afternoon with us? We are not the "oldies" you might think we are (as I thought until I went 3 years ago). This year we have a really good programme. We have a speaker every alternate week presenting a variety of topics. On the weeks between we have quizzes, bingo, cards and games etc. Of course a cup

of tea and a biscuit are essential and usually we end up putting the world to rights on some subject or other. We have a Christmas dinner and always an outing in the Spring so, how about giving us a try? We will not charge you for the first day and then if you decide to join us it is £5 membership and £1 per meeting. Every second week we have a small raffle. We look forward to welcoming you on 7th October. Put a note in your calendar.

**Margaret Ogilvie**

## Striking Memories

Further to the article in the April issue about the railway worker who lived in a tent at Killin Junction and in reply to your speculation, Nancy MacRae would indeed have gone to school at Ardochyle. The school was called Glendochart School and

around half the roll was made up of railway children from Killin Junction and Luib Stations. I have enclosed a photo take on the hill behind the school in the late 1940's.

**Elma Aiken**



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# Strathearn Church



L-R Kathy Whittaker, Rev. Bill Rootes, Rev. Paddy Allen, Bishop David Chillingworth, Kate Sainsbury and Dean Kenny Rathband

## An Unusual Wedding

On Pentecost Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June, a Communion Service was held at St Fillan's Scottish Episcopal Church in Killin, when the church was "wedded" to the Strathearn Churches Group of St. Columba's in Crieff, St. Serf's in Comrie and St. Angus's in Lochearnhead. Bishop David Chillingworth, the Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church and Bishop of St Andrews, Dunblane and Dunkeld, officiated and preached. The service was an opportunity to introduce the Ministry Team which consists of the Rector, the Rev. Paddy Allen, the Rev. Bill Rootes, Kate

Sainsbury, the Lay Reader, and Kathy Whittaker who has a special interest in working with young people and those on the edges of the organised church. The Rev. Ladd Ferguson, priest in charge from 2000 to 2012 and the Rev. Graham Willey were thanked for their huge service to St Fillan's, as it was they who enabled the church to hold services during a long period of uncertainty. Members of all the congregations attended what was a very happy occasion during which Bishop David asked representatives to recall each church's history before they and the ministry team committed themselves

to mutual support for their shared ministry and service to the community in their journey for the future. It was a real opportunity to affirm the intention to make the "marriage" work and it provides every congregation with opportunities to work together in the future. We all adjourned to the Kirk Community Rooms to enjoy tea together and Bishop Davis cut a magnificent cake specially baked and iced for the occasion. **Lawrie Hopkins**

## Other Church Events

**2<sup>nd</sup> August**

### Teddy Bears' Treasure Hunt

As part of the continuing celebrations we are having a Coffee Morning at St. Fillan's Church Killin which we hope will be supported by the other parishes as well. For young children there will be a Teddy Bears' Treasure Hunt to hunt down the bears and work out their names (with the help of parents!). This will cover a distance of about half a mile leaving from the church towards Loch Tay - full directions on the day. The teddies are looking forward to it and want to invite as many children as possible so please pass the word around, they will be very sad little bears if children don't go looking for them, especially if it's raining! I'm told they have waterproofs so please



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# es Group

children bring yours too just in case. There will also be a stall for bric-a-brac and home baking - all contributions welcome.

**Lawrie Hopkins**

## 6<sup>th</sup> August (Highland Games Day)

You are welcome to pop in to St Fillan's Church on the Main Road in St Fillan's for a moment of peace during the games. The church will be open for a cup of tea and chat any time from 1 - 4pm. Prayers will be said at each hour - a chance for a blessing for you and your pets! All welcome. **Paddy Allen**

## Rev John Lincoln Retires



When the Rev John Lincoln retired on 31<sup>st</sup> May it was a bittersweet moment for Killin and Ardeonaig Parish Church of Scotland. John had ministered to us for seventeen years and served beyond what would have been his normal retirement age and we will miss him, but we also know that all good things come to an end and John deserves his retirement as much as anybody. John served Balquhiddier church as well as Killin & Ardeonaig. This led to a change in expectations all round - the churches did not have their own full time minister and the minister wondered whether he would be able to do all that he might like to in either of the parishes. He did well though, again going beyond the call of duty, by working hard and being magnanimous with his time, it did not feel as though he was somewhere else half of the time.

Many in the village and surrounding area have been glad of the services of the church offered by John. He often went beyond the call of duty to make sure he was available to conduct weddings or funerals, cutting short holidays and giving more of himself than any of us should have expected. High on his list of priorities was visiting folk in hospital and he diligently trekked back and forward to Stirling and later Larbert to make sure families were supported and care and hope offered to those who were unwell. Being a minister does not mean being straightjacketed in particular ways. John brought his own talents and abilities to his ministry. Arising from interest and fluency in Gaelic, he played a key role in the Gaelic class and became part of a group translating the New Testament into Gaelic on behalf of the Scottish Bible Society. John was also a man of some musical ability and successfully coached a Gaelic choir in the school, taking them to the Mod and enriching their lives. But it is for the basics of ministerial life that John will be remembered as much as anything. He preached faithfully every week from the Bible about Jesus Christ, somebody he obviously knew well and urged his flock to get to know better. The congregation held a social evening to show their appreciation of John's sterling service in Killin and to make a presentation to mark his retirement. We wish him and Julie well for a long and happy retirement in Alness.

**Phil Simpson**

## Think about it

'Who are you?' he asked pompously. 'Jist fine, hoo's yersel', she replied. I spent twenty years of my working life in military chaplaincy, first in the Royal Navy and then in the Royal Airforce. I remember a retired RAF chaplain talking at one of our training meetings saying that he had always been grateful to the men and women of the RAF for the privilege of being allowed to wear their uniform. Chaplains were and are, non-combatant. They carry no weapons and their only role is one of moral and spiritual leadership, that is, to care for the wellbeing of the whole woman, the whole man, regardless of rank and indeed of their being 'friend or foe'. But my intention here is not to tell you about what the chaplain does, as to explain my retired colleague's comment about his uniform. What he really meant was that he was quite astonished by how readily, and fully, he was accepted as part of the RAF 'family'. I came to know that too in both RN and RAF. As chaplains we were treated the same as everybody else and widely used in doing our job. I remember talking to a younger fighter aircraft pilot and encouraging him to see why the RAF had to be sure about why he felt he could not do that anymore having just spent £5,000,000 training him. In my post military work as a parish minister, I have tried to see myself and my role in the community in the same kind of way. As unit commanders, training officers, police, medics, cooks and stewards, engineers, administrators all had their area of work, so did we, but in our common life together we were one. The diversity of life and people in our cities, towns and villages is much wider and more complex than in the armed forces, but I hope that overall, the same sense of oneness, of being a 'family' can still be there. The 'family' in my mind, in my hope and prayer is the whole human family.

**John Shedden**

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If you would like to take part in one of our walks come along on a Wednesday morning, meeting at 10.20am. Please see the schedule for more details and meeting places. Walks lasting up to 45 minutes are on offer so, if you want to build up your fitness gradually, come along and join in.

To ensure that our health walks continue to grow, Walk in the Park is now recruiting new Volunteer Walk Leaders. If you are a keen walker and you would like to help others enjoy the benefits of walking and have some free time, perhaps you would like to consider joining us? A days free training will be provided on Tuesday 9th September in Callander after which it is expected that you will help lead a walk at least once a month for a year. Please get in touch with the Coordinator if you would like to know more or for an application pack.

**Cathy Scott**

Project Coordinator  
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 cathy.scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org  
 Volunteer Walk Leaders  
 Don & Alicja Fraser 820690  
 Jane Watts, on 820141



Date	Meeting Place	Route
6th August	Capercaille	Village Walk
13th August	Capercaille	Kinnell Circuit
20th August	McLaren Car Park	Loch Circuit, Railway if wet underfoot
27th August	McLaren Car Park (Minibus)	Glen Ogle to War Memorial
3rd September	McLaren Car Park Minibus	Tarmachan Track
10th September	McLaren Car Park Car share	Glen Lochay
17th September	Capercaille	River Dochart Old Railway
24th September	McLaren Car Park Car share	Glen Ogle to Viaduct

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# McLaren High School

## Sponsored Walk

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> May the annual sponsored walk got underway. There was an air of energy and enthusiasm amongst pupils as they enjoyed a 'stand down' morning away from their normal routine. As well as the real need to raise some funds for school activities the exercise accomplished flirtations for many with good practice in health and well being. Walking with friends, chatting, taking in the scenery, passing time with the teachers who were walking or stewarding the route, and even getting some exercise all contributed to this. Most classes completed the 5km route in just over an hour. We would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who donated. All funds raised go towards supporting the many clubs and activities that are available to our pupils.

## S2 Central Schools 7's Rugby Tournament

The S1/2 combined 7's squad participated in the recent S2 Central Schools 7's Tournament. Although lacking 7's experience and knowledge, the boys went out and played some nice rugby, winning two of their three group matches.

The boys had a good afternoon and will be looking to building on this experience in the future. The squad was Peter Hayes, Stuart Lang, Harris Fisher, Callum Cameron, Lewis Dennison, Jamie Nixon, Daniel Hesp, Gregor Aitken and Sean Steele.

## Activities Week – Skiing

From 28<sup>th</sup>–30<sup>th</sup> May some of the McLaren pupils went skiing for their activities week. It was a three day ski course with two days on a dryslope and one day on real snow at Xscape.

## Sports Day

McLaren High's annual Inter House Sports took place on Thursday 26 June. There was a mix of track events, an obstacle race, the three legged race and a tug o' war. Pupils entered into all events with enormous enthusiasm, with the three houses competing to be not only winners of Sports Day but House Champions for the year. Bracklinn emerged as winners of Sports Day and Leny were crowned House Champions. A fantastic day was had by all.  
**Yvonne King**



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# Naked Ramblers

On 14th June, Euan MacKenzie, Gregor MacKenzie, Stuart Laurence, Claire McCarron, Mhairi McCallum and Siobhan Anderson completed the Caledonian Challenge.

The "Naked Ramblers", as the team was known, completed the fifty four mile walk from Fort William to Tyndrum in twenty three hours and forty three minutes. In addition to raising money for the challenge's assigned charity, Foundation Scotland, they also raised funds for Yorkhill Children's Hospital in Glasgow.

Sandra Laurence kindly ran a coffee afternoon in Shutters raising £702 and Mary Anderson held a raffle in Crianlarich raising £120. Euan's sponsor sheet in the Co-op raised £430 and many people donated to the online fundraising page. The group also ran a Ceilidh in the McLaren Hall in Killin on 29th May at which Siobhan Anderson, Jack MacRobbie and Phill Ragsdale performed and raised a further £1890. Combining these events and all the sponsorship, they raised a total of £5,038 and counting.

After months of training, the group set off from Gairloch, just north of Fort William at 7am. The first ten

miles passed without any problems and they were met by their fantastic support crew, Mikey McPartland and David Robertson, who were on hand with big plates of pasta and anything that was needed.

The second stint was a further thirteen miles to Kinlochleven. Some other teams were already flagging, but our group carried on through the midgets and rain to the next pit stop.

After a plate of chilli, they set off up the huge hill out of Kinlochleven for the next eleven miles through blistering sunshine. The route took them through the hills and headed down the Devil's Staircase into Glencoe where they arrived at the ski centre around 9pm for a BBQ and some much needed motivation from the support crew.

Over the next eight miles the sun disappeared behind the hills requiring everyone to wear their head torches and midget nets. On arrival at Inveroran Hotel at 2am the group were struggling but luckily Heather Clement was on hand with support to help them out on the final leg. This was undoubtedly the most difficult section as they carried on the final twelve miles from Bridge of

Orchy to Tyndrum. Being so near to the finish line was excruciating as the stretch by Auch Farm seemed never ending but they finally arrived in Tyndrum and soldiered on to the finish line at the Strathfillan wigwams.

There was a great team of supporters there to greet them at the finish line and champagne to cheer them on. Many tears of joy, relief and tiredness were shed as they realised they had finally made it in under the twenty four hours deadline.

The group would like to thank Sandra and everyone at Shutters for running the coffee afternoon, Mary and all her Crianlarich helpers for raising so much on football cards, everyone who came along to the Ceilidh, everyone who helped at the Ceilidh (especially all our Mums and Dads), those who donated raffle prizes, Jack and Phill for performing at the Ceilidh, everyone who donated money and sponsored us, Heather Clement for pushing us to the end and especially Mikey and David for being such a great support team. "Up the road!!"

**Siobhan Anderson**



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On behalf of Davidsons Chemists I would like to thank all of the community for your support in our first few months. It has been a pleasure for both myself and my team to meet and be of assistance to you all. Many of you will know that I have moved into the village and I want to thank you for your kindness in welcoming me into your community.

I now want to take some time to invite those of you who take regular medication for a long-term condition to register with us for the Chronic Medication Service (CMS). Like the Minor Ailments Service it is completely free and is offered by pharmacies across the whole of Scotland. A long term condition is a health problem that is likely to last longer than a year and needs ongoing medical care. Examples include Asthma, high blood pressure, Diabetes, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), IBS, Eczema etc.

There are 3 main parts to the service:

- ✦ **Reviewing your use of medicines** - Together we will look at your medicines and talk about how you use them to ensure you are gaining maximum benefit from them. This will give you the opportunity to discuss any problems that you may be having or any questions you may have about your condition or medication.
- ✦ **A CMS Care Plan** - Following your medication use review I may decide that you would benefit from a care plan. This is a written plan where I will document any questions or concerns that you or I have about your medication. I will give you a copy of this and may also discuss it with your GP. I will follow up this care plan to ensure that any questions or concerns that arise are resolved.
- ✦ **Serial Prescriptions** - You may be able to get serial prescriptions from your doctor so that you can pick up your repeat medication from the pharmacy without having to re-order from the GP surgery on every occasion. Only some patients will be suitable for such prescriptions and the final decision on your suitability lies with your GP.

Additionally we will be inviting all patients who currently take Methotrexate, Lithium or Warfarin to have an in-depth review on their medication. NHS Scotland has identified these as high-risk medicines, meaning it is extremely important to ensure that you are kept safe whilst taking them but continue to gain maximum benefit.

Another part of the service involves new medication prescribed to you. Nobody particularly likes having to take medication and we understand that starting a new medicine can be daunting. When you collect your new prescription we can take extra time to go over the instructions your doctor has given you and to ensure that you have had the opportunity to ask any questions you may have about the medication such as how it works or if it has any potential side effects.

The Chronic Medication Service relies heavily on pharmacists and GPs working together to complement each others skills. We have already formed a very good working relationship with all the staff at Killin Medical Practice and I am confident that this will continue to grow. I would urge you to pop into the pharmacy to register for the Chronic Medication Service and have a medication review with myself particularly ahead of your yearly GP review, to allow me to feedback any care issues raised to your GP. You may be thinking "What is the point in having two medication reviews" but this will allow you to gain maximum benefit from both my in-depth knowledge of medicines and also your GPs expertise in managing your long term condition. There is no need to make an appointment – you can simply pop in any time and I will be more than happy to see you, the medication review usually takes between 5 and 15 minutes depending on your conditions and medication.

Laura

Your local Davidsons Pharmacist

**Davidsons Chemist, Myrtle Grove, Main St, Killin, FK21 8UX. T: 01567 829006**

## Escape in Killin

You may have noticed that Mrs Sword's haberdashery at Myrtle Grove has been undergoing some change over recent weeks. Killin girls, Wendy Simpson and Jackie Bremner (nee Simpson) and Jackie's husband Adrian have bought the shop which will open as Escape in Killin, in August 2014. Wendy, who will be known to many village folk, has worked as Manager of Ernest Jones, the Jeweller in Aberdeen for the last twenty five years, has recently returned to live in the village and will run the shop. Jackie and Adrian will continue to live and work in Aberdeen and will visit regularly to help Wendy when necessary.

Wendy will be pleased to see you if you're passing, feel free to pop in if you see her at a loose end while preparing the shop ready to open in mid August.

The shop 'gift room' will offer a range of stylish but affordable gifts including a variety of cards, wrapping, some stationery,

make-up, a range of gifts e.g. glass, ceramics, knickknacks, polo shirts, t shirts and a range of 'Killin' merchandised gifts and more.

During the first few months we will get a feel for what folk want to buy and Wendy will have a suggestion box on the counter; so if there is something you think we should stock, we will consider it.

We look forward to seeing you in the shop when it opens. Please remember to take the voucher from the Escape Advert when you visit for the first time to get a 15% discount on your purchase. We look forward to seeing you soon.

**Wendy, Jackie and Adrian**



Jackie, Adrian and Wendy

# escape

IN KILLIN

*The Gift Room*

## Opening August 2014

(Target date Friday 15 August)

**15% Discount on any purchase  
over £10 with this escape voucher.**

\*One voucher per transaction valid till September 10th 2014

Myrtle Grove  
Main Street  
Killin  
FK21 8UX  
Tel: 01567 820212  
[info@escapeinkillin.co.uk](mailto:info@escapeinkillin.co.uk)  
[escapeinkillin.co.uk](http://escapeinkillin.co.uk)

## The Courie Inn

After a major refurbishment programme it is a real treat to see The Courie Inn open on Killin's Main Street.

Michael and Lynn Crow from the Old Smiddy in Killin took the decision to buy and renovate the old Craigard Hotel to bring more life to this part of the village and set about the task of total refurbishment with the help of long standing friends and business partners Alan and Elaine MacDonald. Recently there has been much investment and development in the southern most end of the village and the opening of The Courie Inn has meant that a hotel, which has been central to village life for a very long time, is back to play its part.

The layout of the Hotel is much as it was and it is Michael's intention to make the bar a comfortable and cosy place to have a drink. As well as a selection of malt whiskies, there is draught ale and a very refreshing Belgium lager on offer and also other draught beers and ciders. There are red, rose and white wines with the Courie Inn's own label and other interesting varieties of wine, which some of us may not have tried before. The staff are open to suggestions as to other drinks that

the customers would like to be able to buy.

When sourcing food for the restaurant, the Courie Inn's philosophy is to buy from companies who can provide supplies which are sensibly sourced. These good quality ingredients are then offered as simple home-cooked fare that appeals to many types of customers. Interestingly much of the seating in the restaurant is old pews from Killin Parish Church. So you can enjoy your meal knowing that not only has the food come from a great source but so has what you are sitting on. Truly righteous!

The Courie Inn has seven stunning letting rooms from a family suite to a single. All have en-suite facilities and three of the rooms have baths as well as showers. The décor is modern and there has been no lack of attention to detail to ensure that the guests are extremely comfortable. Internet access is available on the TV screens in each room.

Michael's experience of running The Smiddy for the last seven years has meant that he knows what guests are looking for so a lockable bike shed has been provided and a boot

and drying room at The Courie Inn, just in case it rains.

It is fantastic to see this old building lovingly restored into a family hotel, local bar and restaurant and the Hotel's Managers, Paul and Chris look forward to seeing you there.

MS

## Heartland Vets

Heartland Veterinary Services, from Aberfeldy/Pitlochry, is now running a fortnightly clinic in the Sports Pavilion in Killin. From 16th July we will be in Killin every other Wednesday from 9.30-11.30. Appointments still need to be made as normal through the Aberfeldy surgery - 01887 820771. Repeat prescriptions, food or any other veterinary requirements can be collected on these days, providing they are ordered in advance.

We look forward to providing this service to all our clients old and new.



## The Courie Inn

After much blood sweat and tears we are finally open! And we would like to thanks all our family, friends and neighbours for all their help and support.

So Courie on down for a wee dram in the bar or a family meal in the café.

Either way we'd love to see you soon and look forward to welcoming you!

Café open 12-9 daily

Bar open 12-11 daily and 12-12 Friday and Saturday

Any enquiries give us a call  
01567 831000

Or visit our website  
[www.thecourieinn.com](http://www.thecourieinn.com)

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## Obituaries



**Kenneth Taylor**  
**26.12.1940-12.6.2014**

Kenneth passed away peacefully in Forth Valley Royal Hospital on 12<sup>th</sup> June. He was born in Edinburgh on 26<sup>th</sup> December 1940 - the reason he was a keen Hearts supporter all his life!

His parents had moved from Loch Lomondside to farm at Dall, Ardeonaig in 1938. He attended primary school in Ardeonaig and went to secondary school in Oban. He was a bright pupil but he was only interested in following in his father's footsteps and farming on the lochside.

Kenneth was interested in all aspects of agriculture but was probably best known for his ability as a breeder of hardy blackface sheep. Over the years he was asked to judge at many shows throughout the country and the farming world was well represented at his funeral when folks came from "A' the Airts" to attend. In his younger days he was a keen member of the Killin and District JAC. He held various offices within the club and represented them at stock judging and clipping competitions both at club and national levels. Kenneth served on the local community council for many years as the Ardeonaig representative where his down to earth opinions were much valued.

He was a lucky man to have lived the 73 years of his life in the place that he loved, doing the work that he loved but he will be sorely missed by all the family.

### Acknowledgement

The family would like to thank all the relatives, friends and neighbours for all the cards, flowers and kindly support to them and Kenneth during his illness and at his passing. To all the staff in Ward B12 at FVRH, to the MacMillan support team, to the local doctors and nurses and to the Rev. John Lincoln for their caring and

supportive help, to Andy and Ross Anderson for their sensitive handling of funeral arrangements and to all who attended at the service and the graveside and gave so generously to the Falls of Dochart Home in the village. To Ian and Sian Hitchins and their staff at Killin Hotel who coped so well with the catering arrangements. Thank you all very sincerely, it was much appreciated.

**Margaret Taylor**

### Willie Lambie

My uncle Willie Lambie passed away peacefully in hospital in the early hours of 18<sup>th</sup> May with his family around him after a long fight with complications of paralysis caused by a previous stroke. He was born in a farmhouse on the shores of Loch Erich in the highlands and because his father, Tom, was a shepherd he lived in many other places in Scotland including Brekachy, Harperstone and Killin before finally moving to Glen Ogle in 1961. Although not following my grandfather into farming, he did work outside for most of his career and travelled the length and breadth of Scotland for his work.

He will be well remembered as a very fine musician and was a master on the

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# Letters



fiddle and guitar as well as being adept on the Jews Harp, harmonica and washboard. He played in skiffle bands as well as ceilidh bands in the 1950's and 60's and when I was growing up he would still play and sing when friends came around. He was a real character and lovable rogue, known locally by everyone. In fact, everyone seems to have their own story about something they remember he got up to when he was younger. He is a big loss to the family and will be sadly missed by us and all those that knew him.

**Fiona Davidson**

## Local fire brigade

On behalf of everyone in Killin we would like to point out just how well our local fire brigade team have done, especially in dealing with the recent tragic incident on Loch Tay. The village is very lucky to have such a great team of volunteers and we are very grateful for their dedication and commitment. (Senders wish to be anonymous but we are sure speaks for us all)

## Helping Hands

I'd just like to say a big thank you to all relatives, friends and neighbours who have done so much and are doing so much to help me since my stay in hospital. And thanks for the care given to Denzil, the cat and dog. I daren't name names or Killin News would need an extra page and even then I might miss one or two. So many people have been kind. So thank you all again - it's lovely to know people care. **Jenny Lambert**

## John James MacDonald

Johan and family would like to thank relatives, friends and neighbours for cards, phone calls and flowers in their recent sad loss of a much-loved son and brother, 'Johnny'. Thanks also to Andrew Anderson and Ross, who were a great help and comfort to the family, to the flower shop for lovely arrangements, to Rev. Lincoln for an

uplifting service and to Kevin Cameron from Fort William for playing the organ and fiddle. £272.35 was collected for the Church Fabric Fund.

**Johan, Marie and Calum**

## Thank you

I would like to thank everyone for all the cards and kind messages sent to myself and my family after the death of my brother Willie Lambie.

**Dot Southern**



Jessie McLeod and Mrs Sinclair

## Mrs. Sinclair

Last time I was in Dunkeld, my sister Barbara and I went to the graveyard to see my brother's stone and we met a Mrs. Sinclair, a lady aged 104. She has been in Dunkeld for 93 years and still has a remarkable memory. A very smart lady, she even goes round Asda with her trolley! She is related to John Sinclair and the Sinclair family in Killin. I must get the tablets she's on!

**Jessie McLeod**

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Of Anglo 1st 1983

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**Brian Reed at Reed Construction on : 07917 665103**

Check out our work for yourself in Tyndrum at The Real Food Cafe and treat yourself to a tasty meal at the same time!



Hunter Falcon Frost born 17<sup>th</sup> April 2014 a baby brother for his proud big brothers Sam and Lewis. Falcon and Linzi would like to thank everyone for the kind wishes, phone calls, messages and gifts following Hunter's birth



Moira Robertson Bachelor of Science Open Degree at the graduation at the Usher Hall in Edinburgh on 21st June 2014.

### Engagement

The engagement took place in Killin between Dr Holley Willison and Dr Jon Bone R.N. Holley is the daughter of Sandy and Vivienne and grand-daughter of Jan. Congratulations and good wishes to both for the future.

**Jan Willison**

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Kimberley, daughter of David and Jan Robinson, married Thomas Crooks in Killin on 31<sup>st</sup> May



Nicky Elston and Tina Barker married on 12<sup>th</sup> July at Killin Kirk by Rev Anne Brennan.

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# Local Planning Applications

## National Park

**22 May**

**Proposal:** Proposed erection of external stair to access first floor meeting/function space  
 Location: By The Way Caravan Park Station Road Lower Tyndrum  
 Applicant: Mr Ranald Burnett  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Approve

**23 May**

**Proposal:** Amendment to application for erection of agricultural building to house biomass plant and separate storage building.  
 Location: Glenfalloch Lodge Crianlarich  
 Applicant: Mr David Lowes  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**28 May**

**Proposal:** Replacement window  
 Location: Masonic Lodge Main Street  
 Applicant: Alexander JM Stewart  
 Application Type: Listed Building Consent  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**29 May**

**Proposal:** Amendment of Condition 1 of planning permission (Erection of new building extension to hotel comprising one separate holiday letting accommodation unit) to extend time period by a further 3 years.  
 Location: Former Craigard Hotel Main Street  
 Applicant: Courie Inn Company  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Approve

**5 June**

**Proposal:** Erection of extension to dwelling house  
 Location: Craignavie Farm Craignavie  
 Applicant: Mr John Morris  
 Application Type: Householder Planning Permission  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**6 June**

**Proposal:** External re-painting of station building.  
 Location: Tyndrum Upper Railway Station Station Road Upper Tyndrum  
 Applicant: First Scotrail  
 Application Type: Listed Building Consent  
 Decision: Approve

**10 June**

**Proposal:** Construction of a hydro scheme  
 Location: Benmore Farm Crianlarich  
 Applicant: Mr Grant Jolly  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Approve

**17 June**

**Proposal:** Formation of access track  
 Location: Allt Coire Chaorach Crianlarich  
 Applicant: Green Highland Renewables Ltd  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**25 June**

**Proposal:** Demolition of existing store building and construction of new agricultural shed with lean-to store with covered passageway.  
 Location: Kirkton Farmhouse Crianlarich  
 Applicant: Ms Erin Clerihew  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**1 July**

**Proposal:** Amendment to planning permission for erection of dwellinghouse - revised design  
 Location: Land Adjacent To Riverview Main Street Killin  
 Applicant: Dr Colin Mackenzie  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**4 July**

**Proposal:** Proposed change of use of agricultural land to Class 4 (Business) and erection of storage shed and polytunnel  
 Location: Innischeroch Crianlarich  
 Applicant: Mr Jim Ronald  
 Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission  
 Decision: Approve

## Perth & Kinross Council

**19 May**

**Proposal:** Erection of a dwellinghouse  
 Location: Land 20 Metres East of Chalet Rynachulaig Farm Killin  
 Applicant: Dr K Freeman  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**21 May**

**Proposal:** Modification of permission (Erection of dwellinghouse) change of house type  
 Location: Land 80 Metres North West of Cragganester Lawers  
 Applicant: Mr Robert Gane  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Pending Decision

**16 June**

**Proposal:** Modification of permission change of design and layout of units 14, 15, 16 and 17  
 Location: Former Tigh An Loan Hotel Tigh Na Loan Fearnan  
 Applicant: Shoreside Homes  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**25 June**

**Proposal:** Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse  
 Location: Shepherds Cottage Ardeonaig  
 Applicant: Mr/s Ricky Whitehed  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Pending Consideration

**27 June**

**Proposal:** Erection of agricultural building  
 Location: Land 100 Metres North East of Drumglas Farm Lawers  
 Applicant: P McDiarmid and Co  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Application Approved

**2 July**

**Proposal:** Modification of permission Erection of dwellinghouse and ancillary boathouse  
 Location: Land 180 Metres South East of Keprannich House Ardtalnaig  
 Applicant: Mr & Mrs Neil & Sue Douglas  
 Application Type: planning permission local  
 Decision: Application Approved

## Stirling Council

**20 May**

**Proposal:** Demolition of derelict building  
 Location: Building Some 110 Metres North West of Stag Cottage Killin  
 Applicant: Mark Stroyan  
 Application Type: Demolition Notification  
 Decision: Approve



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# What's On in Killin and District

## August

- 2 Teddy Bear's Treasure Hunt St Fillan's Church p23
- 5 NTS event p15
- 6 Highland Games
- 6 Tea and Prayers St Fillan's Church
- 6 Walk in the Park p24
- 13 Walk in the Park p24
- 13 NTS event p15
- 16 Killin Agricultural Show
- 19 NTS event p15
- 20 Walk in the Park p24
- 20 NTS event p15
- 23 10K Run p8
- 27 Walk in the Park p24
- 27 NTS Hillside Safari p15
- 27 NTS Talk p15

## September

- 3 Walk in the Park p24
- 6 Cancer Research UK Ladies lunch
- 9 Strathfillan CC meeting 7.30pm Crianlarich Hall
- 9 KCC meeting School 7.30pm
- 10 Walk in the Park p24
- 17 Walk in the Park p24
- 24 Walk in the Park p24

### Beavers

Starting 21th Aug  
Thursdays 6.15pm  
School

### Book Club

last Wednesday of the month  
Tyndrum Hall  
1-3pm 01838 400 545

### Internet Cafe

Thursdays  
Killin Library  
11am-4pm

### Tai Chi

Wednesday  
Tyndrum Hall  
9.30am

### Choir

Usually Tuesdays  
Church 7.30pm  
from 18th Aug  
phone Franny  
01567 829048

### Laptop Access

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

### Cubs

starting 20 Aug  
Wednesdays 7pm  
Lesser Hall

### Sports Pavilion

Open daily  
12 noon to 6pm

### Scouts

Wednesdays  
starting  
20th Aug 7pm  
McLaren Hall

### Softplay Club

Tuesdays  
Sports Pavilion  
12.30 - 2.30pm

### Tiddlers & Toddlers

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

### Youth Group (Killin)

Tuesdays 7.30pm  
Sports and Social Club

### Yoga

starting 22 Aug  
Fridays  
Big Shed  
10.30-noon

## Recycling Centres

### Callander

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

### Aberfeldy

**Tuesday and Thursday**  
**10am-7pm**  
**Saturday and Sunday**  
**10am-5pm**

### Crieff

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

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Grants Laundry	16	The Fabric Studio	19
Green Welly Stop	10	The Old Smiddy	15
Grooming Marvellous	6	The Studio	16
Heart to Heart	6	The Wee Bake Shop	20
Heartland Veterinary Services	29	Wanted to rent	34
Highland Glen Travel	11	Window Cleaning	20



**Which bin  
which week?  
Week beginning**

**4 Aug - Brown**  
**11 Aug - Grey/Green**  
**18 Aug - Brown**  
**25 Aug - Grey/Green**  
**1 Sept - Brown**  
**8 Sept - Grey/Green**  
**15 Sept - Brown**  
**22 Sept - Grey/Green**  
**29 Sept - Brown**

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Tel: 01567 820 280

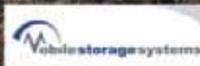
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