

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

December 2016/January 2017 **Issue 155** Price £1



Happy Christmas and New Year to All Our Readers

# Killin News

## Editorial

The glorious autumn colours have now faded and winter is here but to take our minds off that we have a lot to look forward to in the village over the next few weeks. Apart from Christmas itself, there is the Old Mill Christmas Fair, the Primary School Christmas Fair, the Choir Concert, the Santa Dash, Santa in Pantoland, the Boxing Day Dip, the Music Festival's Skippinish Concert, the Hogmanay Fireworks, the New Year Dance and the Panto – something for everyone.

Killin is a busy place and once again people have been fundraising with fantastic results. The Killin DGR raised over 15% of the amount raised in the whole of Scotland. The Cancer Research Ladies Lunch made over £3,000 and Cancer Research Committee's never-ending baking and soup-making for various races and organisations have earned both a great deal for their cause and our admiration. Together they and the Fire Station Car Wash raised £13,000 in one weekend. Add on the many individuals making remarkable efforts for their chosen charities and you can see a lot of money goes from Killin to good causes. Long may that continue.

Quite a few houses have changed hands recently and, though we are sorry to lose people from the village, we would like to welcome newcomers and hope they will settle in well and enjoy living here.

The unexpected (and in some cases shocking) happenings in the world this past year on many levels have brought much apprehension about what the future holds but we hope that 2017 will bring good things not bad.

In the meantime the Killin News team wish all our readers a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

## 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.

### Production Committee

Judy Forster, Sylvana Ginella, Dani Grant, Liz Howard  
Susan Howard, Angus Inglis,  
Margaret MacIver, Anneke Mayo, Kay Riddell,  
Marion Strang

### Photographer Ron Allner

### Delivery Volunteers

Jim Beattie, Lynne Ferguson, Linda Frost, Elizabeth Hancock,  
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Mary Anderson, Margaretanne Browne, Isla Craig  
Ellen Cattenach, Theresa Elliot (and James),  
Catherine Macmillan, Moira Robertson, the family at Rubble Cottage  
and some committee members

**Web sites:** [www.killin.info](http://www.killin.info) and [www.killinnews.co.uk](http://www.killinnews.co.uk)

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## DEADLINES

**Issue 156**

**Advertising**

**6th January**

**Copy 13th January**

**Publication**

**3rd February**

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**Front Cover Ron Allner**

pdf versions of the paper can be viewed on the Killin News website



## Killin News Under Threat Help!

When Killin News started in 1991, life was more leisurely and we used typewriters in someone's house. Nowadays everything is computerised and we have a small office. What remains the same is that the paper is still produced by volunteers who are prepared to put time and energy into its production. However, people nowadays aren't always able to give as much time or energy as they would like to and cannot guarantee to be available. Where for many years there were three people always available to produce and manage the paper, the last of these is now retiring so it is time for a change and help is needed with the organisation. Can you help? Things do not have to be done the way they are done at the moment but, briefly, this is what happens over the two months of each issue: All the Committee watch out for material for the paper.

To pay for the paper, advertising is sought by two of the team and put into the necessary form for the computer by two others. Items come in usually by email so email needs checking and replying to and items sorted. Items are edited before and during the production period of 6-7 full days excluding the weekend. Six of the team are able to use the software for putting the paper together but most of them can only spare one or two days. Ideally each issue should have at least one person seeing it through from start to finish. Proof reading is done by both those producing the paper and others of the team who may be available and the last two or three days are used for corrections and final rearranging before it is put into the format the printer requires. Distribution is done by volunteers and mailing list and posting by two of the Committee.

**All this needs co-ordinating and managing.** What happens now? We could recruit a manager to do the administration and/or more people into production who could perhaps see right through alternate productions. Perhaps there could be two teams working on alternate issues. Work could be done in evenings or at weekends. Everything could be done somehow differently. Or the paper could fold. We, the Committee, want the paper to continue but do people nowadays rely more on electronic communications and is Killin News redundant? We don't think so but, if it is to continue, we need help. Any ideas or suggestions are welcome and if you feel you can offer help in any capacity, please speak to one of the Committee or email us – [editorial@killinnews.co.uk](mailto:editorial@killinnews.co.uk) Killin News is your paper and we need your help!

## Remembrance Sunday



Young and old pay their respects to the fallen



# Killin Comm November

## Acharn biomass update

Building warrants to be submitted. Emissions will be tested. Platform areas will be levelled in the next few weeks. They have rights to obtain water from adjacent burn but are looking to get a connection to mains water. Contracts have been signed with woodland suppliers within a 30 mile radius. It will be financially viable for 30 yrs. and its lifetime depends on energy prices. When running there will be excess heat produced and this to be confirmed on completion. Biochar bi-product may be used as soil conditioner subject to tests. Plant should be operational by end of September 2017, the footpath open by Christmas and a Christmas tree will be donated for the hall.

## Road lining

Yellow has been completed but white lining and new markings at Dochart bridge are still to be done.

**20mph lights** at zebra crossing appear to be repaired.

**Water pressure** Investigation is ongoing.

**Sewage smell** ongoing.

**Forestry commission** have still to reply regarding proposed Morenish Woodland project.

**Ardeonaig road** There are still passing place repairs and culverts to be done. Knotweed to be sprayed next spring by new owners.

**Street lighting** Some are still out.

**Ballechroisk** 20m.p.h. signs are awaiting update.

**Dog warden** is to be asked again by Fiona Kennedy to check if visit has taken place re. fouling.

## Short cut and cemetery

Grass cutting will be reviewed in the Spring.

## Police report

Antisocial behaviour – 40 year old male arrested after disturbance at Balquhiddie Braes caravan site.

## Drug misuse

September: Drugs search warrant at an address in Cameron Court, Lochearnhead resulted in seizure of a quantity of class B drugs and two occupants arrested.

October: In road checks in Killin area 2 drivers were found in possession of cocaine and cannabis and were dealt with accordingly. Local police involved in drug search in Gargunnoch where large quantities of amphetamine, cannabis and cocaine were found. Two occupants were arrested. This incident involved officers across Trossachs and Teith community teams. These often involve Killin area officers for the duration of their shift. If you witness any sort of drug dealing in the community call 101 or Crimestoppers 0800 555111 if you wish to remain anonymous.

There have been no incidents of violent crime.

Housebreaking/crimes of dishonesty – A number of thefts from BEAR roads dept. Between

19/9 and 27/9 trailer dismantled and stolen from yard off Lyon Road. Between 10/10 and 11/10 a trailer tow hitch was stolen from Station Rd yard. Between 12/10 and 13/10 a caravan, value £5400 was stolen from Main St. Strathgryre. Road Safety: Despite regular patrols collisions are still occurring. 18/9 A85 was closed at Lochearnhead after two motorcycles collided causing one fatality. 18/9 minor collision on A82 in Tyndrum a collision involved a caravan and a military pickup and boat. 24/9 an elderly man arrested for drink driving at Crianlarich. 27/9 a 51 year old man was arrested and blood analysis is pending.

## Incidents of note:

Enquiries by police had to be carried out following the very sad and sudden death of the Killin Hotel Manager due to its taking place in the public foyer. There were no suspicious circumstances.

On 21/10 an 11 year old girl with significant mental health issues alleged an assault by her father at the Crianlarich Hotel. A 44 year old London man was detained and interviewed. This also involved Social Work Services and Police Family Units from London and Stirling.

Mountain rescue: 12/9 and 20/9 overdue walkers and quickly sorted. 23/9 at Cruach Ardrain a disoriented 54 year old man called for help with his mobile at 17.45 and was located and assisted down by 01-00. 22/10 a 65 year old woman with an injured leg was

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# Community Council Meeting

airlifted by coastguard helicopter. 25/10 at Cruach Ardtrain the body of a man who had fallen on steep ground was recovered with the aid of coastguard helicopter. Condolences to his family.

Hillwalkers please be aware of changing weather conditions, have a map and compass and know how to navigate.

Community engagement  
Darker winter evenings can make properties more vulnerable to thieves so please take a few simple precautions and check the security of your home. Ask for advice if necessary.

A police patrol of Main Street at the Primary School at relevant times takes place when possible. Traffic conditions are monitored at zebra crossing and zig zags.

Round House: Patrols are carried out during later hours after reports of broken glass bottles  
Parking: Issues continue to be monitored and vehicle owners provided with corrective advice.  
Activity for coming month – Attend to calls in Killin section and regular mobile foot patrols.

**Planning** No applications received. Councillor Hayes is to ask if online information from both Stirling and The National Park can be made more user friendly.

**Electricity** for the park is still ongoing.

**Correspondence** none.  
**A.O.C.B.**

## Russian Language Lessons



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*Hope to see you soon!*

KAT are still waiting to see if they have National Lottery funding for the Mill.

The playpark fence is to be repaired and probably extended. The equipment needing repair is to be done. £150,000 is needed to revamp it and is, as yet, unavailable. Councillor Hayes is to see if any money is available from Stirling Council's underspend. Wild flower areas and fruit trees are to be planted in the coming year.

The roundhouse continues to be misused and police are to check. Public are to report to police if anything seen.

Councillor Hayeshas requested that D.R.T. makes better connections to Callander and St.Fillans. Abandoned caravan is still being investigated.

P.P.G. report – patient transport is, hopefully, to begin in the near future though details have not yet been put in place.

Bins and waste collection schedules have been rolled out. This has not been a total success. The working pattern of the bin men has not been sorted and new lorries are on lease and a firm from Cornwall was used to deliver the bins. K.C.C. has requested the costing of this to be investigated and if any savings are to be made.

Meetings regarding priority budgeting are being set up by Council and there are none scheduled for Killin. This is to be looked at.

Councillor Hayes reported that Stirling had made presentations to both Holyrood and Westminster for extra funding but it would appear that very little of this is intended for rural areas.

Tilhill Forestry are to be approached for a village Christmas tree. An electrician will be asked to put up lights and Stitts will be asked to put up the tree as usual.

K.C.C. will pay for the licence for New Year fireworks.

Repair of potholes along the last stretch of Craignavie Road is to be requested by Councillor Hayes.

There have been concerns expressed in the village about the unsuitable appearance of the new building beyond the Capercaillie. Planning was denied by the Community Council some years ago. A revised plan has been accepted by The National Park

**Next meeting: 10th January at 7.30 in the school.**

**A minutes secretary is urgently needed for the Community Council  
£30 per session is payable**

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## Project Manager's Report

### Breadalbane Park

The fence in the park will not be coming down. KAT had a meeting with Stirling Council and the community's view of keeping the fence was put to them. The hole will be repaired and areas of the existing fence which are broken will also be repaired. Stirling Council has refurbished the elephant seesaw and it's back in the park.

In the spring Stirling Council will freshen up the play equipment with wood stain or paint. They are also hoping to plant fruit trees around the perimeter of the park in November (weather permitting) and, in the spring, plant wild flower seeds. Hopefully the park will have a lot of colour about it next year and look good.

### Old Mill

We have received word that our Big Lottery application will be going to the decision committee in February 2017. So from the development aspect not a lot to report.

### Internet Café

The café has been busy over the summer with regulars and new people, either wanting to become more confident with using a computer or tablet or trying to understand how Windows 10 works. Angela has also been helping people learn basic maintenance and how to keep their computers safe. If you need help with your computer why not pop in to speak to Angela. No query is too small or silly, she's here to help you.

The internet café will be closed for the winter in December and January. It will reopen on Thursday 2nd February 2017.

**Theresa Elliot**  
Project Manager  
[theresa@killincdt.co.uk](mailto:theresa@killincdt.co.uk)  
01567 820628  
07789 265 823

## Old Mill Report

The Mill is now into Winter Hours and is open from 1.00-4.00pm Monday- Friday.

11.00-3.00 Saturday and Sunday. It will close on 23rd December and will re-open only at weekends from 11.00-3.00pm starting on Saturday 7th January.

We have had a really good year so far with different activities and classes. We are always looking for more varied ways of using the Mill. If you have any ideas or wish to rent the space please contact me. Our aim also is to get out into the community and on that note I will be running music sessions at the Nursery both here in Killin and also in Crianlarich.

**Our Christmas Fair** this year will take place on Saturday 3rd December from 11.00-3.00pm, selling lots of lovely festive things and the Killin Community Choir singing as well. We would love to see you and hope you can come along and enjoy the fun.

Our traditional Bedding of the **Healing Stones Ceremony** will take place on Christmas Eve at 11.00am. The children of the community are what makes this occasion and we welcome as many young ones to come and take part.

### Classes

The Gentle Yoga sessions have been very successful and will continue into December finishing on the 19th. and will resume in the New Year

### Quilters

Due to demand Sally Connor will be holding Beginner Sampler classes in the New year. We already have people signed up for these sessions and there is still some space available. Please contact me for details.

### Junior Knitting Sessions

We had a successful taster knitting session during the half -term break and we will be holding a further three sessions on Sundays 4th December, 11th December and

18th December. These classes will run from 12.30- 2.00pm for 5 -12 yearolds. Please contact me to sign up for these classes as there will be limited availability. Cost £2 per child, materials supplied. (I have the details of previous young knitters who started projects)

### Volunteering

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers to keep the Mill staffed and wheel turning. Please contact me if you wish to be involved.

### Donations

The Mill has received an incredible amount of donated items recently and thank you. Please, if you want to donate large amounts, contact me prior to delivering the goods. This is to make sure that we have people in place to deal with the items. We accept clean clothes, household goods, bric-a-brac, books, haberdashery, DVDs, records, CDs. We do not accept electrical goods, cycle or motorcycle helmets, pillows, duvets, baby seats, buggies or high chairs.

Finally we at the Old Mill wish you a very Happy, Thrifty Christmas

**Franny Morrison**  
Old Mill Manager  
01567820628  
07802929796



# Christmas Concert with The Killin Choir and Friends The MacLaren Hall

**December  
17th. 2016  
7.30pm Doors Open 7.00pm**



**Tickets** Adult £10  
Concession £8  
Children under 16 £5  
Family Ticket £20  
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Transport will be Available for Older  
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## the Big Shed

There will be a very special gig on  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm when  
piper Fred Morrison will be playing at the  
Big Shed. This is his second visit and we're  
incredibly fortunate to be able to host  
an instrumentalist of his calibre. Tickets for  
the concert itself cost £12.00 and will be on  
sale soon: check out the Big Shed's website  
or text/email for advance ticket details.  
Tickets will also be available on the door.  
BYOB – teas, coffee and soft drinks will be  
available.

You'll find the Big Shed on the north side of  
Loch Tay, about 2 miles beyond the Ben  
Lawers Hill Road. Access is signposted from  
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also [www.bigshed.org.uk](http://www.bigshed.org.uk) or  
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## Business Changeover

We are pleased to welcome to the village Robert van den Berge and his wife Sarah, who are now the proud owners of The Outdoor Shop. Three months ago they moved to the village from their home in Holland to begin their new project in Killin. Over the years, Sarah, who hails from Yorkshire, and Robert, whose origins are in Holland, spent frequent holidays in Scotland, staying at Loch Awe but also visiting Killin.

On a recent holiday they saw that the Outdoor Shop, which they knew well, was for sale.

This coincided with their plans to change businesses after increasingly difficult times in Holland where Robert had a press photography agency and also ran an outdoor climbing centre so it was an obvious decision to buy the shop in Killin.

They are excited by the possibility of using the shop as a hub to encourage more outdoor activities in the area and attract more visitors, especially youngsters. They hope to enable untapped potential to be used which would



then create a knock on effect for hotels and other local businesses.

Their two sons and their daughter, who are studying in Holland, will visit for holidays – and perhaps get “roped in”. Good luck with the new venture.

## Killin Calendars

Last chance to buy your Killin Calendar in support of the Hogmanay Fireworks

Local pictures by local people in aid of a local event

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## Meall nan Tarmachan Hill Race

The seventh Meall nan Tarmachan hill race took place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> October in glorious sunny weather. Fifty four runners finished the course with Sam Alexander of Westerlands Cross Country Club first back in 51.33. Stephen Rawlinson of Lochtayside was next in 53.40, knocking twenty seven seconds off his previous best time in 2014. Next Lochtayside runner in was Dan Watson in 15<sup>th</sup> place (1.03.46) with Trevor Shaw hot on his heels, one place behind in 1.04.54 and knocking a massive five minutes and six seconds off his previous best time in 2012. That's what shifting a stone in weight does for you! Next in for Lochtayside was Herbie McLean, who showed true grit to finish the race after a nasty fall which led to a forehead gash requiring four stitches as well as a broken thumb and numerous other cuts and grazes. It seems Herbie is the only runner who

has competed in all seven races so far so let's hope this doesn't put him off! Sarah Heward was the fifth local runner, her time of 1.28.52 securing the prize for first female supervet. Unfortunately one other runner sustained a broken fibula after a fall on the ridge. This resulted in the first and second placed runners heading back up the hill - Sam because it was his brother who was injured and Stephen as he is a member of Killin Mountain Rescue Team. Other members were marshalling on the race route, so the casualty couldn't have been in better hands and, if you're going to break your leg on a hill, it's better to do so in sunshine than pouring rain! So, an eventful race. Thanks to everyone who helped - Killin Mountain Rescue Team (especially Teddy) and Helen for marshalling and rescuing the stricken runner, Lizzie, Amanda and Claire for sweeping,

Janice, Marion and Eleanor for registration and catering and Trevor for marking the route and everyone who donated baking and also a big thankyou to Euan at the Co-op for generous help with prizes. We made £480 to split between the National Trust for Scotland for its conservation work at Ben Lawers and Killin Mountain Rescue Team. Next year's race will be on 14<sup>th</sup> October. If you would like to contribute to the conservation work at Ben Lawers NNR why not join the National Trust for Scotland? By joining at your local Killin office you get all the benefits of free entry to over 90 properties in Scotland plus 300 in England, Wales and Northern Ireland (NT) and your first year membership fee comes directly to your local property.

**Dan Watson**



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## Strathfillan Community Development Trust

**Woodlands:** As with the season and the flora, activity in the woodlands is slowing down. We had some excitement a month or so ago when the Riverside Path bridge was washed down the river. Luckily it was recovered – thanks to Andy Brown, Paul Lilly and Duncan Lemay – and we will be siting it more appropriately. We do plan, however, to replace the Riverside Path bridge with one more suitable next year. The Woodlands Group are now busy deciding a schedule of works for 2017 which will include a couple of Community Tidy-up Days. If you're interested keep an eye on the noticeboards and our Facebook page.

**Cycle Path:** As with all best laid plans, things never seem to work out quite as we'd hoped. Due to a delay in funding, works on the Tyndrum to Kirkton stretch of the cycle path will now be delayed until after Christmas. So, although the mulled wine might be out, an Easter egg hunt could be in!

**Health:** After much BT wrangling and one postponement, the NHS Showcase Event finally went ahead in Crianlarich Hall on 12<sup>th</sup> October, and the Tyndrum Inn on 13<sup>th</sup>. This event was attended by NHS Forth Valley and a number of organisations showcasing technologies that could help improve access to health care and social care in rural areas, with the aim of making Strathfillan a pilot area. Some of the technologies are really quite amazing. Although we had a reasonable turnout in Crianlarich, both the Trust and Community Council were disappointed at the turnout in Tyndrum. A follow up meeting with NHS Forth Valley and Stirling Council was held on 9<sup>th</sup> November and the results will be in the next Killin News.

**Crianlarich into Action:** After a very busy summer several concerns have been raised about informal camping in Lower Station Yard and people not using the toilet facilities available in the village. The Trust has organized appropriate signs to be made and installed and a meeting between the Trust, the Community Council and various relevant organisations, including the National Park and Forestry Commission Scotland, has been organized to discuss these issues and wild

camping across the area. The outcomes of this meeting will be published in the next Killin News. In the meantime, thanks are extended to Duncan Lemay and David McKenna, who will be undertaking tidy-up works and repairs across Crianlarich, preparing for the winter ahead.

**Trust Director :** We currently have a space for a Director of the Trust. If you are interested in helping support and promote community development, then please get in touch with Kelly on the details below. We are always looking for new ideas and faces!

If you have any questions or require more information on any of the above, please contact Kelly at the details below.

SCDT contact details: 0771548867; email: strathfillancdt@btconnect.com, write to SCDT, Crianlarich Village Hall, Crianlarich, FK20 8QN, or our Facebook page 'Strathfillan Community'.

### Dates for your Diary:

**Tai Chi** – Tyndrum Village Hall, Wednesday mornings 9.30am to 10.30am (£5) – re-starting after the school summer holidays

**Lazy Ceilidhs** – Tyndrum Village Hall, first Friday of every month, 1pm to 3pm (£2.50 adults, 50p children)

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# by the Way

## Strathfillan Community Council Meeting

### Wild Camping

Following the concerns raised about irresponsible camping at various locations across Strathfillan, the CC has arranged a joint meeting with relevant bodies (including Forestry Commission, National Park, Stirling Council and Strathfillan Trust). The purpose of the meeting will be to clarify the legal position around wild camping and identify any signage which can be put up.

### Tyndrum Improvement Group

The first meeting of this group, led by Mark Holt, was held in early October. Unfortunately not many people attended but those who did were enthusiastic and a list of identified areas which could be tidied up has been made. Anybody who was unable to attend the meeting but would like to get involved, please have a chat with Mark Holt.

### Reporting Road (and other) Defects

Winter is always the time when most road defects are noticed - whether this is problems with lack

of gritting/snow ploughing, or the annual problem of potholes. The Community Council would like members of the public to report any problems directly to the relevant agencies - this does not need to come from a Community Council member. The Community Council is happy to escalate issues which have already been reported without resolution in a reasonable time. The main helplines are: BEAR (A82/A84/A85 trunk roads) - [www.bearscoot.com](http://www.bearscoot.com), tel 08000281414. Stirling Council (local roads) - [www.stirling.gov.uk](http://www.stirling.gov.uk), tel 08452777000.

### Tyndrum Telephone Kiosk

The National Park have received notification that BT are proposing to remove the public telephone kiosk from Tyndrum. The CC will write in objection of this proposal, based on the phone box still being well used, and the unreliability of mobile signal in Tyndrum.

### Stirling Council Deep Clean

A "deep clean" of Crianlarich and Tyndrum was carried out by Stirling Council staff during October. The CC will ask Stirling Council if the community can have greater input

into the priorities for this, before any future deep clean takes place.

### Broadband

The date for installation of Fibre-optic broadband in Tyndrum has been pushed back yet again, to early 2017. The Crianlarich date is expected to be at least 6 months after Tyndrum. Ian is trying to find out the reasons for the delay, and get a firm date confirmed, but without much success so far.

### CC Elections and meeting dates

Following the recent interim elections, we are pleased to welcome Catriona McKenna and Ian Marrett as full CC members. In a change to previously published dates, the next CC meeting will be held on Tuesday 6th December. In 2017, meetings will be held on the first Monday of the month, starting on Monday 6th February. Meetings are held at 7.30pm in Crianlarich hall, and all are welcome.



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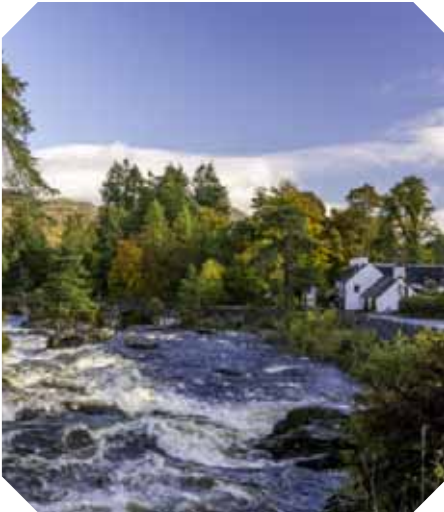
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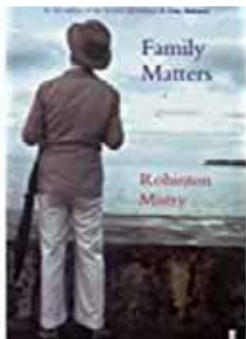
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## BOOK REVIEW



### FAMILY MATTERS

by Rohinton Mistry

Rohinton Mistry's enthralling novel is at once a domestic drama and an intently observed portrait of presentday Mumbai in all its vitality and corruption. At the age of seventy-nine, Nariman Vakeel, already suffering from Parkinson's disease, breaks an ankle and finds himself wholly dependent on his family. His step-children, Coomy and Jal, have a spacious apartment (in the inaptly named Chateau Felicity), but are too squeamish and resentful

to tend to his physical needs. Nariman must now turn to his younger daughter, Roxana, her husband, Yezad, and their two sons, who share a small, crowded home. Their decision will test not only their material resources but, in surprising ways, all their tolerance, compassion, integrity and faith. Sweeping and intimate, tragic and mirthful, "Family Matters" is a work of enormous emotional power.

#### Book club members' reviews

Rohinton Mistry's "Family Matters" was a rather lengthy read, brief by comparison to what it encompassed: a Parsi family living in India, coping with the many facets of daily living in health and sickness and trying to conform to multiple aspects of religious traditional beliefs in a society split by changing norms in a modern world. It includes youth, maturity, decline to death and the accompanying mentality of each, as well as one's place in society during each stage of life. It is a monumental undertaking, masterfully done. If you have the time to read through the wordy text, it is worth it.

**Pattie Hope**

Ministry is not just a fiction writer: he's a philosopher who finds meaning in small human interactions. His characters are warm and compassionate, preserving the family unit in a community (and country) full of corruption and bigotry of every kind.

**Mary Fallon**

I enjoyed this book, a seemingly simple story which cleverly encompassed so many sides of human nature, good and bad. It was an emotional read but filled with gentle humour and words of wisdom. For example one character is so traumatised on revisiting his much-changed childhood neighbourhood that he likens it to "an extended family that I took for granted and ignored" "such places are as fragile as human beings and you have to cherish them while you have them" i.e family matters

**Liz Howard**

**Book Club 1**



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<b>GOOD FOOD</b> Restaurant	8.30am - 5.30pm	8.30am - 5pm
Snack Stop Cafe	7am - 9pm	4pm - 9pm
<b>FINE SHOPPING:</b>	<div>April only</div> <div>8.30am - 5.30pm</div> <div>Easter - Sept</div> <div>8.30am - 7pm</div>	<div>October only</div> <div>8.30am - 5.30pm</div> <div>Nov - March</div> <div>8.30am - 5pm</div>



The Green Welly Stop, Tyndrum, Perthshire, FK20 8RY. t:01838 400271 | www.thegreenwellystop.co.uk





## 2nd Killin & District Scout Group

Keep up to date with the activities of the four sections within the Scout Group by liking our Facebook page: 2nd Killin & District Scout Group and for those interested in joining Explorers just join the Facebook group: Killin Explorer Scouts. The Beavers have been down a leader for a few weeks with Stephen being off. From all leaders and young people in the group we wish Georgia a speedy recovery.

## Beavers

*Beavers are aged 6-8 and meet every Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 6-7pm.*

The beavers have had yet another busy term with lots of new beavers coming along to enjoy the fun. Whilst it was still light in the evenings we spent a few weeks making dens, firstly in the hall and then in the woods on Sron a'Chlachain. We were very lucky to have the drama club come along and we really enjoyed acting out the story of the Gingerbread Man. This term we've been doing lots of badges and learning about global issues for one of our badges, have learnt some basic knots and are looking forward to an inventors night!

## Stephen Rawlinson

Beaver Leader  
07742 886918  
killinbeavers@yahoo.com

## Cubs

*Cubs are aged 8-10½ and meet every Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 7:15-8:45pm.*

Cubs have had a good start this session working well on their badges, having fun on our ghost walk and learning some history of the village. We will be doing the Christmas Post this year again. Delivery will be the weekend of 17/18 December with collection points in News First and the Library. Keep an eye out for our posters which will be up soon.

## Charles Kemp

Cub Leader  
01567 820835  
the2ndkillincubs@outlook.com

## Scouts

*Scouts are aged 10½-14 and meet every Wednesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 7-9pm.*

Before winter arrives we thought there was just enough time to squeeze a weekend camp in, so in late October we headed to The Big Shed at Tombreck. While we did have the nice warm hall for eating and spending free time in, we slept under canvas outside for two nights. The weather was fantastic all weekend, (cold but dry), which meant the Scouts were outside as much as possible. The Scouts planted trees, went on a scavenger hunt for onions, lit fires, built catapults to launch onions, (we brought too many onions) and cooked sausage casserole in pumpkins on the fire. (Well it was Halloween). A great time was had by all!

## Harriet Wishart

Scout Leader  
07581 151442  
2ndkillinscouts@gmail.com

## Explorers

*Explorers are aged 14-18 and meet on the last Wednesday of each month in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 7-9pm.*

While the Explorers have only had four meetings, it is all going very well. Our first meeting involved the Explorers devising their programme of evenings up until Christmas, with some 'interesting' ideas being suggested. We went to Stirling one evening to join another group for a challenge night, all over a wooden spoon. Unfortunately we did not win. The last two meetings have been spent outside lighting fires and running a ghost walk for the Scouts to Finlarig castle. At the last meeting, we had the Scottish HQ Commissioner for Explorers stop-by to be spooked on the ghost walk and in return he told the Explorers all the exciting things happening in Scotland which they can be part of.

## Harriet Wishart

Explorer Leader  
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*Donnie Macleod*

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## Frost Report

### The Hills are alive ...

At the end of October the lower hills, the side roads, the villages and fields were all alive with huge clouds of countless thousands of redwings and fieldfares invading us from Scandinavia to feast on the huge crop of berries. It was a sound and sight unsurpassed in recent years. This was replaced, once all the berries were gone, by the rooks feasting on acorns, the oak trees just alive with them. As winter approaches many animals are feeding up. We now have nightly visits from Eric the hedgehog who first came to pick up seed and nut scraps from the bird table but now gets his own dish of mealworms. Eric asks me to remind you to be careful about bonfires and piles of leaves that have been lying for some time in case one of his friends or relations is hibernating in there. Are the midges fattening up too, I wonder, as they are still around at the start of November, and where DO they go in the winter? At the beginning of October I was pretty sure that I saw an albino midge. We see chaffinches etc. with various amounts of white and there do seem to be more about. Is white becoming the new brown/black?

You have probably heard about the excitement that the increase in pine

martens in many areas has direct correlation with the decline in grey squirrels - they eat them! This means that the niftier and daintier reds can increase. This is great news in such areas but what about here where there are no greys? Do the pine martens stick to a favourite prey of field voles and the stuff, including wee birds on bird tables, or will they attack the reds? Nobody seems to know. A three year old boy in Cornwall was recently attacked and bitten by a little possey of six grey squirrels - so we do know one thing which they like to eat.

Another sound that can be really eerie is the occasional cry of a raven way up high. They are great birds, living in really wild areas and nesting before the winter is over. But they have a downside of egg predation. In a recent season SNH found that ravens were the main cause of dotterel breeding failure and 96% of ptarmigan nests were ruined in the East Drumochter area. Since ravens have been protected since 1981, farmers can get a licence to control them on lambs but there is no such structure for nesting birds. Ravens are not too well versed in conservation and often predate endangered moorland waders etc. Gamekeepers in some areas have been using gas

guns to scare them with loud bangs but raptor activists have complained that this will disturb birds of prey. Tell that to the ospreys nesting at T in the park! Apparently they just got on with things and joined in the dancing.

Of course the most iconic sound around here at this time of year is the roaring of the stags. I heard my first roar this year on a great day stalking with my son at Boreland. The hinds were not very impressed and just carried on ignoring their 'men'. (No comment) It has been an unusual on/off rut ending quite early. But not without some dramas as three stags locally have died of fight wounds, one being just killed and still warm found by my son at Glen Falloch. Such can be the price of such sexual activities.

One sound which will have been filling the skies around the village all summer will be coming to an end. No-one will have heard it - unless they have superhuman hearing or a bat detector. Seemingly bats don't like flying over busy roads so, in some areas, bat bridges of wire mesh have been built at a cost of £2million. The only trouble is the bats don't like them or use them. Maybe that's what I've seen and not a modern art sculpture after all.

**Tim Frost**



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 **Davidsons**

## Killin & District Netball Club



The Club has been running since April 2016. We meet on a Tuesday evening at 7.15pm at the Sports Pavilion (next to McLaren Hall Carpark). The club is open to anyone who wants some fun and a bit of exercise too -we do as much laughing as we do exercise.

We are a mixed group of ladies from Crianlarich, Killin, Ardeonaig and Lochearnhead who like to play netball. Some of us do lots of other forms of exercise and some only come to netball, some haven't played netball for over 30 years and some a lot more recently. We are all learning the rules, positions and our strengths. What we all have in common is we have a good laugh, fun and are supportive of each other when we play. It can be hard work, but the time just flies.

We would like to thank Davidson Chemists, our sponsors, who have given us a First Aid Kit and bought our netball posts. Also Luke Hibbert for designing our logo (to be revealed at a later date).

If you want to know more about our club either pop down on a Tuesday evening to meet us or contact Stephanie Wragg on 01838 300578 or [srw.luss@gmail.com](mailto:srw.luss@gmail.com) Everyone is welcome.

**Theresa Elliot**

## Ladies Golf

### Senior Ladies Open Stableford:

Wednesday 21 September

1. Lynn MacDonald (Strathtay) 33
2. Janet Buchanan (Dalmally) 32
3. Janet Henderson (Royal Montrose) 31 BIH

### Best Veteran (70+):

Helen Telford (Pitlochry) 30

### Longest Drive - Silver:

Janet Henderson (Royal Montrose)



### Longest Drive - Bronze

Sheena Chisholm (Killin)

(Photo-Sheena receiving her prize from Jean Faichney)

### Nearest the Pin

Carol MacDougall (Taynuilt)

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- Club Events
- Meetings







**Awards Ceremony**

### **S1, S2 and U16 Rugby – Away to Wallace High School**

On Wednesday 5th October Stirling County RFC played host to Wallace High versus McLaren High in the sixth round of the Central Schools Conference. Both teams managed to field teams at S1, S2 and U16 level, ensuring more boys across the local authority were getting the opportunity to play rugby. The S1 team maintained their 100% winning start to the Conference with a hard earned victory.

The S2 team won their respective fixture 57-37. The boys have now won five out of their six fixtures.

In a tough match, the U16 team came up against a well organised Wallace team who ran out well deserved 73-38 winners. McLaren never gave up and kept playing until the final whistle. Well done to all the boys for their efforts over the past six weeks to help make it a positive start for the newly formed McLaren Rugby.



**Rugby - Away to Wallace High School**

### **McLaren High School Awards Ceremony 15th September 2016**

The evening opened to the skirl of the pipes and beat of the drums - Callum Hall (Headboy) has built the McLaren High School Pipe Band up from nothing into a force to be reckoned with!

The keynote address was delivered by former pupil Josh Littlejohn who described how he had been inspired to create 'Social Bite', a sandwich shop with a twist. He helps feed the homeless and those in need. The theme throughout the night was how each of us can make a difference to those around us.

The prize giving ended with a surprise. For the first time in twenty one years there was a joint Dux with Finn Manders and Alan Chodynietcki sharing the award. Between them they could have lost a staggering 53 marks and still have had straight band 1 A passes!

Please make a date in your diaries: next year's Awards Ceremony will take place on Thursday 7th September 2017 at 7.30 pm in Callander Kirk and will celebrate the 125th year of McLaren High. All family, current and former pupils and friends are invited.

### **McLaren High School PTA Christmas Fayre**

We are delighted to announce that the McLaren High School PTA will be holding a Christmas Fayre in the Church Hall, South Church Street, Callander on Saturday 3rd December at 11am.

There will be a variety of stalls selling home baking, crafts, homemade Christmas cards and lots more. Plenty of ideas for Christmas presents! A number of the stalls will be fundraising for the World Challenge Expedition to Malaysia next year. The PTA will also be selling tea and coffee so you can sit and enjoy a hot drink with some home baking you have bought from the stalls. We look forward to seeing you there!

## New York 2016



This year 20 pupils and three teachers from the Humanities Department at McLaren High School embarked on an educational excursion to New York City. During our time in New York City we saw many of the sights and tourist attractions whilst also experiencing the cultural differences between the rural town in which we live and the busy metropolitan city. We were all disappointed that we had to return home but we were also slightly relieved to return to the rural areas in which we live. During our time in New York we developed lots of new friendships with people on the trip with whom in ordinary situations we would never normally associate. We developed close bonds with the teachers on the excursion and shared some laughs together. We would like to thank the teachers for dedicating their time towards the trip and making it such a success.

**Natalie Smith S6**



## MacMillan Bake Sale

The newly formed Charities Committee organised their first event on Friday 30 September. An inter-house bake sale was held to raise funds for MacMillan Cancer Research with each house baking and buying cakes to see who could come out 'star bakers'. By the end of the day all the cash was counted and it was very close indeed. Bracklenn were declared the winners with an amazing total of £213.85, closely followed by Leny with £211.89 and Dochart with £199.85. Well done to everyone involved.



## Winter Clothes Appeal for Syrian Refugees in Lebanon



**Syria Group**

"What difference can a small agency like Edinburgh Direct Aid make in the world of misery that is Syria and its refugees? The answer is not much overall. But in Aarsal quite a lot."

70,000 Syrian refugees camping in and around the small Lebanese border town of Aarsal, surrounded by militant hideouts and army checkpoints, are dreading a fourth winter in sub-zero temperatures. 6,000 children have not been to school for 3 years. McLaren High School parent Karin Helwig contacted the school to find out if we would be interested in co-ordinating an appeal and of course we agreed. The response was overwhelming! We accepted donations during the week beginning 24th October and on Monday 31st October Edinburgh Direct Aid filled over two thirds of their lorry with our bags and boxes.

We would like to say a huge thank you to all parents, carers and friends who helped make this such a successful appeal. Also thanks to our senior pupils who formed a 'human chain' to transfer all the donations from the school to the lorry.

## Gartmore House Choir Residential

On Thursday 8th September thirty five of us set off on a coach to Gartmore House for McLaren's 2016 Choral Residential. As well as singing for three days we braved the elements, walking and cycling in the rain and mud. We had immense fun, increasing our choral skills and experiencing the various challenges that came with the outdoor activities. The highlight of the weekend was, of course, the concert held in Gartmore Parish Church. This was a demonstration of the experience we had gained over



the course of the previous two days and was especially enhanced by the presence of former MHS student Rachel Speirs (who is training to be a professional opera singer) performing for us. Overall, the trip was a huge

success as everyone had fun and we learned valuable group skills that will benefit our work this year in choir.

**Flora Duff S1**

## Texas Visit

This year I was lucky enough to go to Houston, Texas as the first recipient of the Ian 'budgie' Martin Award. Former pupil, Stuart Corr organised the fantastic award which included a two-week trip to Houston, Texas, observing experiments in Baylor College of Medicine and Rice University. The trip was a life-changing experience where I learnt about a huge range of experiments which are being developed and carried out - from cancer treatments to the development of the carbon molecule fullerene. I spent a lot of time observing the lab members undergoing their experimental research, but also was able to participate in some of the experiments too, and I learnt how to use some of the fancy science equipment myself! When I was at Rice University, I was doing some of the practical experiments myself which included thin layer chromatography and other organic chemistry techniques. Some of my time at Baylor College was similar to this and was spent learning about the general lab techniques



used and the machines which were commonly used in their research. This consisted of things such as how to use the SEM microscopes, how a 3D printer works, how an MRI machine works and the cancer treatment machines such as the John Kanzius machine which works with nanoparticles and radiofrequency. During other days at Baylor College, I spent time with some of the cancer surgeons, where we spoke to some of the cancer patients and I was able to learn more about the different types of cancers and the effects which they had on some of the patients. This was a very difficult part of the trip as some of the patients

were not being met with the news that they wanted to hear about their treatment. Alongside participating in and observing the lab work; I also had a fantastic day trip to NASA where I could see the old mission control room, the astronaut training centre and one of the old rocket ships which was previously used in a mission!

Stuart and his fiancé also tried to give me the best experience possible outside the lab, showing me as much of the Texan culture as they could in the time that I was there. This included going to a baseball game, a soccer game and going out for dinner to many cultural restaurants, including a Texan barbeque. Overall, the trip was an absolutely fantastic experience which has been very life-changing and inspirational. I cannot thank Stuart Corr enough for organising the award!

**Olivia Ridgwell**



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The committee would like to thank the local Co-operative for forwarding the Community Mini Bus for their 2016/2017 reward promotion. Members of the Co-op are asked to register their Co-op number and nominate which of their local charities they prefer to sponsor. There are three local charities being nominated by the Co-op and anyone who does not have access to a computer is invited to visit the Library where

## Killin Community Bus

Kay, our resident Librarian, will register your Co-op card confidentially for you.

The committee would also like to thank the locals who buy the Courier newspaper who have handed in many vouchers from the newspaper allowing the Community Mini Bus to be entered into the draw which the Courier was running for a new mini bus. Many, many thanks also to Dougie and Liz from News First who very kindly

accepted the vouchers on our behalf and without whom we would not have been able to enter this competition.

Once again, may we remind you that this is a Community bus. It is your bus and please use it.

We would also like to wish our users a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New year and we look forward to your continued support.

**The Community Bus Committee**

## Santa to visit Pantoland

Killin Drama Club have heard exciting news from Santa's Grotto – he is planning to visit Pantoland in Killin on Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> December. (Pantoland can be found in the Lesser McLaren Hall from 2pm to 4.30pm).

He's got a very busy December schedule, but he would like to meet some of our Pantomime characters at the hall and we're inviting children to come along with their parents to meet him. Cinderella is planning to be there and she has promised to bring some friends. Club members will arrange for each child to take away a photo taken

with Santa and he has gifts for each of the children too!

An entry fee of £3 per child covers the cost of the photo and gift and of course a chat with Santa and, whilst at the hall, you may wish to visit our face painting table – at a small additional cost.

Panto tickets for this year's production, Sleeping Beauty by Richard Lovelock, will be on sale on the day and it's a good time to reserve your panto seats too. Make it a date for your diary and we hope to see you there!

**Gordon Hibbert**

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Killin Primary School

## Christmas Fair

On  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> December  
From  
2pm – 5pm  
(Carols at 3pm)

\*\*\*\*\*

Stalls: Christmas Crafts, Tombola, Raffle

\*\*\*\*\*

Stalls available £5 – contact school office  
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# Distinguished Gentleman's Ride 2016

On 25th September, the Distinguished Gentleman's Rides took place in hundreds of cities all over the world.

Despite the uncertainty of the weather, the Killin ride went ahead as planned, with overwhelming support from the village and surrounding area.

Riders came from near and far to support the cause, in their dapper of dress and astride their magnificent machines, all in aid of Prostate Cancer & men's health.



Tom and Elizabeth on their way



We set off from the McLaren Hall at 11am to rousing cheers from all those gathered. The marshals, Gordon Webster and John Chisholm, left ahead of us to keep us all on the right road and the riders were followed by the breakdown vehicle, kindly supplied by Lix Toll Garage and manned by John, Raymond & Jamie. First stop was Tullybannocher Café to make sure all was well with bikes and riders. Then we set off through the picturesque Sma' Glen and over the hills towards Aberfeldy, all bikes purring along nicely in the crisp Autumn sunshine.

Our next stop was Taymouth Castle, where the sun came out and made a spectacular backdrop for the pre-arranged photo shoot by kind

permission of Taymouth Castle Estate. Our thanks to Kirsty Weir (Events Manager) for putting in a good word and Alan McNabb (Estate Manager) for a short informative tour around the magnificent Castle. Then it was time to start up the bikes and make our way through the grounds to Kenmore along Loch Tay back towards Killin, to a welcoming hearty lunch donated by Michael & Lynn Crow at The Smiddy Restaurant. A perfect end to a wonderful day.

After months of preparation I was so happy that everything went well and that all who took part thoroughly

enjoyed the day. All this was made possible by the support from my family and friends, especially Elizabeth who did so much of the organising. Many thanks to Dave Hunt, Gregor Mackenzie & Ron Allner for photography and to everyone for their support on the day - it was truly overwhelming. The money raised by sponsored riders and donations from the public came to £9,038 for the Killin ride, total for Scotland £58,938. The total raised so far worldwide £3,581,010. Cheers.

**Tom Murphy**

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*First Foot Forward for 2017*

The third annual Ladies Lunch was held in The McLaren Hall on Saturday 24th September and, once again, we raised over £3,000 due to the considerable generosity of all of our guests and donors. The total amount raised was £3,165.26 from ticket sales, raffle, stall holders, individual donors and donations from both the Bridge End Mill and Bob McGregor Trial. This year our stall holders were Escape in Killin, Vision Hair and Beauty and The Old Mill. Each of them very kindly donated a raffle prize as well as a percentage of their sales on the day. Other local businesses also supported us with items for the raffle, food on the day and meals out, etc. We thank you all for your contributions and hope that we have not left out anyone who helped and supported us in raising this magnificent sum to stand up to cancer.

**STOP PRESS** - Date for The Ladies Lunch for 2017 is Saturday 20th May.

A sum of £377.22 was raised on the 6th October at the Flu Clinic from the sale of teas, coffee, home-baking and the raffle. Many thanks to all of you who helped us add to our fund-raising effort for this year.

**Marion Strang**

Cancer Research Committee



Angela Hanvey, whom many readers will know from the computer classes in Killin Library, has been busy fundraising for Christians Against Poverty, but in an unusual way. To mark their 20<sup>th</sup> year, CAP decided to make efforts to raise money in ways involving 20. There were many possibilities - climbing 20 mountains, running or swimming 20 miles, baking 20 cakes or going for 20 days without talking, music, coffee, living on £1 a day, dressing up in different outfit every day, and lots more. Angela spun the challenge wheel and drew "going without shoes for 20 days" and felt she could manage this and that it was something that would also identify with poverty. Despite many people saying she was quite mad, she went shoeless for the full 20 days in squelchy rainy streets, gravel driveways and watching out for glass and, despite splinters and the cold, raised over £700 for the charity. A pedicure at the end of the ordeal was a very welcome treat. CAP works in partnership with Aberfeldy Parish Church to help people in need, regardless of faith, gender, race, background or sexuality.

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## Fire Station Car Wash

On 24th September the local fire station held a very successful car wash event. They also had a stand at the Killin Show earlier in the year and the two events together raised over £1100, which will go to the firefighters' charity. A big thank you to the local community for their continued support!



**Have fun making your own lantern!**



## Hogmanay Lanterns Lantern-making Workshop

**Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> December  
10 am-4pm  
(lunch provided)  
Lesser McLaren Hall, Killin  
All children **MUST** be accompanied  
by an adult**

Design and make your own lantern  
from willow and tissue using traditional  
methods

**New this year**  
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Facebook page KILLIN HOGMANAY LANTERN

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LANTERN WALK  
Saturday 31st December  
7.30pm  
From Monemore bus stop  
to Killin Hotel**



# Walk in the Park

## Schedule

Walk from 20min – 1hour

Date	Meeting Wednesdays at 10.20am	All Routes
7/12/16	Capercaillie	River Dochart / Old Railway
14/12/16	Capercaillie 10.20am - Walk 12 Noon - Lunch Please Book for the lunch	Craignavie Road followed by Christmas Lunch at Capercaillie - All welcome
<b>Winter Break</b>		
11/1/17	Capercaillie	Village Walk
18/1/17	McLaren Hall (car share)	Moirlanich Longhouse
25/1/17	Capercaillie	Old Railway
All walks are free however walkers pay for their own refreshments after the walk (optional).		

Walk in the Park will have their annual Christmas Lunch in the Capercaillie on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December from 12 noon onwards. Everyone is welcome to join us so even if you haven't been able to walk with us for some time, we would love you to come along. Booking is essential so please contact the coordinator to choose your meal from a delicious menu.

After 14<sup>th</sup> December both the Health Walks and the Strength and Balance sessions will have a break for the winter, returning on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January weather permitting. I look forward to seeing you all at the Christmas Lunch.

For more information regarding joining any of our walks or exercise sessions or to book Christmas Lunch please contact: Walk in the Park Project Coordinator Cathy Scott: cathy.scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org tel. 01877 330055

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# Obituary

## Michael Menehan

Michael 'The Baba' Menehan suddenly and without giving notice, passed away at Killin Hotel on 13th September 2016, aged 46.

Michael made us laugh, he made everyone who met him smile and feel at ease in his company through his kindness, generosity and humour. We miss this.

Originally from Ireland, and via Manchester, Leeds and various other places along his way, Michael found himself in Scotland through his work at both Ben Lawers and Killin Hotel.

Married and divorced in quick succession, he enjoyed his life to the maximum possible. He thoroughly enjoyed music, humour, girls, partying and just being with people. He lived a fast life in every way and made sure he crammed as much as he could into every minute.

He left behind a whole world of friends. Everybody was his friend. Spending his life on the move, he finally found his 'home for life' in the small village of Killin,



befriending everyone who walked in the door of the hotel. Guests - locals and tourists - came back repeatedly for his warmth, humour and generosity. He was a wonderful friend and fantastic manager at Killin Hotel and is greatly missed. Funnily enough though, the brandy bottle is acquiring dust!

We'll be raising a glass and remembering Michael at Killin Hotel on Saturday 3rd December at 3pm, and extend a very warm welcome to everyone in joining us to say a very fond farewell to a much-missed friend.

**Ian Hitchins**

The Killin News team, like anyone else who knew him, were shocked and saddened by the sudden death of Michael. During our four months temporary residence at the Killin Hotel at the beginning of the year, Michael was a constant and cheerful help with all our problems, especially with wifi and computer difficulties.

The cry of "Where's Michael?" would go up and, as soon as he could safely leave whatever else he was doing, he would come to our rescue. We send our condolences to his family, friends and work colleagues.



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Buchlyvie	Drymen	Kinlochard	Stronachlachar
Callander	Gargunnoch	Kippen	Tyndrum

We may be able to build in other communities in the future – please let us know to if you want to live in a village that is not listed above. Information on local housing need and demand helps us plan for the future.

If you are interested in renting one of our properties when they become available please contact us:

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# Letters

## On my bike!

I would like to thank all those who contributed to my retirement card and present. The card, with so many "weel-kent" signatures, means a lot to me. (Well done "News First" for managing to keep it a secret!) I have been very lucky to spend the main part of my professional life doing the job I always wanted to do in a great part of the world and with a lovely collection of patients. Of course, I didn't work alone and I would like to pay tribute to all the doctors, practice staff, nurses, midwives, paramedics, ambulance drivers and the rest. There are too many to list here but you know who they are.... I should also mention my family who had to put up with the disruption to life that a one-in-two on call rota imposed in the earlier years (and of course without mobile phones!)

We will be staying in the village and I plan to buy a mountain bike with the vouchers, so you will see me around.

**David Syme**

## Photographic Exhibition

I'm holding an exhibition in the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, beginning on 26th November. It is a big exhibition with some 70 large framed photographic prints plus other material, and the subject is "Landscape and Nature in Breadalbane". The photographs cover an area from Tyndrum and Schiehallion in the north to just south of Callander and the landscapes around Killin are central to the show. Glen Dochart, Glen Lyon, Glen Ogle, Strath Fillan, Strath Tay, Balquidder, Strathyre, Loch Lubnaig, Ben Lawers, the Tarmachans and the Crianlarich hills are all represented in the show. It will be open to the public from 26th November 2016 until 6th February 2017.

**David Paterson**

## Distinguished Gentleman's Ride

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the people who sponsored me on this excellent day out. I raised £761 which contributed greatly to the much larger sum raised by the riders who participated in the Killin ride. We had a great day out and look forward to repeating this in 2017. My thanks also to Tom and Elizabeth for the organisation of this event.

**Andrew Watson**

## A last wish

I'm not sure if you can help or point me in the right direction. My Mum's maiden name was McNab and we have visited Killin and the burial ground in the past. Sadly my Mum passed away and wished to be cremated; she would want to be scattered as near to her ancestral home as possible and my father and I were wondering about whether we could scatter her ashes into the river around the burial ground so she can swim with her kin. Thanks.

**Chris Hall**

## Birthday Thanks

I would like to thank all the people who sent me beautiful cards, flowers and lovely gifts for my 80<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thanks also to all the staff in the Co-op for all the help they give me and to the many in the village for lots of lifts up the hill. Such a caring place to live.

**Jessie MacLeod**

## Thank You

Thank you to everyone who sent me cards, flowers, goodies, for all the messages on Facebook and to all the folk who visited me at home and in the hospital. Thanks to Wendy, Jackie, Adrian, Brenda and Chito for all their love and support. I do appreciate all your kindness.

**Andrea Simpson**

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## Celebrations

### Golden Weddings

#### Fiona and Willie Inglis

On 12<sup>th</sup> October 1966 Fiona and Willie Inglis tied the knot in the Parish Church. They celebrated their Golden Wedding on 12<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Fiona and Willie would like to thank everyone for their cards and good wishes.



#### Ellen and John Stewart

Ellen and John would like to thank all friends, neighbours and family for the cards, gifts and good wishes on their 50th anniversary.

We had a lovely time with the family in Inchture



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## Celebrations

### Birthdays

**Ruby Wedding**  
**Joe and Jennifer Dunne**



Joe & Jennifer Dunne (née McMartin) in Dublin with family, celebrating their 40th wedding anniversary on 27th October

**50th Birthday**  
**Frank Muirhead**



We would like to thank everyone who came to Frank's surprise 50th birthday party! Thank you for all his lovely gifts and cards! A good night was had by all!! Thank you to family and friends who travelled to share the night with us. And a big thank you to our friends at work for helping out!  
**Hazel Mathewson and Frank Muirhead**



### Christmas Festive Menu

From 1st December onwards  
COME AND JOIN US AND CELEBRATE THE FESTIVE SEASON WITH FRIENDS AND FAMILY  
(minimum group 4 people )

#### STARTER

Winter vegetable soup,  
herb croutons  
Smoked mackerel pate with a  
beetroot dressing  
Haggis, Black pudding and  
bacon stack with whiskey  
sauce  
Cheese & vegetable roulade  
with cranberry sauce

#### MAIN

Turkey roulade with Cumberland sausage,  
apricot and cranberry stuffing  
Gammon roast with a Thistle Cross  
cider and cinnamon jus  
Goats cheese souffle with braised red  
cabbage  
Hot roast salmon salad with new potatoes  
and dressed leaves  
Slow roasted pork belly with black  
pudding and cranberry jus  
All main courses with seasonal vegetables

#### DESSERTS

Christmas plum pudding,  
brandy sauce  
Almond Toblerone Tart  
Sticky toffee pudding, butter-  
scotch sauce  
Chocolate and cranberry  
cheesecake  
Apple and blackcurrant crumble  
served with a dash of clotted  
cream and custard  
Mini mince pies and tea or coffee

complimentary  
glass  
of Prosecco

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## A Hard Winter

**Some sources are predicting a hard winter this year but could it rival the one in 1881? Let's hope not.**

**Dundee People's Journal,  
Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> March, 1881  
Lochearnhead, Tuesday**

A renewal of the snow storm commenced here on Thursday afternoon, and continued without intermission until about ten o'clock on Sunday morning.

The mixed train due to leave Callander for Oban at 11.25 p.m. proceeded safely along Glenogle until within two miles of Killin Station, where it got snowed up. After every effort had failed to remove the block, two carriages and several waggons and the guard's van were left behind, and the two engines proceeded for about half a mile, when they also became embedded. Several surfacemen set to work, but the tremendous drift rendered their efforts of no avail. Nothing could be done but take shelter in the carriages and await the dawn of day. When daylight appeared six gentlemen who were passengers managed to grope their way to the surfaceman's cottage, where they were hospitably treated by Mrs. Macdonald.

Any provisions that she could spare were brought to the three lady

passengers, who remained imprisoned in the train till Saturday morning.

On Friday at midday, two engines with a snow-plough in front, and accompanied by about 80 surfacemen from Stirling, came up to the scene of the block. The gale was at this time as violent as ever, and the two powerful engines soon became snowed-up also. Another train from Oban shared the same fate near Crianlarich. The greater part of the line from Luib to Lochearnhead Station was completely blocked. Wreaths from 5 to 18 feet deep extended for miles. Yesterday the weather was very quiet and mild. A special train came from Glasgow with nearly 200 workmen to remove the obstructions. They had to cut their way from Callander. Between these and the squad from the Oban direction, upwards of 300 men were employed by the Company in clearing the line. The drivers and other officials are unanimous in stating that this has been the worst storm they have ever experienced.



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## A Macnab Message

**Greetings from abroad!** The summer and fall have proven to be very busy both in the UK and abroad with gatherings, games and Scottish events. For example, Clan Macnab participates in over thirty events in North America alone and countless other clans and societies are as active.

This message is to announce that our clan will be returning to Killin for the games in August 2017. Plans are being made for tours, dinners and, of course, attendance at the Killin Games. It is hoped that this will make a significant impact on the local economy and the Clan will continue to become more closely tied to the area. Clansmen from Queensland, Australia and around the world are known to be planning to attend. Since our last visit in 2014, we have made plans to support the local Masonic Lodge, which has been voluntarily maintaining the cemetery

behind the Killin Hotel, where a number of our kinsmen are buried and we have seen fit to support them financially. We are also raising funds to help maintain the centuries-old burial island of our chiefs, which is a great tourist attraction. These are efforts to support long neglected sites that are not only a part of Killin, but also a part of our heritage globally. With our continued efforts and those of Killin, we hope these things could be a boon to the Killin economy year round.

**W. Lanny McNabb**

FSAScot

Lieutenant to the chief, NA

### New Year's Night Dance

The traditional Ceilidh Dance to usher in 2017 will be held in the McLaren Hall on New Year's Night, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> January, from 9.00pm to 1.00am with the doors open at 8.30pm or earlier if the weather is a bit inclement. The tickets will be available from mid December from News First, during shop opening hours and from Bobby Lafferty, 01567 820854 and Alex Stewart, 01567 820224. The cost has been retained as last year with Adults £10, Concession £8 and a Family of Four Ticket at £28. The kitchen will provide a selection of hot soup and sandwiches at a modest charge at the interval and the raffle draw will also take place then. Remember to bring your own refreshments for the evening and a responsible adult must accompany all youngsters. Demand for tickets is usually very high but any unsold tickets will be available on the night.

### Clan MacNab Support

The Clan MacNab Association of North America has generously donated the sum of £1,000 to the

## Killin Masonic Lodge

local Masonic Lodge, specifically to assist with the clearing of the remaining trees, which have grown up among the headstones in the Old Cemetery. Since the Lodge Members came to an agreement with Stirling Council to maintain the grass at a sensible level and to remove the self seeded trees, much has been achieved. It is now safer to walk among the stones as most of the small markers are now visible and can be avoided and many other gravestones have been exposed from matted grass. There are many years of local family history listed on the headstones and now descendants can trace and complete family trees. The generosity of the MacNab Clan is most welcome and now visiting members can see where kinsmen and women rest and revive a part of the local Clan history. The Lodge Members look forward to meeting the Clan Members when they come for their Clan Gathering in August next year.

Senior Citizens Burns Supper. The raffle tickets will go on sale about two weeks before Christmas with the hamper in the Capercaillie Restaurant by kind permission of Myra. The draw will take place on Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> December at 7.00pm and as is said 'You must be in it to win it'.

### Support for Good Causes

The Lodge have agreed to donate funds to assist with a number of local organisations and projects, but the list is not closed and if some help is needed please let any Member know. The Burns Supper, the Children's Lantern Workshop, the Senior Citizens' Christmas Shopping Trip and the McLaren Hall. There is also the Scottish Poppy Appeal and Prostate Cancer both of which donations are made in the name of the community. The Members are grateful to the support from the community and wish everyone a Peaceful Festive Season and a Happy and successful 2017.

### Christmas Hamper

The 2016 Christmas Hamper proceeds are being donated to the

**Alex Stewart PM**

Lodge Secretary

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and best wishes from all the staff at*

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## Falls in the Fall



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KP's would like to thank everyone for their support in 2016 and to wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Prosperous New Year

## Go Nuts at KP's 2-day Annual Sale

**20% OFF CHRISTMAS SALE 23rd and 24th December**

(subject to conditions)

**Sale Opening Times 23rd 8am to 5pm 24th 8am to 12**  
**Come and have a look round and enjoy a hot mince pie**

Over 2016 KP's has extended its product range so why not come along and see what's new, pick up a bargain or a few Christmas presents for the DIY enthusiast and Trades Person

Logs, Coal, Peat, Kindling and Fire Lighters  
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General Hand and Power tools  
And much, much more come and see for yourself

### Christmas and New Year Opening Hours

KP's will close 24th December at 12 and reopen on the 5th January 2017 at 8am  
Rob Roy Workshop, Balquhiddy, Lochearnhead.  
01877 384274 Email: [Kevin@robroyworkshop.co.uk](mailto:Kevin@robroyworkshop.co.uk)  
Website-[www.kpdiy.co.uk](http://www.kpdiy.co.uk)

## Reunion celebrating 70th Birthdays

Our get-together took place in Pitlochry at the Greenpark Hotel on Thursday 29th September to celebrate our big 70. A great time was enjoyed by all, catching up on gossip and rekindling fond memories. All five have been friends since primary school in Killin but now live in different areas of Scotland. Unfortunately Fiona Inglis/nee Campbell was unable to attend. An attempt was made to name every pupil within the school photograph but there were one or two blanks especially among the boys! Perhaps readers could help name everyone in the picture.

**Patsy McCallum**



Mary Watson/nee McColl, Irene Orr/nee Campbell,  
Patsy McCallum/nee Fraser,  
Sheila Webster/nee Anderson, Evelyn Brown/nee Petrie



**Back row** L-R: Robert McKenzie, Ian ?, Michael Grant, Terry Warburton, Hamish Stewart, Christopher ?, Dennis Ford, Tom Brown, Grant MacDonald.

**Middle row** L-R: Evelyn Petrie, Jemima Blyth, Diane Sara, Janet Ferguson, Mary MacColl, Jennifer Grala, Sheila Anderson, Fiona Campbell, teacher Max Woollard (from Australia).

**Front row** L-R: Norma Shearer, Aileen Berry, Kathleen Smyth, Christine Powell, Margaret MacPhail, Betty Chant, Irene Campbell, Marion McRobbie, Patsy Fraser.

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Friday: 930am-6pm

Saturday: 10am-5pm

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[www.jasminebeauty-callander.co.uk](http://www.jasminebeauty-callander.co.uk)

#### Book online:

[jasminebeautyappoint.co.uk](http://jasminebeautyappoint.co.uk)

#### Email:

[marion@jasminebeauty.co.uk](mailto:marion@jasminebeauty.co.uk)

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## Killin SWI Programme 2016-2017

On Thursday 6th October members of the Killin SWI met at the Lesser McLaren Hall for their first meeting of the season with hopefully a few new members. The first guest presenter of this season was Charlotte Flower on Chocolate Making. She gave a yummy presentation on how to make award winning chocolate, told us about the history of chocolate and, the best bit of the evening, gave us tasters of her different chocolates. Other meetings this season will be:

**1st December:** Four members with various **craft**

**demonstrations** on our members evening.

**14th December (Wednesday):** the SWI will traditionally host the **Children's Christmas Party** in the McLaren Hall.

**7th January (Saturday):** We begin the SWI New Year with a **Birthday Lunch** in the Killin Hotel to celebrate 93 years of Killin SWI.

**2nd February:** Tom & Isobel Gallagher will give a talk on a **fresh water project for the Waorani Indians in Ecuador**

**2nd March (open evening):** Elaine Turner will talk about aspects of **Women's Health**

**6th April** (last meeting of this season): A representative of **CHAS** will speak at the AGM. For more information about the meetings, look out for the posters in the shop windows along the Main Street.

Why not give it a go and join us at any meeting in the Lesser McLaren Hall beginning at 7.30pm. We would love to meet you. Enjoy a cup of tea during the interval and perhaps win a prize in our raffle. A different way of spending your evening!

**Desirée van Doorn**  
Killin SWI, Secretary

## SWI Golf Competition

Fortrose and Rosemarkie Golf Club on the Black Isle, welcomed twenty one rurals from all over Scotland for the final of the SWRI golf competition on 29th August. Sheena Chisholm and Cathie Reid represented Perth and Kinross Federation but sadly did not bring home any trophies.

Everyone found it a challenging

course, particularly the first five holes, with the ball-spotters assuring us it got easier after that. Narrow fairways bordered with whins, and most holes having three six-foot-plus bunkers on the approach to the greens, all tested our skills – or lack of them!

Amy Hay and Janet Buchanan from Loch Awe, no strangers to

Killin Open competitions, won the Scratch, representing Argyll Federation, with Ayrshire winning the Handicap.

While occasionally frustrating, it was nevertheless a most enjoyable experience.

**Cathie Reid**



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**Seasons Greetings to all our**



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 23rd December 2016 and will re-open at 9.00am on  
 Wednesday 4th January 2017.

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**Pitlochry Opticians**  
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 01796 474004



# KILLIN MUSIC FESTIVAL



Skerryvore

Tickets are now on sale for the 2017 Killin Music Festival! We have announced our headliners and it is set to be another weekend of fantastic music 16th-18th of June. On the Friday evening we will have the fantastic Mànran and West Coast superstars Skerryvore on the Saturday evening. On Sunday evening we will be having a seated concert which will feature the legendary Dougie MacLean. We will have a host of fantastic workshops throughout the day on the Saturday along with a host of other fantastic acts which will be announced over the coming months. Tickets are available from News First or online at our website

[www.killinmusicfestival.com](http://www.killinmusicfestival.com)



Dougie



Mànran

## Skippinish

**Friday 30th December**

Skippinish will be returning to the McLaren Hall. They had such a great time at the Killin Music Festival that they want to come back for a special Festive gig!

Tickets for this will be available at NewsFirst

Telephone: (01567) 820342

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### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Are you aged 60 years or over?

Stirling Council is currently replacing all 'OneScotland' bus passes.

If you are still using the 'One Scotland' card you need a replacement before 31 December 2016.



Expiry Date

If you have not received your new card, please contact 01786 404040 or your local Council Office for advice.

To ensure you can still travel for free on the bus after 31 Dec 2016 your 'One Scotland' card must be replaced!

## Foreign Visitor

Can you identify this bird seen recently in Killin?



Answer on next page

### Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire Group

On Monday 19<sup>th</sup> December Craig Macadam for Buglife will give a talk about pond dipping in Perthshire. The event will take place at 7.30pm in the Tryst, Pitlochry. For enquiries contact

**Richard Horobin**  
01796 474480

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## Episcopal Church in Killin

We can't help wondering how fast this year has gone – and what a year it has been in our personal and community lives and with the tumultuous events on the national and international scene. Sometimes when we look at world events at the moment there seems to be a level of perverse evil that seems quite immovable, and it is at these times that it can be helpful to look again at the great events of 2000 years ago, all in a world just as bewilderingly violent and difficult for people as ours is for us. See how the weakness of a child, in innocence and love, is able to dissolve that cloud of darkness, for person by person, silently and gently and completely irresistibly. After all the noise and bustle and glitz of our Christmas celebrations only this remains. The words of that song of John Rutter's seem particularly important today:

When the song of the angels is stilled  
When the star in the sky is gone  
When the kings and the princes are home  
When the shepherds are back with their flocks  
The work of Christmas begins:  
To find the lost  
to heal the broken  
to feed the hungry  
to release the prisoner  
to rebuild the nations  
to bring peace among the people  
to make music in the heart.

### Christmas Plans for St Fillan's in Killin (all welcome)

**Sunday 11th December 7.15pm**

Carols, Candles and Christingle (with mince pies afterwards)

**Christmas Eve 4pm** Crib service

**Christmas Day 10.30am** Christmas Communion with St Angus's at Lochearnhead

All at St Fillan's wish you all every blessing for this Christmas and peace for the New Year

**Paddy Allen**

### Foreign Visitor

The answer is a hoopoe – a common bird in Europe but rarely seen in the UK and even more rarely in these parts. It was spotted on a window ledge at Westerlix by Dave Hunt who rushed to get his phone and managed to get shots before it flew away.



### Apology to Ishbel Hayes

We are very sorry your name was somehow omitted from the picture of those achieving the Loch Ard 3K Open Water Swim and offer our belated congratulations to you too!

### To advertise in the Killin News Advertising Rates from £12 Contact Tel: 01567 820298

Adverts are accepted in good faith and we cannot be held responsible for the goods and services advertised

**Web sites: [www.killin.info](http://www.killin.info) and [www.killinnews.co.uk](http://www.killinnews.co.uk)**

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**Address: Main Street, Killin  
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Office Phone : 01567 820014**

### Your copy of Killin News

Just a reminder that copies of Killin News are delivered free to most households but anyone outside normal delivery routes who does not receive a copy can pick up one from the Library.

### Would you like to join the KILLIN NEWS Mailing List or send copies to your friends?

If so please please send your details to us.

(See above)

Annual cost: UK £15:

Outside UK £35

Please make cheques payable to Killin News

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### Beavers

Tuesdays  
6-7pm  
Lesser Hall

### Cubs

Tuesdays  
7.15 - 8.45pm  
Lesser Hall

### Choir

Usually Tuesdays  
Church 7.30pm  
phone Franny  
01567 829048

### Badminton

Mondays & Tuesdays  
McLaren Hall  
Juniors P7 6-7pm  
Adults 7-10pm

### Internet Cafe

Thursdays  
Killin Library  
11am-3pm  
Closed Dec/Jan  
Reopens 2nd February

### Mill Quilting Group

2-4pm  
Beginners start in  
new year  
Contact Franny

### Junior Badminton

Mondays at 6  
Crianlarich Hall

### Explorers

Last Wednesday of  
month  
Lesser Hall  
7-9pm

### Netball

Tuesdays 7.15pm  
Killin Sports and  
Leisure Club

### Indoor Bowls

Mondays 7.30 Lesser  
McLaren Hall

### Killin Craft group

Tuesdays 10-12  
Community Rooms

### Killin Heritage

Thursdays  
Lynedoch

### Painting & Crafting

First Wednesday of every month  
2-5  
St. Fillans Church

### Killin Gun Club

Third Saturday of  
every month. Contacts:  
Stuart Ogston  
07999 510014  
Henry Paterson  
01567 820354  
email KGC-  
ClayPigeon@outlook.com

### Lazy Afternoon Ceilidh

Tyndrum Village Hall  
First Friday of every month  
1-3pm

### Saplings

Wednesdays  
9.30-10.30  
Crianlarich £5

### Softplay Club

Tuesdays  
Sports Pavilion  
12.30 - 2.30pm

### Woman's Guild

3rd Thursday of every month  
2pm  
Falls of Dochart Retirement  
Home

### Tuesday Club

Community Rooms  
2-4  
Restarts October 4th

### Quilters

Wednesdays 2pm  
Community Rooms

### Scouts

Wednesdays  
7-9pm  
Lesser Hall

### Gentle Yoga

10.30-1200  
Mill  
Finish 19th December  
Restart in new year

### Junior Knitting

12.30-2.00  
Mill  
December  
4,11,18

### Tai Chi

Wednesdays 9.30-10.30  
£5 Tyndrum Village Hall  
Restart after holidays

### Tiddlers & Toddlers

Thursdays fortnightly  
Sports Pavilion  
10am-12 noon

## Mobile Libraries

### Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays

Dec2, 16, 30, Jan 6, 20, Feb 3

### Crianlarich

Willow Square 11.50-12.15  
Glen Falloch Road 11.30-11.45  
Police Station 10.45-11.25

### Tyndrum

Station Road 1.30-1.50  
Clifton 1.55-2.20  
Mansefield 2.25-2.50

### Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig Fortnightly Mondays

Nov 28, Dec 12, Jan 16, 30

Glenlochay 10.50-12.30  
Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

### Perth and Kinross Fortnightly Tuesdays

Nov 29, Dec 13, Jan 17, 31

Tombreck 16.40-17.00  
Lawers 18.10- 18.25

## Recycling Centres

### Callander

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

### Aberfeldy

Tuesday and Thursday  
9am-7pm  
Saturday and Sunday  
10am-5pm

### Crieff

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

## Which bin? Saturdays

3rd December 10th December

17th December 24th December

31st December 7th January

14th January 21st January

28th January 4th February

Grey = grey bin + blue  
bin

Brown = brown bin + blue box

Green = brown bin,  
green bin + blue box



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