

# KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

February/March 2017

**Issue 156**

Price £1



# Killin News

## Editorial

As we start off a year in which the world is filled with uncertainty, our village is still a welcoming community. What makes it that way? People who care deeply for the village, its surroundings and its community: people dedicated to helping others by fundraising: people freely giving of their time to run groups and clubs for the young, the elderly and all the in-betweeners and who organise or host events to entertain both locals and tourists. It is a standing joke that summer visitors often ask "What on earth do you do in the winter?" and are answered with a wry smile and an understated. "There are a few things going on". The pages in this issue will certainly testify to that.

Changes are inevitable and at Killin News we are sorry to be losing Margaret MacIver from our team although she will still be at the end of the phone to offer advice when needed. She has contributed her time and expertise for 18 years but has decided that the time has come to retire. Thank you, Margaret, for your input and dedication and we wish you well in your retirement.

The next few months will determine whether Killin News is able to continue or not (see page 3). We are very keen to continue production and it is our New Year resolution to do so. Meanwhile may we all have luck in keeping our own resolutions.

## 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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Ellen Cattenach, Theresa Elliot (and James),  
Catherine Macmillan, Gavin Macnab, 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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pdf versions of the paper can be viewed on the Killin News website



## DEADLINES

### Issue 157

Advertising

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Front Cover Photo Ron Allner

# Hogmanay Weekend - and next year?

Killin had a particularly good time around Hogmanay this season, with events on three consecutive nights making a weekend to remember. An excellent concert from Skippinish started things off, followed by the Lantern Walk, the wonderful Hogmanay fireworks at the bridge and then the New Year's Day Dance. As well as entertaining the locals, a programme like this brings in visitors to Killin which benefits hotels and shops in Killin. It has already been rumoured that a Skippinish concert could happen again at the same time next year and doubtless the New Year's Dance, which has been held for many years now, will also be put on again. But what about the fireworks? There has been a firework display at the Dochart Bridge every year now since 1999 and each year it has been Charlie Grant who has been chief organiser. There is much to organise: raising the money, buying the fireworks, getting them set up and set off, arranging insurance, ensuring health and safety requirements are met, traffic control, collecting money at the event and, the least attractive of all, clearing up before next morning all the glass and litter left behind after the event. All this costs money and many items have gone up considerably over the years and are likely to increase even more. Often in the past there have been donations from local business who stand to benefit from the attendance of visitors but such donations have dropped off in recent years. This year's display was particularly spectacular – and cost more. The weather was kind and it seemed there were more people this year. We understand



that the collection was down on previous years. Money for the display has come from the sale of Killin Calendars kindly produced by the Studio, who would like to thank all who helped to sell these, especially the staff at the Bridge End Mill. Apart from that and the collection at the bridge, we have no information on other income or that there expenditure other than have been personal donations given to Charlie, which cannot be expected to continue. Charlie has said he cannot continue to be solely responsible and, in order to ensure that this much-valued

annual event continues, more people now need to get involved in running things. A committee could share the different jobs and decide how they are done and by whom. A proper organisation is also more likely to succeed with grant applications. The fireworks are now a part of Killin's year and it would be a shame if this attraction for visitors as well as locals had to stop. Surely anyone helping would get enjoyment from making so many people happy? Please step forward **now** to help ensure another fantastic weekend next year.

## The Future of Killin News

Following our recent appeal for help, the Committee would like to invite anyone interested in helping with Killin News to meet us at the Killin Hotel for coffee on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> February at 11a.m. There you can learn more about how we work and how your knowledge, talents and interests might be useful. This will give us all an idea of how things might proceed at Killin News in the future. We look forward to seeing you.

## Killin Telephone Book

We hope to get back to working on the Telephone book after this issue. Anyone new to the village or who has moved can still have their number included by emailing Killin News with the details before mid February.

# Killin Community Council - Ja

**Acharn Biomass Plant:** Andrew Vince (Clean Energy Ventures Operations Management Ltd.) provided an update on the power plant. Meetings scheduled in line with KCC meetings. Everything on schedule. Operation & maintenance staff are being recruited. Mechanical and electrical contracts will be fully operational by August 2017 and the plant live as of 5<sup>th</sup> June. Parts arriving on large, unescorted trucks on dates to be verified will not impact village traffic. A deer fence has been agreed along the Rob Roy Way east of Easter Lix. When cabling and pipes are done, footpath will be reinstated and native trees replanted around site. A suggestion that the excess heat be used for a greenhouse project if suitable land available will be looked at by KAT on behalf of the community. Concerns still about pedestrian safety and measures remain in place to safeguard anyone using the well-used path. The CC will be updated in March.

## Police Report:

### Anti-Social Behaviour:

Disturbance in Fingal Road in the early hours of 26<sup>th</sup> November. Occupant who informed police found all four of his tyres deliberately punctured on the 14<sup>th</sup> December. Police request anyone with information to come forward. Occupant from Ballechroisk Court discovered his tyre had been punctured on 16<sup>th</sup> December. Further enquiries revealed a number of antisocial instances of threatening conduct. One male was interviewed and charged at Stirling Police Station.

**Violent Crime:** Police and Ambulance called to New Year's Day House Party in Fingal Road. Report of male having been struck with bottle. Occupants taken to hospital but no serious injuries. Enquiries ongoing.

**Road safety:** Car collision on A82 in Glen Falloch. Male occupant taken to hospital and dealt with by police for drink driving and other traffic offences.

Motorists should ensure vehicles are in good condition to cope with adverse weather conditions. Extra warm clothes and emergency food should be taken for use in emergencies.

**Thefts:** A high value theft at Loch Earn Caravan Site - 4 Jet Skis and 2 trailers taken by at least 2 vehicles including a Transit size van.

**Community Engagement and reassurance:** Extra caution is to be taken with home security. Seek advice from police if necessary. Main Street, Killin at Primary School will be patrolled when possible. Traffic conditions to be monitored at zebra crossing and zig zags. Round house - patrols to be carried out during later hours due to complaints.

Parking issues continue to be monitored with corrective advice being provided to vehicle owners.

### Other:

Hogmanay fireworks celebrations were well attended by both locals and visitors.

The Jack Russell terrier handed into police before the bells was reunited with its owners the next day. Thank you to the local lady who took care of him overnight.

**Killin Mountain Rescue Team** were involved in a rescue at Stob Glas near Crianlarich where a retired policeman injured his knee. Flash lights used to identify the group's position prompted numerous calls to police control from concerned motorists on the A82. Driving rain and strong wind conditions meant the Rescue Helicopter could not lower the winchman and had to return to base. Killin MRT personnel were deployed to stretcher the man safely

off the hill and he was taken to Edinburgh with a damaged tendon.

**Road Lining:** Yellow lines have been done, some white lines remain undone which is causing problems at the Mill as people have no indication of actual road.

**Water Pressure & Sewage:** Slight improvement but has deteriorated again. Some work has taken place at sewage plant but smell will probably return in warmer weather.

**Planning:** There were no planning issues received. Moreish Woodlands have been approved. There are ongoing issues regarding making the website more user friendly.

**Ardeonaig Road:** Most of the parking places have been done but the culverts remain undone. Hayes to follow up.

**Street Lights:** Two lights still flickering at Lyon and Station Road.

**Ballechroisk 20mph signs:** Ongoing.

**Electricity in Park:** Ongoing - should be paid for by the Games & Show Committees

**Round House:** Ongoing - police will patrol later in evening, reports of a damaged fruit tree.

**Fireworks:** Charlie Grant to put article in Killin News about funding for 2018 fireworks. They didn't meet criteria for a grant.

**DRT:** DRT agreed to connect Killin area to St Fillans for a better connection to Perth. Councils are considering one large DRT area instead of the split areas.

**Bins & Recycling:** No indication of costing due to the system not yet running smoothly. Many complaints received about bins not being emptied during festive period.

**KAT:** Two funding applications in place with Loch Lomond National Park & Stirling Council for Landscape designer for playpark before

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## Community Council Appeals

additional funding for actual work can be sought. Fence will be fixed in spring. Theresa Elliot only has funding for a further 3 months.

**Priority Budgeting:** No proposals as yet. Items discussed and approved not completed.

**Craignavie Road:** Some potholes have been done. Not considered dangerous but resurfacing should be considered. Sycamore tree considered possibly dangerous has been checked by council and deemed safe. Ivy will be removed and trees pruned. Still ongoing.

**Music Festival:** will go ahead

**National Park Sign** to warn of slippery rocks needs replacing.

**Thanks To:** Alma Walker for organising the lantern making and walk, to the Church for use of their grounds for the Christmas Tree, to Anthony Dowling for supplying the tree, to Willie Stitt for erecting it and to Robert Grant for doing the lights, to Charlie Grant for organising the fireworks, and to Andrew Vince (Acharn Biomass Plant) for generous donation of £100 towards the Burns' Supper

**Next meeting:** 7.30 Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March in the school

### Dog Fouling

Again we have problems on the pavements around the village. We have asked the Stirling Council dog warden to come up to monitor this. If you see a dog fouling a pavement and the owner does not clear up, please get on touch with either Stirling Council, the local police or a community councillor. We are lucky in Killin that the majority of dog owners are responsible but it is not nice for anyone stepping in the mess left by irresponsible owners – yes, it is your mess!

### Bottle Bank Area

Again we shall have to ask Stirling Council to come and clear this area due to fly tipping. After New Year cardboard boxes, bottles, junk, etc. plus three black bin bags had been left in the area. Killin is a tourist area but the littered site opposite the public toilets does not encourage tourists.

If you see anybody fly tipping, please report to Stirling Council, local police or councillor.

We value this amenity but as it is being abused we might lose it.

**Fiona Kennedy**  
Killin CC

## Shoebox appeal



A huge thank you to everyone who donated a filled shoebox or handed in the many items for the boxes. A special thank you to the knitters who knitted so many lovely items for babies and toddlers.

A total of 46 boxes were collected at the Library plus 3 full carrier bags of items and £20 donation.

This was a superb amount considering all the other needy causes that people give to at this time of year. The shoeboxes give great pleasure to young and old as for many this will be their only gift.

Again thank you.

**Kay Riddell**

### A sight test is free – why not have one?

Did you know that up to 1 million children in the UK currently have an undetected vision problem?

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# Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

## KAT Report

### Breadalbane Park

The fruit trees have been planted in the park and should look great in the future once they have matured. Two trees are in the place where the children go sledging so we are looking to move them over slightly so this space can still be used.

We have put in two funding applications to Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park and one to Stirling Council to fund a landscape architect to give us a design and cost for the play area. Once we have the design it will allow us to start looking for funding for the whole area or for individual pots of money. We will know the outcome of the applications in February.

### Old Mill

we will not now hear the outcome of our Big Lottery fund application until March.

### Internet Café

The café is a weekly drop-in session from Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 11am until 3pm and costs £1.50 per hour. The internet café is open to anyone who wants to:

- \* learn how to use their device
- \* get more out of using their device
- \* learn how to keep your device 'healthy'
- \* get an answer to a query - no question is silly

- or you may just need a bit of confidence with technology and Angela is happy to help you. You can bring your own device or use the library computers.

This year one session per month will be on a specific item instead of a general drop in. If anyone has anything they would like us to do then get in touch. Our session will be held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month starting on 16<sup>th</sup> February.

**Theresa Elliot**  
Project Manager

01567 820628 07789 265823

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## Old Mill Report

Happy New Year! We are now settled into our weekend opening and have been using the other time to organise and sort our huge amount of donated goods.

Thank you to all who attended our Christmas Fayre which was a very successful day and raised £437. It was a huge team effort from the upcycling of Xmas crafts to baking and jam making. We are also extremely grateful to the Killin Community Choir for coming to sing some festive music.

**Gentle Yoga:** We are carrying on with our sessions on Monday from 10:30 to 12:00 and these are open to anyone at a cost of £5 a session.

**Beginners Sampler Class:** Sally Connor will be running classes starting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March for 8 weeks at a cost of £65. Quilters will need to provide materials. Please contact me for more information as we are limited for spaces but do have some available.

## CLOTHES AND BOOKS SALES

**Weekends between  
11<sup>th</sup> February – 6<sup>th</sup> March  
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We hope you will come and take advantage of this fantastic sale. We have a huge selection of quality clothes, shoes and baby clothes, as well as a vast selection of books. Thank you for your continued support at the Mill. Please contact me if you wish to donate a large number of items. We accept clean

clothing, shoes, curtains, bed covers, bric a brac, toys and books. **We cannot accept large items** i.e. sports equipment or furniture or duvets, pillows, baby seats and buggies, cycle and motor cycle helmets or electrical items. Many thanks.

**Franny Morrison**  
Old Mill Manager  
01567820628  
07802929796

## Killin Internet Café

Thursdays 11am – 3pm  
Drop-in

### Monthly Specials

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February**

### Getting Creative with Word.

Want to learn how to do more using Word other than writing?

What about making cards?

Angela will show how you can get creative – Mother's day, Birthday, Easter, Christmas Cards, impress your families and friends with your homemade cards

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March**

### Making Databases with Excel.

You can use Excel to help you manage everyday tasks like putting your family and friends addresses into Excel and being able to print them off onto labels for your Christmas cards.

If you have other information you would like to be put into a database bring it along with you

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# Masonic News

## New Year Dance

The celebrations for the arrival of 2017 are now a happy memory and the village is settling into activities for the remaining winter weeks. It is a good time to reflect on past festivities, which brought many to the area to join in our long standing traditions. There have been changes in disposable income expenditure and the way relaxation and entertainment are enjoyed. The power of web advertising and social media activities very quickly spread what's on and where it's happening. Care must be taken to provide the correct information as unclear detail can cause misunderstanding and confusion.

The annual 1<sup>st</sup> January dance, organised by the Killin Masonic Members, has welcomed in the New Year for many years and has raised many thousands of pounds for local groups and clubs, good causes and appeals. This has been made possible by the support of both locals and visitors all of whom band together renewing friendships and making new ones.

The Dance is properly stewarded to make it safe for young and old. The band line up has altered and the new look brought many compliments from the company. Max, the linchpin on the drums, joined Duncan on the

keyboard and the newest member on the box, Robert, who is recognised by his peers as one of the top accordion players in Scotland. They had the hall buzzing with the floor filled for every dance. The group are already booked for the night of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018.

The Brethren commit to helping local organisations and publicise the names of the recipients. When help is requested the Lodge will provide it to the level which is available from Members contributions and fund raising activities. It is especially essential to support the younger age groups and the more senior sector. Reduction in funds from local and central government for many basic items means an alternative is needed to help fill the shortfall and organisations like this in Killin step in with help.

Many thanks once again to those who supported this year's dance. The attendance was considerably down on previous dances, which will unfortunately result in smaller contributions to organisations but the Lodge will not reduce the list of recipients, as a smaller donation will still help, and giving nothing is not an acceptable option to the Lodge Members.

## Christmas Hamper

The 2016 Christmas Hamper Raffle raised the sum of £267 for the Senior

Citizens' Burns Supper and was won by Clem MacEwan. Thanks to all who supported this worthy cause and to Sheila's Sweetie Shop and the Capercaillie for their considerable help in making this fund raiser a wonderful success.

## Community Auction

The popular Community Auction this year will be held on Easter Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> April and this is a reminder that any donations will be collected during the two weeks prior to Easter. The generosity of villagers and the wider community makes this an enjoyable event and the evening is always looked forward to by everyone.

**A.J.M. Stewart**  
Lodge Secretary

## Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire Group

On Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February Charlotte Fleming, the SWT ranger from Loch of the Lowes, will give a talk 'What's new for wildlife in Perthshire?' and on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> March Catherine Lloyd from Tayside Biodiversity Partnership will give a talk 'Tayside biodiversity- every action counts'. Both events will take place at 7.30pm in the Tryst, Pitlochry PH16 5EB.

For enquiries contact:  
Richard Horobin 01796 74480



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## Frost Report

### The Dangers of the Silent Invaders

We are not talking here of the wolf which howls, the lynx which snarls or the beaver which . . . is anyone sure just what noise a beaver makes? We are talking the silent invasion of non-native trees. You may think that SNH and co. have this all sewn up so that the landscape as it should be and its inhabitants, both animal and human, are protected. This would not appear to be the case. Firstly our native forests are under threat according to new evidence. The Scottish Gamekeepers Association has revealed that the threat of non-native trees has been downplayed by not including hundreds of hectares of native woodland made unsatisfactory by non-native planting. The usual guy who gets the blame for destroying woodland is the red deer. While not claiming that no trees are eaten, red are not the main threat to native woodland. They are essentially forest animals and a species does not evolve to destroy its preferred habitat. Hence the reason why open hill ground where there are deer is called a deer forest. What does add up to loss of income is when large areas are planted with non-native conifers which are nibbled by the deer and the deer are then shot as it is much cheaper than fencing them out.

There seems to be a political vendetta against the poor red deer at the moment. SNH spent £4.8 million on deer management last year alone. That is your money and mine when sporting estates have managed deer successfully for generations and, in the process,



provided work, preserved our landscape and put millions into the economy. The present and threatened way of control supports more jobs and contributes far more to the economy than the Edinburgh Festival. SNH are continually lobbying the government to legislate to increase deer culls. Have they forgotten that their name includes 'natural' and 'heritage'? Soon the only deer you will see will be on pictures. Tourists pay thousands to witness the wildebeest migrations in Tanzania and Kenya or the Laplanders with their reindeer but, with Scotland supposed to be this year's second destination to visit globally, what chance will they soon have to see The Monarch of our glens? Those of you who read The Oban Times may have read Iain Thornburn's article in which he suggests that Burns was a prophet when writing 'Farewell to the forests'.

The planting of the flow country some years ago caused outrage – too late. Some of the timber

may never be able to be harvested. But never mind – they got their subsidy for planting it. Much more moorland is under threat than we realise. This is an irreplaceable loss of biodiversity and habitat to much wildlife.

Lastly we cannot forget the devastation left by felling softwoods. Locally we only have to pass Lix Toll to see that. Will tourists really want to come and see acres of that? Maybe the answer is to train beavers to be more responsible in their timber

felling, taking only softwoods and leaving native trees! I don't know if they have to get Forestry Commission licences for cutting down each tree or if they just have carte blanche for anything. They are certainly fast workers as can be seen just outside Aberfeldy on the river bank. One pro-beaver charity in England will sell you a certificate and a beaver wood chip for £70. I picked up quite a few chips at Aberfeldy so if anyone has a spare £70 I will willingly sell them one!

On a local note I wonder if other people are seeing long-tailed tits at the feeders. We have a little posse of 7 which tend to come for 'afternoon tea' most days at the moment.

I do hear from time to time that people read these articles. But not all probably keep them to read in bed as did the lovely May Graham who, sadly, passed away recently. Many thanks to her humour and letting me use her in many past anecdotes.

**Tim Frost**

## Congratulations Monty

Monty Ogilvie has been signed by MGM as a Featherweight boxer. Following an extensive amateur career Monty has opted to switch to the professional ranks and his debut will take place on Saturday 11th March 2017 at our "Ambition" promotion in Edinburgh. Monty has been doing some sparring at the MGM Scotland Gym and we are excited about guiding his professional career



We have a very busy 2017 events schedule and will be looking to keep him active. Well done Monty and Good Luck with your future matches.

If you are interested in attending or following Monty's progress, keep an eye on the web site:

<http://mgm-scotland.co.uk>

**Sam Kynoch**  
Team MGM



Keep up to date with the activities of the four sections within the Scout Group by liking our Facebook page: 2<sup>nd</sup> Killin & District Scout Group and for those interested in joining Explorers just join the Facebook group: Killin Explorer Scouts.



### Beavers

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

Just before Christmas we had 8 new beavers getting invested on a busy night as we then had to rush off to get our Christmas biscuits in the oven. We had a great inventors' night building our recycled beaver robot which had all sorts of clever components to help out around the house. Plans are shaping up for our spring term including Burns night, clay pottery and an Indian themed night. We're also looking forward to the light nights allowing us to get outside again.

**Stephen Rawlinson**

Beaver Leader  
07742 886918

[killinbeavers@yahoo.com](mailto:killinbeavers@yahoo.com)

### Cubs

*Cubs are aged 8-10½ and meet every Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 7:15-8:30pm.*

During the last session we invested 6 new Cubs. We say a sad good bye to Hamish who came to our pack from New Zealand. We will miss him but will keep in

touch with his pack in New Zealand. We got up to loads of stuff, making bird feeders, went on a ghost walk, made paper aeroplanes and learned how to find ourselves on a map. We are looking forward to the new session and hope to have many more exciting nights.

**Charles Kemp**

Cub Leader  
01567 820835

[the2ndkillincubs@outlook.com](mailto:the2ndkillincubs@outlook.com)

### Scouts

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

Many of the Scouts have recently earned their Meteorologist's badge. This was rather a challenging badge involving many different elements, including learning about cloud formation and synoptic charts, as well as recording the ever changing

weather of Killin for a week. Last term the Scouts spent other evenings on a pizza cooking competition (many interesting ingredients never before seen on a pizza), a card games night and making Christmas crafts.

**Harriet Wishart**

Scout Leader  
07581 151442

[2ndkillin scouts@gmail.com](mailto:2ndkillin scouts@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.*

The Explorers are the oldest section, they design their own programme and run most of it themselves - though this did end up with a Beavers' games night (including milk and cookies) last term. They also excelled themselves at our annual 'trading post', a competition involving lots of Scouting challenges to earn points and by winning ensured they won't be allowed to form a team themselves again! The Explorers' first task this year is to plan the coming term and we are sure it will be an exciting, adventure-packed programme. We still have plenty of space for new members and would also welcome any adults who would like to get involved with assisting with this age group - all welcome with no previous experience of Scouting required, just get in touch.

**Harriet Wishart**

Explorer Leader  
07581 151442

[2ndkillin scouts@gmail.com](mailto:2ndkillin scouts@gmail.com)

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## Strathfillan Community Council

**Wild Camping:** The CC hosted a meeting which was attended by representatives from SCDT, Forestry Commission, National Park, Stirling Council and Police. It was clarified that in most cases there is a legal right to wild camp responsibly and there is little any of the agencies can do to prevent this. It was agreed that the vast majority of wild campers in Strathfillan are responsible and but a minority are causing problems. LLTNP, FCS and the police will all attempt to increase the number of patrols during summer months, but are inevitably constrained by limited manpower and budgets. Likewise it is not feasible to prevent overnight parking on public land, such as Lower Station Yard in Crianlarich or outside the Tourist Information Centre in Tyndrum. Additional signage will be placed around LSY in Crianlarich and the Cattle Creep in Tyndrum, highlighting the location of the village public toilets. Subject to funding, a fence will also be erected at the edge of LSY to try and prevent people using the bushes as a toilet. Members of the public should report specific incidents of anti social behaviour to the Police using the 101 non-emergency number.

**Crianlarich Play Park:** The climbing frame equipment in Crianlarich Play Park has been removed by Stirling Council having failed a safety inspection and being deemed to be at the end of its functional life. The CC and local councillors are in discussion with Stirling Council to see if a replacement piece of equipment can

be sourced.

**Health:** Following the roadshow event held in October, discussions are ongoing with Stirling Council and NHS Forth Valley about a suitable pilot project in the Strathfillan area but no details have been confirmed as yet.

**Minute Secretary:** The CC urgently require a minute secretary. A fee of £40 will be paid for attending each meeting and writing up the minutes afterwards. For further information please contact Alan Smailes or Isla Craig.

**Meeting Dates:** During 2017 Strathfillan CC will meet on the first Monday of each month (except August) at 7.30pm in Crianlarich Hall. All meetings are open to members of the public and are normally preceded by a local councillor surgery at 7pm. Next meetings are on 6th February and 6th March.

# Strathfillan

## Strathfillan Angling Association

We ended 2016 having had a relatively successful years fishing. In total 10 salmon up to 12lbs were caught despite the river being very lightly fished. Catches of trout were good with many around the 2lb mark caught.

The 2017 season is upon us and we are hoping for a great year's fishing ahead of us. We will be holding a few work parties and competitions this year so more information will follow at a later date. The price for membership this year stays at £40. Should you wish to join then we would be more than happy to hear from you. You can obtain an application by sending a message to us on our Facebook page or contact us at the Crianlarich hall on: 01838 300249 or by email: strathfillancdt@btconnect.com

## Strathfillan Community Development Trust



The Strathfillan Community Development Trust is 20 years old this year and following our AGM on 16<sup>th</sup> January we held a celebration event. It was way back in 1995 that our application to the Corrum Trust was approved and, with their help, local residents and various partners formed a Regeneration Group to set up the Trust. One of the first projects to be realised was buying four Railway Houses which were renovated and have been rented out to local people since 1998. Other successes have been the Tyndrum Woodlands which includes pathways and sculptures, the Crianlarich Woodland, the Play Park in Mansefield, the CiA project in Crianlarich, the Gruffalo Trail in the Shelterbelt Tyndrum and a good working relationship with the goldmine, which is investing heavily in the area. These have all been achieved through the dedication of the directors and members of the Trust and are rightly being celebrated.

John Riley, the only original Director still on the Board, was presented with a framed photograph of Strathfillan to mark his 20year long service.





Crianlarich Primary School restarted on Thursday 5th January, 2017 with plans for a Burns celebration to involve the whole community. After the success of the 'Light Up Christmas' event, which was attended by over ninety community members, January 2017 sees the advent of Burns with a twist. All our School Committees' work this year follows our community consultation last Easter, which prioritised working with Senior Citizens. Each term we are working on a theme which is linked to our topics. So far we have held a Harvest Celebration with Bake Off and quiz and our Light Up Christmas event where we proudly displayed our decorations made in Technologies sessions and entertained with music and songs. We are holding a traditional recital of Burns poetry in school followed by the ceilidh at Crianlarich Hall. In the summer term, we would like to invite community members into school to a presentation on our trip to the Transport Museum and then to our very own production of Peter Pan, again at the Hall. We are very fortunate to enjoy a close working partnership with parents and wider community members. They help with many of our projects and fundraising in school, including supervising clubs such as Multisports, running and netball and preparing our chess club members for a tournament later this year. We are very grateful for all their ongoing support and are always open to new ideas!"

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## Salmon Fishing Opening

West Loch Tay Salmon Users Association opening ceremony went well on the morning of 16<sup>th</sup> January, with a good turnout. Our thanks to Famous Grouse for the donation of whisky, to Ian and Chris at the Killin Hotel for supplying the bacon and egg rolls and coffee and to the new minister, Russel Moffat, for his first salmon fishing blessing. Three salmon were caught on the first day. Bill Hill had a 12lb fish, Roisinne McLarty caught one of 14lb, her first ever salmon on Loch Tay, and Simon Hill got his first opening day salmon which weighed 17lb. The evening dinner at the Bridge of Lochay was very well attended and our thanks to Amanda and Bob and staff. £115 from the raffle will go to a local charity.

**Grant Tigwell**



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## Killin Community Choir concert

The Killin Community Choir's concert on 17th December 2016 was a wonderful evening. A great variety of music from Bach to Henry Mancini with fantastic performances from Steven Faughey (Baritone) Donald Robinson (Cello) and of course the wonderful Choir accompanied by Jacco Lamfers. Let us not forget the superb audience participation in

their rendition of the 12 days of Christmas. The aim of this concert was to raise money for the Killin Mountain Rescue and we are pleased to state that we raised £1000 as well as giving donations to community groups. Many thanks to all who came and supported this event and to all who donated such wonderful raffle prizes.

## Crafts, Coffees and Chips

The Guild Craft Group was very grateful to accept the hospitality offered by Lynne and Michael Crowe at the Courie Inn to hold their Christmas Craft Fair there last November.

The Bar room provided an excellent space to display and sell our crafts, whilst the restaurant was an ideal area for coffee, shortbread and a good natter! At noon, the kitchen door opened and a glorious smell foretold the arrival of Lynne and Ginny with Michael's fish and chip pokes.

Our thanks to the Courie Inn for hosting the event and feeding us, to the crafters who, as ever, supported us by providing items for sale and for the raffle and, of course, to all the visitors who came and joined us on the day. With the income from the day, from items sold after the event and the sale of items at Balquhiddy, we banked almost £1000.

Looking towards the Summer Fair, we have now started working back in the Church Community Rooms on a Tuesday morning replenishing our stock. Whatever your handicraft skills are, you are welcome and please feel free to join us.

**Sue Hughes**

## Not-so-New Arrival!



Katie Mary (seen here with big brother Harry) born 21st May 2016 at University Hospital of North Durham, weighing 8lb 12oz. Second child of John Paul and Rachel Heatherington, great-grand-daughter to Chrissie Fenton.

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## The Recollections Project

The Recollections Project is coming to your library soon.

Would you like to help preserve the memories of your community?

Do you enjoy local history and talking to people?

If you do, you may be able to help us with this exciting new project.

We are working to preserve the recollections of your community to provide a resource for local and family history and to help those in your area living with dementia.

Although the Libraries and Archives service does have a lot of information about the past in our local area, we need more images and accounts of the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s

We will be asking people to share their photographs by having them digitally scanned so that we can create a "Memory Box" for your area. We are also asking people to be interviewed to make sure that those precious memories are recorded for the future.

There will be a dedicated week here in Killin during which local people can bring in photographs. There will be a Drop-in session during the

week of the project where you can chat to Archives and Libraries staff about your records and how best to store them and have your memories recorded.

The aim of the project is to create a resource that will be available at this library branch for local people to use. There will be a memory box of facsimiles of all the photographs donated to the project.

The oral history interview will also be available at the library along with transcripts for those who prefer to access them in this way. There will be a website with a section for each local area where the images will be posted and where people will be encouraged to upload their images and memories to continue to create an archive of people's experiences in this area for the future.

The drop-in session at Killin Library is 6th, 7th, 8th and 10th February. Please bring your photographs to be scanned.

Ask at the library if you would like more information.

## Killin Medical Practice

### Closure for Staff Training

The Practice will be closed on a Wednesday between 12 noon and 1pm for staff training. This has been changed from a Monday from the beginning of February.

The Practice telephone number will remain operational with an option to leave a message on our answering machine. Emergency calls will of course be responded to and an alternative number will be given in the message.

### Flu Help yourself and your community Get Your Flu Jag Now


The GPs are worried about the low uptake of the flu immunisations this year and the risk of a flu epidemic.

Please contact the surgery as soon as possible to arrange for your flu jag if you have received a letter from the Scottish Government or the Practice advising that you are eligible.

If you do not wish to have the flu jag and you fall into the eligible category we would ask that you contact the surgery to let us know.

We hope to see you at the surgery soon.

If you are unsure if you are eligible please give us a ring and we will be very happy to advise you.



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# Boxing Day Dip



On Boxing Day 2016 a group of local people gathered by the Killin Hotel to jump into the freezing waters of the River Lochay to raise money for charity. All proceeds are to go to the old folk in The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and the P.S.P. Association and the event was organised by Sarah Heward of The Real Food Cafe in Tyndrum. After the dip everyone retired to The Killin Hotel for hot soup and a warm up. Many thanks to all the participants and to the local Fire Brigade for their help with Health and Safety. The amount raised was almost £2,600 which is more than last year's total.



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# Hogmanay Lanterns



Robertson Builders, Pete Waugh, Event manager for Killin 10K and RunMhor84, Killin News and our local Masonic Lodge. The rain stopped and the strong winds calmed to allow us and many followers to take our lantern walk through Killin on Hogmanay to enjoy the

Our third event was a great success. We filled the lesser McLaren hall with new lantern makers and our practised regulars. They all made amazing, unique lanterns using natural renewable willow saplings as they learnt traditional skills to produce a lantern to keep. Due to the generosity of this year's funders, we were able to provide many more materials for decoration, giving lots of choice and variety. There were also pressed autumn leaves giving a natural finish. The lantern makers made some positive comments: "fantastic event and learning opportunity" - "great fun for adults and children" - "kept the kids busy for hours" - "lovely family event and great to have this New Year activity in the village" - "well put on workshop" - "loved all the ribbons and sparkly things" - "fab materials and lots of patience shown by the lovely people running it". Our grateful thanks to our funders this year who were : Stirling Council,

hospitality of the Killin Hotel. The children showed off their lanterns in the hotel to a packed dining room of applauding kilted guests and the judging took place as the lantern folk had a welcome hot chocolate. Winners were: 1<sup>st</sup> Naomi Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Iona Lafferty, 3<sup>rd</sup> Liam Mullen and all the children also got well deserved chocolate sweeties for taking part.



Huge thanks to our funders who made this annual event possible and to Lesleyanne at Over the Tea Cup for preparing a lovely lunch for our lantern workshop. Ron Allner did an amazing job of taking photographs at both the workshop and our walk. Thanks to Charlie and Trish for all their work processing the paperwork and to Chaz Kemp and Graham Grant who kindly transported our lanterns on the day. Your help is much appreciated and thanks to all who took part and enjoyed our event. Here's to next time!

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# Sleeping Beauty



What a fun-filled, action-packed evening. Well done Killin Drama Club. The drama began as the audience attempted to enter the McLaren Hall and were stopped by two burly security officers, Knuckles and Meathead (Colin Hay and Chas Kemp) who insisted on scanning and questioning everybody before allowing them to pass. This comedy duo's banter caused much hilarity throughout the evening, as did Nanny Goodbody's (Karen Lafferty) drunken pursuits of a man, any man. Some dignity was maintained by Lord Rupert (Alex Tigwell), Prince William (Sammy Hibbert) and Princess Beauty (Hazel Lafferty), but Simple Simon (Myrica Reid) soon dispensed with that, carrying with her a constant air of confusion. Even though King Bentley (Glenda Mardon) and Queen Portia (Lisa Godfrey) tried to keep things calm and under control, it was the brilliantly portrayed wicked fairy, Ghasthag, (Kay Dowling) with a very loud cackle and menacing appearance, who persistently terrified and threatened them all, including the audience. As expected, good did prevail as the three good fairies (Annie Chisholm, Eloise Murray and Ellie Ridgewell) cast their spell, causing Ghasthag to meet a dramatic and deadly end. Throughout the pantomime the young dancers and singers gave colourful, vibrant performances with great energy and enthusiasm – definitely a few stars in the offing amongst them. The sound, lighting and special effects were very impressive and the costumes colourful and eye-catching, whilst some clever choreography created a very slick chase sequence in the Forest of Doom. During the sing-song the cast were almost upstaged by a toddler from the audience who hopped up onto the stage to "help" with the actions and stole everyone's hearts. Also in the audience was a honeymoon couple who always time their holidays in Killin to coincide with the panto production. What better recommendation could you have.

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## Sleeping Beauty



Home  
Start

Home-Start Stirling is looking for volunteers to provide support to families with young children who are going through a stressful time or a crisis. This local charity works throughout the area recruiting and training home-visiting volunteers to provide weekly help to families who have at least one child under five. That help may be in the form of a listening ear, advice on dealing with the children or a bit of practical help. Volunteers don't need to have any specialist skills or qualifications, just the experience of having been a parent themselves. All new potential volunteers are asked to complete a course, which fully prepares them for home visiting. Once they have started visiting a family, Home-Start Stirling is always there to give the volunteers any support they need. Volunteering as a home visitor doesn't need a huge time commitment either – just a minimum of two to three hours a week – although any other time visitors can give is always greatly appreciated by both Home-Start and the families. Home-Start Stirling has just received funding to expand the service which will include the whole of the local authority area including rural Stirlingshire. Therefore, they are particularly keen to attract potential volunteers from the rural areas. If you are interested in finding out more about the volunteering opportunities or the work of Home-Start Stirling, you can contact Rachel Keenan (Manager) on 01786 476 782 or email: [rachel@homestartstirling.org.uk](mailto:rachel@homestartstirling.org.uk) There is also a Home Start Stirling website: [www.homestartstirling.org.uk](http://www.homestartstirling.org.uk) which gives more information on the service and the support they provide to local families.



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# Weather Stati

**Kirkton Farm** (Met Office Automatic Weather Station), near Tyndrum, Strathfillan

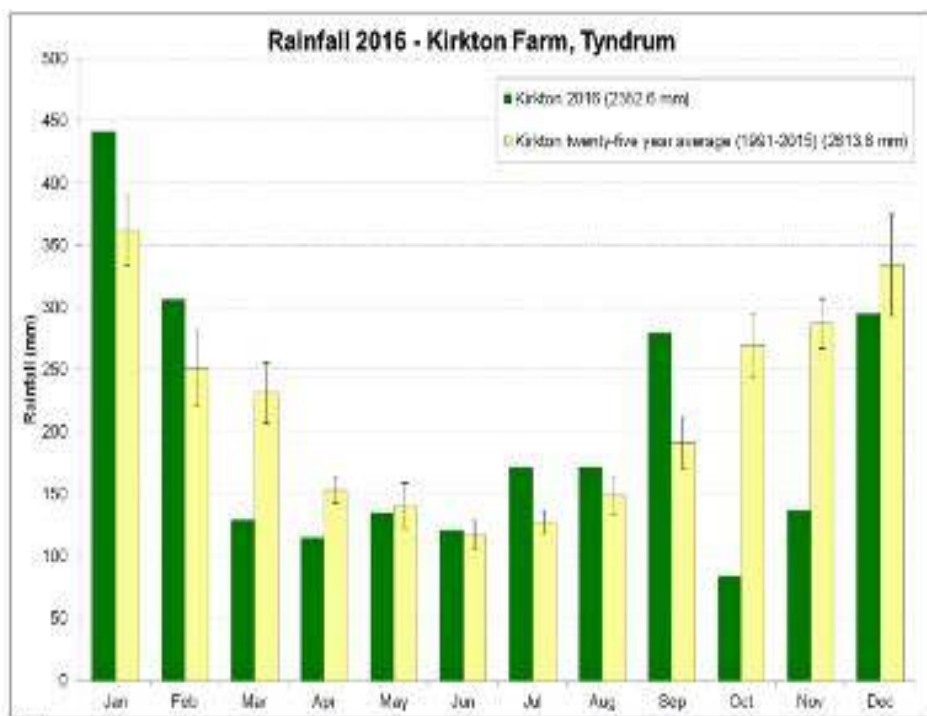
The main features of the weather at Kirkton during 2016 were a wet January and February; a dry and sunny spring (March to mid-June); a relatively damp but warm summer (mid-June to September), which proved ideal for grass growth on the farm; and an unusually dry and comparatively calm autumn and early winter (October to mid-December). The weather was more settled in 2016 compared with 2015, with considerably less rainfall (well below the 25 year average), fewer rain days, higher summer temperatures and fewer storms.

The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office automatic weather station at Kirkton in 2016 was 2382.6 mm (93.8 inches) which was 231.2 mm less than the 1991-2015 twenty five year average (2613.8 mm). The

total rainfall in 2016 was 1203.2 mm less than the rainfall recorded in 2015. The wettest month was January when a total of 441.2 mm (17.37 inches) of rainfall was recorded. The rainfall was above average in January and February, and during the summer months of June, July, August and September. The driest month was October with 83.8 mm of rainfall (only 31% of the 25 year average). The 136.6 mm of rainfall recorded in November was the lowest November rainfall since records began in 1991 (47.6% of the 25 year average). The highest rainfall over a calendar Week (Monday to Sunday) was 235.6 mm between 25th and 31st January. The highest rainfall in a single 24 hour period (09:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 73.6 mm on 28th January. This was the only day in 2016 when more than 50 mm of rainfall was recorded. The highest rainfall in a single half-

day 12 hour period (21:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 52.0 mm again on 28th January. The total number of rain days was 267 (73%). There were 22 days when there was more than 25 mm of rainfall recorded.

There was no recorded rainfall between 5th and 16th May (a period of 12 days); and there was only one rain day between 23rd and 5th June. The lowest temperature recorded during 2016 was on 25th November when the temperature fell to -9.5°C. This is the fifth year in a row that the temperature has not fallen below -10.0°C. The lowest maximum temperature was recorded on 8th January (-0.6°C). This was the only day during 2016 when the temperature failed to rise above freezing. An air frost was recorded on a total of 88 days. The highest temperature recorded was on 6th June (26.7°C). June was the warmest month with a mean temperature of 13.64°C and a mean maximum temperature of 17.94°C. Temperatures of 25°C or above were recorded on 3 days (5th and 6th June and 19th July), while temperatures above 20°C (but less than 25°C) were recorded on a further 25 days. Sleet or snow was recorded falling at the weather station on 32 days and lying snow (recorded at 09:00) was noted on 24 days. A depth of 12 cm of lying snow was recorded on the mornings of 17th and 18th January. There were five storms when sustained gale force winds were recorded at the farm (28th and 29th January [storm 'Gertrude']; 1st and 2nd February [storm 'Henry']; 28th September; 23rd and 24th December [storm 'Barbara']; 25th and 26th December [storm 'Conor']); and three days when thunder and lightning were recorded (19th July; 3rd and 19th August).



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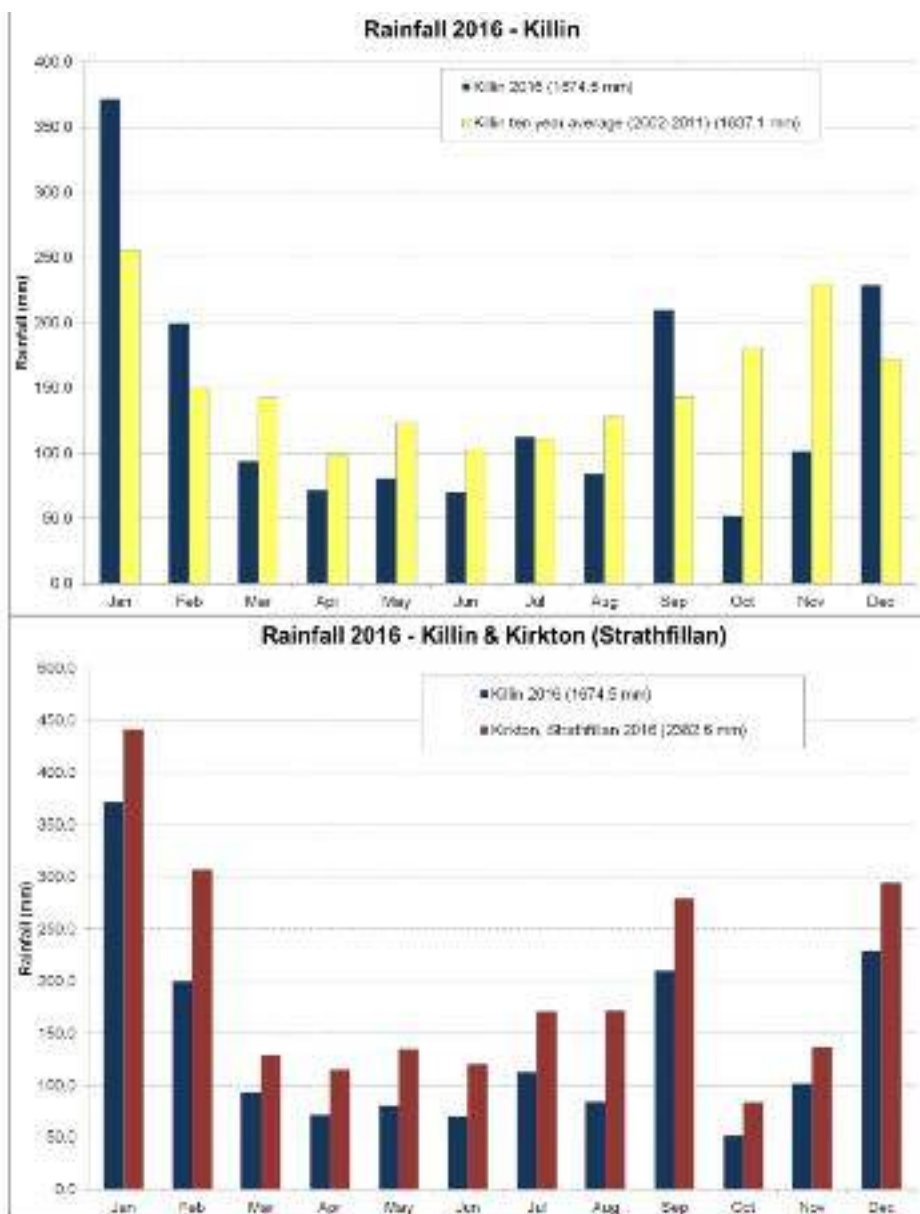
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# istics for 2016

## Killin

The total rainfall recorded in Killin in 2016 was 1674.5 mm (65.93 inches); this was 162.6 mm less than the 2002-2011 ten year average (1837.1 mm). 2016 was the driest year since 2010.

October was the driest month with only 51.5 mm of rain, while January was the wettest month with 371.5 mm. Five months were wetter than average (January, February, July, September and December). During 2016 Killin received approximately 70.3 % of the rainfall recorded at Kirkton (i.e. some 708 mm less). The rainfall was higher at Kirkton in all months.



Thanks to the Met Office for supplying the data from the automatic weather station at Kirkton.

**John Holland** (SRUC Hill & Mountain Research Centre, Kirkton & Auchtertyre Farms)

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## Killin Cancer Research Fundraising

### Glen Ogle Race

The Killin Local Cancer Research Committee would like the community to know that we raised £1,912.66 at this race at the Glen Ogle 33 at the beginning of November last year. This figure was up by 15% on the previous year and an astonishing £865 was raised from the home-baking alone. Everyone involved is so generous and the whole of the raffle proceedings from the ceilidh are included in the total. The committee worked incredibly

hard but had great fun with a fantastic group of runners and their supporters. We look forward to seeing them again in November this year.

**Marion Strang**

### Thank You

From an organiser's point of view we would like to extend our thanks to the community in general for being so welcoming to us at BAM Racing and to all our runners and supporters who come with us to Killin in November.

**Catriona Adams**

### Comment

Nowadays we seem to hear of more and more people developing cancer and certainly Killin has many cases. Whether there are really more here than elsewhere, we cannot know. There has often been conjecture about a possible link between the Chernobyl disaster and Killin being in one of last areas to be given the all clear from the radioactivity that caused, but there are no facts. Maybe sometime in the future research will give an answer one way or the other. Meanwhile the work of Cancer Research continues to help fight the disease.

## Glen Ogle 33 Ultra

This is an ultra marathon held every November in Stirlingshire. The race starts and finishes in Killin and takes in some stunning scenery which sees runners crossing the Glen Ogle viaduct before running down towards Lochearnhead, into Strathyre and back up to finish in Breadalbane Park. GO33 was first run in 2011, then based in Strathyre, and has quickly become one of the most popular ultras in Scotland. We relocated to Killin three years ago, when wet weather forced us to rethink our

location, and the move is one that has seen the race grow year on year. Due to the time of year and its location, the route isn't overly technical which means that runners don't need to worry about being able to navigate or having to go long stretches without seeing any other runners or marshals. It is perfect for those looking to make the jump up to running an ultra distance and we have many first timers at each event, along with regular runners who return annually.

For two years now we have had the pleasure of CRUK-(Cancer Research UK) Killin Committee hosting a coffee and cake stall in McLaren Hall for our runners during the race, followed by a ceilidh in the evening. All proceeds from ceilidh ticket sales along with a raffle are donated to CRUK by BAM Racing.

The next Glen Ogle 33 takes place on the **4th November 2017**.

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# Mountain Rescue



Killin Mountain Rescue Team have recently been involved in a Mountain Safety initiative, working with PC Will Diamond from Police Scotland, Lochearnhead, PC Paul Barr from Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park, and the Lomond and Arrochar Mountain Rescue Teams. The aim was to raise awareness of issues that the teams face on a daily basis, as well as providing safety advice to visitors to the LL&T National Park. Each year the National Park selects local charities to fundraise for. This year, these are the three Mountain Rescue teams based in the National Park including Killin MRT. First they focused on a "Stay Safe" safety leaflet created by Scottish Mountain Rescue. So far thousands of leaflets have been dropped off in in key locations of the Park area such as visitor centres, tourist information offices, local shops and hotels etc. All Mountain Rescue teams find people who become lost and unable to navigate themselves safely back, often because they are lost on the hills without a map and compass and try to navigate using their

mobile phones. Some mobile apps can be of assistance to us and we decided to promote their use, whilst stressing that they should never be seen as an alternative

to navigation using a map and compass. One such app is "OS Locate" produced by Ordnance Survey. This will provide users with their GPS position and in an emergency this can be sent to the rescue teams who can then find them more quickly. We recommend downloading the app before you go out. More information at [www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop/os-locate/](http://www.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop/os-locate/) Ordnance Survey are also assisting with the initiative and producing posters to promote the app which will be distributed throughout the Park area. The initiative has also produced a series of three short informative videos, developed by the Mountain Rescue

teams themselves to aid park visitors. The videos show how to prepare for a day in the hills, navigation and what to do if things go wrong. A briefing has also been created, aimed at police officers and staff who may be the first to take details of a Mountain Rescue type incident. The briefing will cover how the teams are called out, what they can do to assist the police and what information is required to allow the rescue teams to carry out their roles effectively.

Every year across Scotland, Mountain Rescue Teams are called out to assist in search and rescue scenarios on a daily basis. Over 800 volunteers provide assistance 24hrs a day, all year round regardless of the weather or terrain. They regularly give up family and work time in order to turn out and assist complete strangers, often placing themselves in great danger and they do this often with little recognition.

It is hoped this initiative will give some recognition to the vital roles that these individuals carry out.



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# Killin and Crianlarich Nurseries

Both nurseries have recently been inspected by the Care Inspectorate, Killin Nursery on 8<sup>th</sup> August 2016 and Crianlarich Nursery on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016. We are delighted with both reports which have been graded as Very Good.

The inspection in Killin focused on Summer transitions and experiences, partnerships with parents, other professionals and the community, as well as staff performance and leadership opportunities.

The inspector recognised how well the two nurseries blend smoothly and successfully during holiday periods, ensuring continuity of care and support for children. Building new friendships and engaging in

different types of play, together with experiences gained from engaging with the local community, were recognised as extremely good practice. The inspector reported that excellent community partnerships helped firmly fix the nursery and the children's place in their local area. She also acknowledged the work we are doing in building relationships with the retirement home.

The inspection in Crianlarich focused on care and learning experiences for children under three, promotion of positive behaviour, induction and support for new staff and impact of staff learning on outcomes for children.

The inspector recognised the nurturing environment where staff offer praise and reassurance for children whilst supporting them to make choices and develop their independence. Positive behaviour is actively encouraged and children are supported to think about positive ways to act and respond to others. The inspector reported that induction information is being delivered at a more gradual pace, allowing new staff more time to gain a deeper understanding of requirements.

You can find a copy of the full reports on the Care Inspectorate website.

**Elizabeth Hancock**

## Thank You

We would like to thank everyone who contributed to our Christmas Fayres. Both were well attended and were a great success. Killin Nursery raised £240.00 which they have donated to The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

Crianlarich raised £420.00 which included the sale of Christmas cards and calendars.

The proceeds will go towards the children's Enterprise Group and they will be consulted about how they will use the funds.

**Yvonne MacPherson**

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# McLaren High School

## Kwik Fit Event

The Kwik Fit car maintenance event was a really useful experience for S6 as many of us are currently learning to drive and so need to be confident in checking tyre tread, oil levels and other car maintenance basics. We also learnt about some of the free services on offer to new drivers and the importance of keeping tyre tread depth at a healthy level, not just above the legal minimum.

**Funn Manders**



Euan Lang at Kwik Fit event

## S2 Rugby Festival at the Peak

The S2 boys' rugby team took part in a festival at The Peak in Stirling in November. McLaren Rugby played fixtures against Wallace High, Falkirk High and Alva High. The boys played some excellent rugby and won all their fixtures.

## Art at McLaren

S2 Pupils kick started the Clay Head Unit in Art and Design. A lot of preparation went into this before the pupils were let loose on the clay. They worked very hard and, as you can see by their faces, they really enjoyed it.



## Science Visits

A representative from Zoolab visited the school recently and S1 pupils had the chance to hear about and see up close some animals they wouldn't normally see.

## Christmas at McLaren

We held three dances just before the end of term. All were well attended and pupils had a great time dancing to The Ian Milligan Trio. Our Christmas Concert took place on 19th December. There was standing room only in the hall and a festive evening was had by all. There were performances by all the musical groups and the audience sang along enthusiastically in the carols.



## St Andrews Night Concert

McLaren High School held their first ever St Andrew's Night Concert on 30th November. The evening was a celebration of Scottish Traditional Music organised by Head Boy and Pipe Major Callum Hall to raise funds for the McLaren High School Pipe Band. It featured the McLaren High School Pipe Band, the school's Traditional Music Group and young folk musicians from the school and we were delighted to welcome back former teacher Dave Johnstone as MC. There was a real buzz in the hall and the audience were treated to a wide variety of traditional music, songs and highland dancing. The raffle and an auction during the interval raised in the region of £1,500.



Tegan Dowling, Georgia Third, Olivia Ridgewell, Emma Aitken and Amy Simpson



On left Robbie Player and Euan Lang



# Walk in the Park

## Date

1/2/17  
8/2/17  
15/2/17  
22/2/17  
1/3/17  
8/3/17  
15/3/17  
22/3/17  
29/3/17

## Meeting at 10.20

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Walking with us is easy and fun. It helps physical and mental health. Walkers have made new friends and feel confident and more independent.

We offer weekly walks from 15minutes to an hour and routes are risk assessed and trained walk leaders are there to offer support. Our walks are mostly flat and on good walking surfaces.

A big part of our walk is the social time offered after the walks in local cafes and we believe that this is an important part of the project.

The first step on a walking journey can be as gentle as some seated strength and balance exercises. Rural villages often have reduced access to physiotherapy services so we can really make a difference in these areas of our National Park.

In Killin, walks are held on a Wednesday morning, meeting at 10.20am.

Strength and Balance sessions are held on a Wednesday afternoon from 1.30 – 2.30pm in the Killin Hotel.

If you have any questions about joining walks or exercise sessions please contact the Walk in the Park Coordinator - Cathy Scott 01877 330055 or send an email to: [cathy.scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org](mailto:cathy.scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org)

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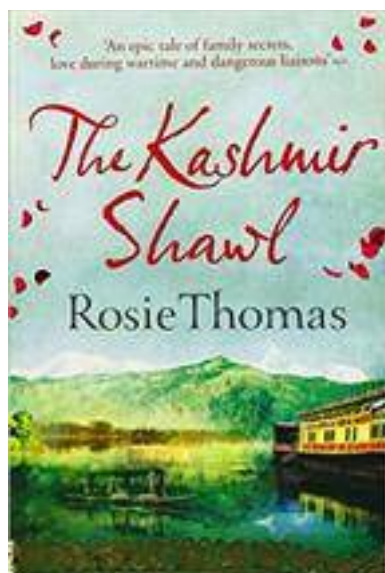
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# Book Review



This story begins in rural Wales, moves to India and eventually to Switzerland. A young Welsh girl, Mair Ellis, finds a gorgeous Kashmir shawl when clearing out her family home. It had belonged to her grandmother, who accompanied her missionary husband to India in the 1940s. Mair's curiosity is aroused and she decides to retrace their travels.

The narrative then reverts to 1941 and we learn what actually happened to her grandparents. This is a tale of the everyday lives of the British in Kashmir, who live on wooden

houseboats and spend their time relaxing and enjoying themselves - drinking, dancing and gossiping - in the comfort of their Club. In sharp contrast, not far away in the villages, dire poverty reigns eternally. The story focuses on three couples in particular - their friendships and their lovers, their hopes and their fears, their joys and their sorrows. Eventually the war in Asia reaches them and the menfolk have to go away to fight against the Japanese. Of course war changes everything. Piece by piece Mair manages to put her family history together and, in so doing, finds a future for herself. So vivid are Rosie Thomas's descriptions of the incredibly slow and dangerous journey through the snowy, awe-inspiring passes high in the Himalayas and the beauty of the lake at Srinagar, in the heart of the Vale of Kashmir, that I felt I was actually there, experiencing for myself all the amazing sights, smells and sounds of the region. Colourful scenes and believable characters combine in this powerful story which manages to be simultaneously heart-warming and heart-breaking. Written in an easy style, "The Kashmir Shawl" is altogether a most enjoyable read. Recommended.

**Clovis Hendry**

The Third Chapter Book Club

## Macnab News



We are making elaborate plans for next August. I understand we will be one of the featured clans to participate in the Tattoo at Edinburgh Castle. We are thrilled!! Our Chief, Jamie Macnab of Macnab, is an officer of the Council of Standing Chiefs and has arranged this exciting trip shortly after the Games in Killin.

We are planning to visit and congregate at Macnab Island in Nova Scotia possibly in 2018 as another way of renewing our interest in a mutual heritage.

Yours aye,

**W. Lanny McNabb**

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## The Fire Service needs you!

### Who turns up in a fire engine when a call for help is made?

A firefighter of course. In the Strathfillan area, Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum, it could easily be someone you know. Each station is crewed by Retained Duty System (RDS) Firefighters. These are individuals who live or work close to specific stations and can commit to providing an emergency response service for that station. Most of them are women and men whose primary employment is in another field but, in addition to that, provide the same range of emergency service as their full time firefighter colleagues.

The role of an RDS Firefighter is challenging and demanding. There are stressful and hazardous situations to be faced and they are required to deal with these while providing comfort and reassurance to members of the community. Call numbers vary for Retained stations, with some responding to over 800 calls a year and others responding to fewer than 50. The role of the fire

and rescue service has changed in recent years with firefighters working to reduce the number of fires, fire related deaths and injuries through a range of Community fire safety initiatives. Many Retained Firefighters play an important role within their communities by helping to promote fire safety messages, giving fire safety advice to schools and other organisations, as well as carrying out free home fire safety visits.

### Crianlarich Community needs Fire & Rescue responders

Following a recent recruitment campaign for Retained Firefighters, The Scottish Fire and Rescue Service received an encouraging response from communities in Killin and Tyndrum. Unfortunately the same numbers have not come forward from Crianlarich and its surrounding area.

The station requires people in the Crianlarich area now who could take on the challenging role and are willing to learn new skills. Applicants must be over 18 years of age and in

good health. They must be able to provide suitable availability and be capable of responding to the station, located in the centre of Crianlarich village, within approximately 12 minutes when alerted.

The service provides extensive initial training which is supported by fortnightly training nights held at the station. Successful applicants will develop skills in the use of breathing apparatus, ladders, road traffic collision response, working at height, rescue from water, fire behaviour, first aid, trauma care, large goods vehicle driving and more. The station is also in need of people with good leadership potential, following the retirement of WM Jim Allardice in August.

Anyone who thinks they may have the flexibility and commitment to be a Retained Firefighter and would like more information, please contact Station Manager Gordon Kerr on 07770826972 or email [gordon.kerr@firescotland.gov.uk](mailto:gordon.kerr@firescotland.gov.uk). An application and further information is available online at [www.myjobscotland.gov.uk](http://www.myjobscotland.gov.uk)

## Letters

### Magnificent Maragowan

We wish to extend our grateful thanks to the wardens at the Maragowan Caravan Club Site at Killin for their prompt action in contacting the paramedics who most likely saved my life when I had a heart attack. Our thanks also to fellow campers who helped my wife, Winn, and transported her the 68 miles to Dundee Ninewells Hospital. I am now recovering at home back in the North East.

Kevin Bradley

*(An extract from the Caravan Club Magazine Sent in by Gerald and Jenny Huntley)*

### Key Questions

A key was put through our letter box and we have tried unsuccessfully to find out to whom it belongs.

The key is brass and looks like a substantial deadlock key on a black fob with a glitter finish and three stars purple, orange and green. Please would the owner get in touch.

Also a McLaren Hall key on a black ruberoid fob is missing and the Booking Secretary would welcome its return.

Thank you for any help.

**Alex Stewart**

### Thank You

We would like to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us and wished us well since our daughter, Georgia, had an accident in October. She received a severe scalding to 12% of her body and was flown by helicopter to the Glasgow Children's Hospital where she was

later given some skin grafts.

Thankfully she has made a great recovery and was back to her usual self in time for Christmas. She still needs treatment four times a day



but doesn't mind too much because it means she is allowed to sit and watch her favourite TV programmes! We are also very grateful to everyone who generously donated to our crowdfunding webpage, including the Co-op who raised over £250. In total we were able to give around £1000 to the Glasgow Children's Hospital Charity and Ronald McDonald House Glasgow. Georgia is really looking forward to her 3<sup>rd</sup> birthday at the end of January!

**Sarah Watts  
Stephen Rawlinson**

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## U3A comes to Killin

Callander and West Perthshire U3A's presence in the area has now established four interest groups in Killin. A weekly French conversation group meets on Wednesdays at 2.30pm, Bridge on Fridays at 2.00pm and Art on Tuesdays at 2.00pm. The monthly Current Affairs group meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.00am. Groups can be found at the Killin Hotel. Anyone can join these groups if they are retired or semi-retired and for the remainder of our year (which runs from September to July) membership will only cost £5. In addition, the thirty three other groups running in other parts of the area are also available. A chance to learn and make new friends in a very relaxed and sociable context is why C&WP U3A now has nearly two hundred and seventy members!

If you are interested in joining, please visit our website 'Callander and West Perthshire U3A' where you will find details of all our groups, the current timetable and a Membership Form - or ring Fiona Martin on 01567 830 233 for further information.

**Barbara Legg**

### Fundraising Cakes



In September I am going to be spending a month volunteering as a team member on a Girlguiding GOLD project on Aruba. We are aiming to boost the leadership skills and self-esteem of women on the island and help recruit new youth and adult members, so that girls and women on Aruba can have the same opportunities that guiding offers here in the UK. I've lots of fundraising to do and I am selling celebration cupcakes and empire biscuits, beautifully decorated, for all sorts of occasions eg. birthdays, Valentine's day, Mother's Day and Easter. All proceeds are going towards the project. Please get in touch if you'd like to know more or place an order

lauragoesgold17@gmail.com or pop into the chemist. Many Thanks

**Laura Bathgate**

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## New Minister for the Kirk



In November last the Rev. Dr. Russel Moffat – who much prefers to be known as Russel – became the Minister at the Church of Scotland in Killin and he and his wife, Brenda, are now getting to know and be known in the area.

Russel comes originally from Bo'ness and began his career with five years in the police force, leaving to go to Orkney and work in the construction business to earn enough to take a year long trip round India. On his return from India he went to Aberdeen University to study theology and he married Brenda – then a nurse and whom he had met in Orkney. He successfully applied

to become a Church of Scotland Minister and was first sent to a rural community, New Deer in Aberdeen. Here he and Brenda had three children, two boys and a girl, who have now left home. After twelve years, they moved on to Dyce where they stayed ten years before moving on to St. Martin's Church in Edinburgh for nine years. Last year, feeling in need of a new challenge, the Moffats looked around for one and felt – no doubt correctly – that Killin could offer this, so they are now here and Russel looks after the Church in the four villages of Killin, Lochearnhead, Balquhidder and Strathgryre. This keeps him on the move and he is enjoying getting the feel of the different areas and communities. Brenda says she does not take the role of 'the Minister's wife' as would once have been expected, but she does take an interest in community activities. They are both happy to be back in a rural community – and they love the Manse. As an outgoing and friendly couple, each with a great sense of humour, they are welcome assets to the area and will certainly have no problems in rapidly fitting in well wherever they go.

## Episcopal Church

Hello everyone. Happy New Year to you all. I hope you have recovered from a lovely Christmas and are ready for loads of blessings in the New Year.

I would like to thank you so much for your support at the Community Carols in Lochearnhead and the Christingle service at St Fillan's in Killin. We were able to give £140 to the Spafford Children's Trust in Jerusalem as a result of the retiring collections. Thank you.

The art and craft group has restarted on Wednesdays from 2-5. You are welcome to join us with your own art or craft – a chance to blether as we work away peacefully.

All the very best to you, and blessings.

**Paddy Allen**



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## Co-op Helping the Community

In September at the Co-op we relaunched our membership. We are now offering our customers 5% back to spend in store and 1% back to our local community causes when our customers buy Co-op products or services.

We have chosen to support:

**The Falls of Dochart Retirement Home** for a new wireless nurse call system, to replace a failing system, which will give their elderly residents confidence that help is always at hand.

**Killin Primary School Parent Partnership** for a PA system which will enrich the lives of our children and enhance their education enabling them to perform in front of an audience.

**The Killin Community Bus** which uplifts and returns people to their doors, making outings possible for the elderly and disabled. Since September we have raised over **£1885** from the 1% which customers have earned.

The 5p payable for carrier bags is also donated equally between these causes.

Customers have the opportunity to decide where their 1% goes by choosing which cause they wish to support by calling the Membership Helpline, or by going online to: [www.coop.co.uk/membership](http://www.coop.co.uk/membership)

However you can only support one of these great causes by becoming a member which you can do in our store today.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Kay Riddell for helping a number of our customers to choose their local charity online and making a few calls on their behalf. We recently visited Kay at the Library with a small token of our gratitude for her amazing help! At Christmas we visited a number of local residents of the village with bags of Christmas goodies to spread some Christmas cheer! We could not do any of this without you, our local customers. Thank You!

**Euan MacKenzie**  
Store Manager



Euan, Kay and Morag



Morag, Mary Watson and Bindy



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### An evening of Wildlife Films

Thursday Feb 9th, 7.30  
Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin

#### Garamba: the impossible elephants

Made by Alan Root, the multi-award winning wildlife film maker, this film about elephants takes us to the Congo where the King of Belgium had a dream - to tame the African elephant as a colonial workhorse in the Congo. It shows how the special relationship between elephants and people plays a vital conservation role there today.

#### The legend of the lightning bird

The Lightning bird or Hamerkop is said to be the king of all the birds. It is claimed that every species of bird brings a contribution of sticks for the Hamerkop's gigantic nest.

**Refreshments provided Free entry: donations welcomed**

### GOOD NEWS FOR KILLIN



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Find us at [www.heartlandvets.co.uk](http://www.heartlandvets.co.uk) & on Facebook.  
Clinics are held in the bowling green pavilion in Killin  
on the following date between 9.30 & 11.30am

Wed 15th Feb	Wed 1st Mar
Wed 15th Mar	Wed 29th Mar
Wed 12th Apr	Wed 26th Apr
Wed 10th May	Wed 24th May

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# Obituaries

## May Graham

**20.06.1930-31.12.2016**

My mum, May Graham, passed away very peacefully on Hogmanay. She spent all her life in Killin growing up with her sister, Isobel, and brothers, Douglas and Bill. After leaving school she got a job as a butcher with the Co-op and then when the Hydro Electric Scheme arrived in Killin, she got a job as a wages clerkess. The scheme also brought two brothers to the village, John and Sandy Graham.

My mum met my dad, Sandy, at a dance in the McLaren Hall in the early fifties and they got married on 12<sup>th</sup> March 1955. I came along in 1960 and my mum then got a job working for Hall Farquharson in the Dairy. She loved village life and enjoyed playing golf and curling. She was also involved with the SWRI for years and looked forward to the annual baking competition on the day of the agricultural show. She enjoyed her outings with her friends to the "Opera" (bingo to the rest of us) in Crieff and also Stirling. She loved



getting visitors and took great delight in making sure they all left with a full stomach.

Mum and Dad spent most of their married life in Craiglea but a few years ago moved up to Stewart Road where they enjoyed the company of all their neighbours. They celebrated their Diamond wedding anniversary in 2015 with a family get together in Inverness and she was very proud of their letter from The Queen.

Mum was fit and active all her days and was very rarely ill. She took unwell on Christmas Day 2015 and after a short hospital stay was diagnosed with COPD and later on it was discovered that she also had lung cancer. She was determined to remain independent as long as possible but made the decision to move into the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home last July. She was hoping that she would be able to get back into some of the activities that she enjoyed but unfortunately never got the chance.

She was a beloved wife to Sandy, much loved mum to David, mother-in-law to Val, gran to Scott, Michelle, Kimberley and Lee and great-gran to Ruby and Hamish. She will be sorely missed by all the family.

The family would like to give our sincere thanks to all the staff at the home, the GPs and the palliative care team.

**David Graham**



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# Obituaries



**Ruth Pritchard**

**3.10.1937 – 4.12.2017**

Ruth was born in the mining village of Willington, Co. Durham. Her love of walking in the countryside came from her Dad. This was his 'escape' from the hardships of mining. We first met on a blind date in Harrogate in 1961. Ruth was a care assistant there and I was in the Royal Navy Wireless Station nearby. Our relationship started with an 18 month trial separation - I was sent to Gibraltar. At the end of that time we married and so followed 54 years together, which included a wonderful two year stint in Malta. Andrew was born shortly before the start of this and Kevin shortly before we came home. I returned to civilian life in 1968 and Stephen was born in 1970. At an early age he decided he wanted to be a coach driver and in doing so he met his wife, Lorraine. They settled in Killin and persuaded us to join them here in 2001. We have made many friends in this wonderful village. Grateful thanks to Father Jim McCrudden, the district nurses, paramedics, GP surgery and to Killin Fire and Rescue Service. Especial thanks to all who attended Ruth's funeral. Your generosity raised almost £300 which was divided

equally between The British Heart Foundation and Alzheimer Scotland. Last, but by no means least, thank you to all who sent messages and expressed sympathy.

**David Pritchard**



**Emilda Tuck**

**25.01.32 – 02.11.16**

Our dear Mum, Emilda, died on 2 November at Larbert Hospital. She was born in Malta, in the village of Zurrieq, the eldest sibling of Mary, Connie and Twannie. She was one of the heroes who lived on the Island through the Second World War. Along with all her fellow islanders, she showed great strength and courage, for which Malta was awarded the George Cross. Emilda caused a sensation in Malta as the very first woman to wear trousers on the Island. She and her brother and sisters used to love going down to watch the RAF servicemen arriving and it wasn't long before the young Emilda met the handsome airman Michel Francis Tuck, fell in love and moved to Pinner, Middlesex, where they were married and lived happily for many years. Emilda was a beautiful woman who modelled clothes for Charlie Bessie, a fantastic dress maker, who worked in

the hospital as a corsetiere. Emilda was very talented with a needle, loved clothes, and made her own and also home furnishings. Always on the go, she loved home baking and gardening and was often seen in wellies and apron, chatting to her chickens, dog and cats. She rescued dozens of cats and at one time kept ten of them. She loved all animals, raising and donating large sums of money for the RSPCA and for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals)

Emilda moved to Killin in 2008, to be close to her family, enjoying the beauty and peace of the village and walking Flora's dog, Bruce.

But even more important than the things Emilda did was the kind of person she was – a person who always put herself last and who was always far more interested in other people than in herself and her worries. She grew old gracefully. Even when things were difficult, there was a gentleness and steadiness about her. She was grateful and courteous and always ready with a smile – somehow a real mother figure.

Emilda is sorely missed by her grandchildren, Leo and Niall, and all her family, especially us. We are most grateful to the staff of Falls of Dochart Retirement Home for their loving care.

**Louis and Maria Tuck**

## Margaret Helen Macdonald (McBeath)

Margaret moved to Croftintygan, Lawers from Glasgow following her marriage to Iain in 1950.

With their two daughters, Maureen and Helen, they were a part of the close local farming community. Following Iain's untimely death in 1983, Margaret moved to Killin, firstly to Aldourie, Manse Road, and then in 1999 to Garden Cottage.

In 2003 she was involved in a serious car accident and, after a long hospital stay, she made a remarkable recovery. She continued to play an enthusiastic and active part in village life through the WRI, the Guild, the Tuesday Club and the Green Bowlers. In 2015 she finally agreed to move to the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and enjoyed an excellent level of care until her peaceful death in December 2016 aged 92.

Thank you to all for their kind wishes and for the generous contributions to the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

**The Family**

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## Local Planning Applications

### National Park

**05 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Erection of dwellinghouse

Location: Bridge Of Lochay Hotel Killin

Applicant: Mr Robert Stevenson

Application Type: Planning Permission in Principle

Decision: Approve

**06 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Construction of a replacement footbridge

Location: Allt Gleann Auchreoch Bridge Tyndrum

Applicant: Mr Murray Swapp

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

**09 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Amendment to condition 1 of planning permission ref:

2016/0064/DET to extend time period of processing

Location: Cononish Gold Mine

Cononish Road Tyndrum

Applicant: Scotgold Resources Ltd

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

**20 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Erection of single storey extension

Location: Riverside Craignavie Road Killin

Applicant: Mr Paul Godfrey

Application Type: Householder

Planning Permission

Decision: Withdrawn

**22 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Demolition of conservatory and erection of replacement extension.

Location: Kirkella Manse Road Killin

Applicant: Mr James Beattie

Application Type: Householder

Planning Permission

Decision: Approve

**05 Jan 2017**

**Proposal:** Erection of replacement dwellinghouse

Location: Former Clisham Cottage Crianlarich

Applicant: Mr And Mrs James Palmer

Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission

Decision: Current

### Perth & Kinross

**09 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Erection of a boathouse

Location: Ach Na Creag Fearnan

Applicant: EMA Architecture + Design

EMA Architecture and Design

Application Type: planning

permission local

Decision: withdrawn

### Stirling

**20 Dec 2016**

**Proposal:** Renewal of planning permission 13/00378/FUL for erection of a dwelling house for site manager under Regulation 11 of the Development Management Procedure (Scotland) Regulations 2013

Location: Land East And Adjacent To Killin Log Cabins Killin

Applicant: Mr Ian Gardiner

Application Type: Full

Decision: Approve with Conditions

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### Badminton

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

### Beavers

Tuesdays  
6-7pm  
Lesser Hall

### Beginners Quilting

Mondays  
2-4pm  
Old Mill  
Contact Franny

### Choir

Usually Tuesdays  
Church 7.30pm  
phone Franny  
01567 829048

### Cubs

Tuesdays  
7.15 - 8.30pm  
Lesser Hall

### Explorers

Last Wednesday of  
month  
Lesser Hall  
7-9pm

### Gentle Yoga

10.30-1200  
Old Mill

### Indoor Bowls

Mondays 7.30 Lesser  
McLaren Hall

### Internet Cafe

Thursdays  
Killin Library  
11am-3pm  
Drop In

### Junior Badminton

Mondays at 6  
Crianlarich Hall

### Killin Heritage

Thursdays  
Lynedoch

### Junior Knitting

12.30-2.00  
Mill  
Contact Franny

### Killin Craft group

Tuesdays 10-12  
Community Rooms

### Lazy Afternoon Ceilidh

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

### Killin Gun Club

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

### Metafit

Wednesdays 7.30  
McLaren Hall

### Netball

Tuesdays 7.15pm  
Killin Sports and  
Leisure Club

### Painting & Crafting

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

### Quilters

Wednesdays 2pm  
Community Rooms

### U3A

French Wednesdays 2.30-4pm  
Bridge Fridays 2pm  
Art Tuesdays 2pm  
For details see page 33

### Saplings

Wednesdays  
9.30-10.30  
Crianlarich £5

### Scouts

Wednesdays  
7-9pm  
Lesser Hall

### Softplay Club

Tuesdays  
Sports Pavilion  
12.30 - 2.30pm

## Mobile Libraries

### Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays

Feb 10, 24, Mar 10, 24, Apr 7

### Crianlarich

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

### Tyndrum

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

### Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig Fortnightly Mondays

Feb 6, 20, Mar 6, 20, Apr 7  
Glenlochay 10.50-12.30  
Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

### Perth and Kinross

Fortnightly Tuesdays  
Feb 7, 21, Mar 7, 21, Apr 4

Tombreck 16.40-17.00  
Lawers 17.15-17.30

### Strength and Balance

Wednesdays  
1.30-2.30  
Killin Hotel

### Tiddlers & Toddlers

Thursdays fortnightly  
Sports Pavilion  
10am-12 noon

### Woman's Guild

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

## 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

11th February 18th February

25th February 4th March

11th March 18th March

25th March 1st April

Grey = grey bin + blue  
bin

Brown = brown bin + blue box

Green = brown bin,  
green bin + blue box



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[www.lixtoll-isuzu.co.uk](http://www.lixtoll-isuzu.co.uk)



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*Picture by  
Emilie Borgaud*