

Killin News

Editorial

As in past years, the arrival of bikers en masse in the village heralded our long awaited spring, and our keen photographer, Ron Allner, leapt at the chance to capture the arrival of the first ones (front cover and page 30). The urge to spring-clean seems to affect bikers as well as housewives, as all the bikes looked spotlessly clean and well polished.

Sadly, in contrast, our local bank has become very mucky and soot laden following the recent fire which has led to its temporary (we hope) closure whilst repairs are undertaken. You can see an update about this on page . On a more positive side, it is good to see (page 3) that the much enjoyed Hogmanay Fireworks event may yet be saved. As with most of the village's regular events, so much depends on the goodwill, talents and availability of volunteers. It is inevitable that over time new volunteers are regularly needed to replace those who move away, experience ill health or need more time for work or family commitments. Volunteering is often an outlet for making new friends, learning new skills (or using current ones), and feeling the satisfaction of being part of a team and helping your community to thrive. So please consider giving some time.

The photos of the Flower and Quilt Festival (page 4) and the KMF Fundraiser Concert (p 20) are testament to just a few of the many local skills and talents. In fact it would probably not be beyond the scope of the village to cater for all the floral arrangements, needlework, upholstery, food requirements, music and press coverage for a small royal wedding! Ongoing local projects are prominent in this issue (pages 6, 28 & 11) and will, with good outcomes, benefit the village. Meanwhile we are gearing up for the Music Festival, the MacGregor Bike Trials and the Floral Display Competitions, closely followed by the Highland Games and Agricultural Show. Here's to a busy, productive and happy season.

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

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Photographer Ron Allner

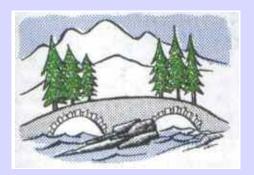
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DEADLINES Issue 165 Advertising 6th July Copy 13th July Publication 3rd August

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Front Cover
MacGregor's Classic Bike Run
Photo Ron Allner

Killin Hogmanay Fireworks Display - Is It Over?

After 18 years Charlie Grant has decided to call it a day for organising what is a highlight of the New Year celebrations in Killin. As a Killin 'newbie' my wife, Fiona, and I watched the fireworks display for the first time with many others

standing by the Dochart Bridge at midnight, we were enthralled by the fabulous display.

Fair to say over the years Charlie Grant has done a great job, but in that time it has taken up more and more of his time and the cost and complexity of arranging the display has increased to the extent that he feels that with other commitments and the desire to be able to celebrate Hogmanay with his family, he has organised his last display. One cannot arque with his reasoning. When I heard that he was no longer going to run the fireworks display I asked around and it was apparent that no-one was going to pick up Charlie's mantle. I have since raised it at the recent KAT AGM. Hence this article, which is an appeal to all who over the years have enjoyed the display to join me in organising this year's event. There are many who benefit from the display those of us stood on the

bridge with friends and family and those businesses which cater for residents and visitors alike at their establishments.

Before having a lengthy conversation with Charlie I thought how difficult can it be to set off a

few fireworks? Well, he soon put me right about that! Aside from raising the necessary capital, there is obtaining the relevant event licence, liaising with the Police and Fire Services, Health and Safety issues, insurance and of course dealing



with the fireworks company. Oh and in case you thought that was all – about 12 stewards are needed on the night to help the smooth running of the event and to clear up afterwards. Not much to organise you may think!

So, I am appealing for locals – residents and business representatives – to get in touch. If there is an individual amongst you who would like to take it on as Charlie has done that would be great otherwise, in the first instance

I would propose a committee to be formed to discuss the various issues and fund raising initiatives to enable Killin to hold this year's display. Hopefully, it will still take place on the Dochart Bridge, but maybe there could be an alternative location - the park perhaps in Killin. Once I have some names of interested parties we can arrange a meeting in a local venue for early in June and get things moving.

Time is short to organise this year's event. I feel sure that Charlie will give us the benefit of his great experience to assist us this year, but be in no doubt that he will not run it. So, it is down to this community. Do we want this Hogmanay Firework display in Killin to continue or, are we happy to look back in years to come and bask in the memory of what was?

> Mike Beresford Tel. 01567 829461 Mob. 07910 134217





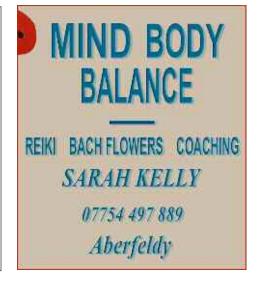
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Festival of Flowers and Quilts 2018



From Saturday 12th to Wednesday 16th May, the Parish Church of Killin and Ardeonaig was a blaze of colour, displaying colourful quilts and flower arrangements.

The amount raised will be published in the next issue.











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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:

Rural Stirling Housing Association Stirling Road, Doune FK16 6AA Telephone: 01786 841101 Email: enquirles@rsha.org.uk www.rsha.org.uk

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HOME AND AWAY

Home is rather busy at the moment with all the Spring activity. Our squirrel entertainment has increased with the arrival of two babies. They are about the size of a chipmunk or a slightly elongated hamster. They arrive daily about 6 o'clock for a substantial breakfast of sunflower hearts. We have only seen one adult eating these before. The young ones also have been trying niger seed which is a first here. Maybe it is because they are young and inquisitive to learn and are more open to new ideas. All this experimenting means that they have to navigate the bird feeder's thin metal poles and then the feeders themselves. Somehow they manage to grip their way up the poles and burl around the feeders like a variety act on 'Britain's got talent'. Getting down is easier as they just slide down the pole like tiny trainee firefighters.

Suddenly, after all the bad weather, the smaller birds have been nesting like no tomorrow.

A pair of blackbirds were rearing young and doing too good a job with the nestlings growing fatter by the day. The nest was in low bush and when their BMI index got to sumo wrestler standards they repeatedly rolled out. After several rescues the nest slid away too. After making them temporary accommodation by hanging up a cut off milk container they managed to make it to fledging stage. Let's just hope that they are not too heavy for take-off.

Last year it was our house martins that had building problems. A couple of their nests kept disintegrating. Maybe they were using sub-standard mud but their building schedule got very overdue. So this year we have

put up four ready-made nests and are waiting for the returning martins to use them. They, the swallows and the cuckoo are all back and do they realise what a welcome sight they are after the long winter. A great place to watch sand martins is at the old ruined building at The Courtyard in Kenmore. An ice cream from the shop is not obligatory but does enhance the experience. Another welcome arrival near us is a partridge. We have noted his progress along the lochside and are now waiting for him to venture up to the pheasant feeder in the garden. He is currently calling a great deal so is probably feeling lonely. If you know of a dating website for partridges please let me know. Less welcome birds, by farmers in the West, are the sea eagles, especially after a difficult lambing. S.N.H. have given licences for felling the tree where the eagles nest if it close to a lambing area. The plan is for the birds to move away to nest in a new area which, apparently, is what they do when a nesting tree is destroyed by natural causes. Not sure if a couple of men with power saws will be accepted as natural causes but it's worth a try. Scaring by noise and lights is also being trialled, so it may not be the northern lights that are being seen there at all.

I'm sure that the more mature of you can remember when, at this time of year, every field had flocks of peewits, oystercatchers and curlews, whereas now it is a treat to see a few such as in the fields around Dull. It is hoped that the recent ban on the wide use of neonicotinoids in an attempt to halt the decline of wild bees, will also help many birds whose habitat is

arable land. It must be said that escaped mink have also had a terrible effect upon ground nesting birds in the past few decades. In 2014, Scotland Yard revealed that an undercover officer helped in the release of 6,000 mink in 1998 and no charges were brought.

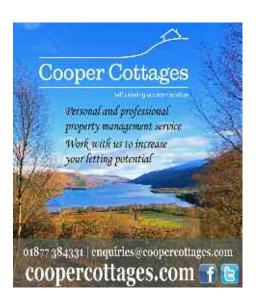
Hare and raven culls have provoked a great deal of concern recently but we all have to live in the real world. Hares were absent from many areas years ago so it is not all new. At one time they had disappeared from the Killin area and Judge Stroyan's father reintroduced them to Glen Lochay from Lanrick after World War 2. It is a pity that such concern is not being shown for the red deer who are the government's arch enemy at the moment and their cull is not being reviewed, as is that of the ravens. A certain Spring Watch presenter upped the anti regarding the raven cull to such an extent on social media that the head of S.N.H. received death threats. Is that not going a bit far?

Good news is that red squirrels are making a come-back in and around Aberdeenshire.

Mr. Fox has been teaching the incomers naughty tricks, as a walker had her finger bitten off by a wild boar. So remember – if you go down in the woods today. However not as bad as the new bride who was on honeymoon in Zimbabwe in a canoe on the Zambezie who had her arm bitten off by a crocodile. Let's hope that there are no plans to introduce crocs to the Tay!

Tim Frost





Breadalbane Park

As many readers will know the Friends of Breadalbane Park group have been working to improve the play area within the park. It's clear that the playpark needs some serious attention, the play equipment is tired and drainage is a serious issue. The recent KAT AGM confirmed that many residents believe that improving the playpark should be a priority! Over the last year a considerable amount of work has been done, and we are now reaching an important stage. A grant from Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park and Stirling Council of £5,000 saw the Friends, through KAT, commission a local landscape designer to draw up improvement plans, and a copy of the plans are outlined next page. Considerable local consultation has already taken place, with visits to the nursery and the local school, as well as discussions with many of the groups that use the Park. We also invited Stirling Council Officers and hosted a visit with Councillors to discuss the park. The children were especially enthusiastic about the plans.

Comments over fencing and safety are being considered. We need as much feedback as possible, so before finalising the plans we would like to hear your views. If you have any comments or questions on the playpark proposals please get in touch theresa@killincdt.co.uk After responding to any feedback we will then meet with Stirling Council and publish the final plans in the Killin News to ensure everyone has an idea of how we intend to move forward.

Once the plans have been agreed we will be seeking funding for the equipment, as well as the associated drainage works. It is likely that we'll need funding from a variety of sources, with the work being done in various stages. If any residents have funding ideas we'd love to hear from you!





The Friends Group has also started the process of gaining Green Flag status for the Park. This is the benchmark national standard for parks and green spaces across the UK. Thousands of parks have been awarded it since 1996, but only 3 parks within Stirling Council currently reach the standard. We've received great support from Stirling Council so far, with a number of improvements being carried out, including the repainting of the gate and the roundhouse, and new bins. With the new seating and picnic benches, wildflower meadow and orchard, many residents have commented that the park is looking far more attractive! To find out more about the Green Flag award visit www.greenflagaward.org.uk and if any residents have comments on future improvements please get in touch. Gaining Green Flag status would not just recognise the work that has gone into improving the park so far, it would also help with future funding bids, and so we are very keen to gain the award. For the Award the Friends of the park have had to develop a Management Plan. You can see this on our website if you scroll down to Breadalbane Park for link to the Management Plan. We also have a new facebook page 'Friends of Breadalbane Park' please 'like and follow' to be kept up to date on park developments. We welcome any comments and feedback. **Purchase Of News First**

By the time the Killin News is published KAT will have submitted their application to the Scottish Land Fund to buy News First. After this we will be applying to other funders for match funding for the project, at present we are in early discussion with some.

The questionnaire in the April edition

of the Killin News showed that the majority of the community were in favour of the proposal though some people did have some concerns which is understandable. The concerns and how these have been addressed by KAT are listed next:

Moving will leave a shop empty KAT do not want to see a shop empty, but we know that if we don't help to secure the long term sustainability of the Post Office both it and the paper shop could be left empty. A move will reduce costs, increase floor space, increase usages/stock, compatible business Fruit & Veg competition with Coop Being closer to Co-op may increase sales as people compare

Dependence on volunteers

MacGregor's hope to employ a manager, but will still need volunteers until profits increase.

What if the business fails? KAT could find another tenant or get a change of use or sell the building Should KAT be renting to a social

enterprise company? Definition of a Social Enterprise Company: By selling goods and services ON the open market, social enterprises reinvest their profit back into their business or the local community. This allows them to tackle social problems, improve people's life chances, support communities and help the environment. When a social enterprise profits, society profits." This fits with the KAT ethos of reinvesting in the community and is better than renting to a private I business.

Will social enterprise be able to sustain business?

MacGregor's will be giving KAT a business plan which will show how they intend to make the business sustainable.



Ardeonaig Trust

It will need to be staffed 7 days from 6am for papers

MacGregor's will be employing a manager, who will need to ensure the business is run properly from 6am to 5pm weekdays to comply with deliveries and Post Office hours. Weekends for paper deliveries, also Saturday Post Office hours and Sunday mornings for papers.

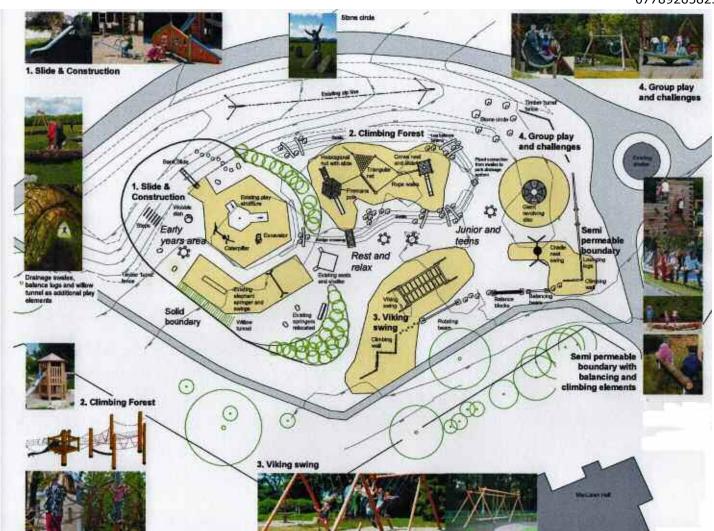
Operational Hours will be in MacGregor's Business Plan. Our application will be considered in August by the Scottish Land Fund and we will have the outcome of the

board soon after.

KAT are required to fundraise locally as a way of showing support from the local community. We decided to raise money by holding a raffle. A list of

winners is available at MacGregor's. KAT would like to thank Katy for badgering local businesses for prizes and Katy, Dougie, Sheila and Kay for selling raffle tickets on our behalf. We will announce in the next Killin News how much we have raised.

Theresa Elliot Project Manager 01567 820628 07789265823



KAT AGM

The recent KAT AGM in late April was a great success.
Reports were received from
Theresa Elliot, Project Manager and
Mark Beaumont, Treasurer.
A discussion was held with Charlie
Grant regarding the future of the
Hogmany fireworks display.
In addition we enjoyed a talk from
Dr Iain McNicol of the Appin
Community Trust about the history
of the Port Appin shop and how it
may help us in relationship to the
proposed venture between
MacGregors Market and News First.



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Web site:- www.strowanwoodlandcemetery.info

Strathfill



Strathfillan Community Council Minutes

Fire Service

Representatives of the Scottish Fire and Rescue service attended the May CC meeting, to provide an update on the current situation at Crianlarich Fire Station. There are currently insufficient crew members to form an operational service in Crianlarich, and remaining Crianlarich crew members are now working as part of the Tyndrum crew. However, the recruitment drive has identified 4 potential candidates who are being supported to work towards a physical assessment date in June. Once fully crewed, SFRS intend that Crianlarich will have a new style "Rapid Response Unit" appliance, which will work in tandem with the traditional Tyndrum Fire Engine. There are no plans to close Crianlarich Station, and it will be re-opened as soon as practical, once new crew members have been recruited and trained.

Broadband and Telephone

The CC have made numerous complaints and representations about the recurring problems with Crianlarich telephone lines, and also about the lack of progress on superfast broadband rollout across Strathfillan. With help from Dean Lockhart, MSP, we have been assured several times that the Crianlarich phone problem is resolved. Hopefully it is, but only time will tell. Fiona Muir of Digital Scotland has requested a meeting with CC representatives in early June to provide a further update about the roll out of superfast broadband across Strathfillan. We are hoping this is good news, and not further delays.

Crianlarich Water

Both the CC and Dean Lockhart, MSP, have written to Scottish Water asking them to look into upgrading the Crianlarich water main pipe on Station Road, after Crianlarich has been without water on 3 occasions since November.

Roads

Numerous complaints were made by the CC to Transport Scotland and BEAR about the state of the roads in the area after the winter, in particular the A85 between Crianlarich and Tyndrum, which was eventually resurfaced.

Ian Marrett attended an A82 stakeholder meeting on behalf of the CC, regarding the proposed upgrade of the A82 between Tarbet and Inverarnan. This is a 5 year project to upgrade and widen the whole road, largely following the line of the existing road, but cutting sections into the rock and building out over the loch where appropriate. More detailed design work is currently being undertaken by Transport Scotland. A number of residents and businesses in Crianlarich have asked Transport Scotland for a 40mph buffer zone at the Eastern end of Crianlarich (similar to that in Strathyre). This is being actively supported by Bruce Crawford, MSP, and also by the CC.

Health

The new volunteer driver scheme being co ordinated by the Patient Participation Group at Killin Medical Practice is good news for Strathfillan, as it will cover patient transport to GP appointments in Killin, as well as for hospital appointments further afield. Alan Smailes and Alistair McDonald attend the PPG on behalf of the CC.

Public Toilets

The CC have received many

complaints about the poor maintenance and cleaning standards in the public toilets in both Crianlarich and Tyndrum. The toilets are the responsibility of Stirling Council, and the CC, along with local councillors and MSPs are putting pressure on the relevant department within the Council to ensure that the toilets are brought up to an acceptable standard as a matter of priority.

Next Meetings

The next Community Council meetings will be on Monday 4th June at 7pm (AGM followed by meeting) and Monday 2nd July at 7.30pm. Both in Crianlarich Hall.

Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Bike Skills Park: some good news we have been awarded funding from Leader for the Bike Skills Park Design! We just need to see if Awards for All will follow suit - fingers crossed. Therefore, we have issued a tender brief for the design, and have had some good interest from various companies. We hope to have a designer in place by the beginning of June, and the school's Pupil Council are already looking forward to meeting and working with them. We have developed a Crowdfunder page to help finance the construction of the Bike Park. This is not live yet, but will be once the design phase is underway - so watch this space for more information. If you would like to find out more, or how to get involved, then please contact Kelly at the details below.

Saplings: All sessions have been arranged for Saplings 2018, with activities including canoeing, orienteering, den building, bushcraft, a visit to Glen Falloch Estate, and a







an by the Way

beach trip. Forms have been issued to p4-7 children at Crianlarich Primary School, and places are allocated on a first come, first served basis to Strathfillan residents. If you would like more information, or are outwith the area but think your child would enjoy the activities, please contact Kelly at the details below, and she can check what might be available.

Crianlarich into

Action/Environment: We will be holding our annual tub-planter day in Crianlarich, and for the first time, Tyndrum, on the first weekend in June. If you have already adopted a tub in Crianlarich, or would like to do so, or would like to adopt a tub in Tyndrum, please come along. Details are to follow on Facebook and via local posters. If you have any questions please contact Alan Smailes in Crianlarich, or Mark Holt in Tyndrum.

Community Gain: We still have a small pot of money for local community groups to apply to for small grants. If you could do with a wee bit of money for a project or pay for materials etc, then please get in touch with Kelly to find out more.

Contact: if you want to contact Strathfillan Community Development Trust for any reason please do. Our office in Crianlarich Village Hall is open Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30am to 3pm, or you can email , and phone 01838 300249

Crianlarich Play Park: The Trust and Crianlarich Nursery held a small opening ceremony on March 20th for the new piece of equipment (see photo). The children had a great time sticking on the dot-stickers and having a good play. The ceremony

was attended by Jala Crain from

was attended by Isla Craig from Strathfillan Community Development Trust, Alex Tigwell from Crianlarich Nursery and Colin MacDonald from Stirling Council. We are still awaiting our freebie, but at least the park was ready for the Easter holidays! A big thank you to all involved.

Who Will Be Using Our Churches in 5 Years Time?

The future of Crianlarich and Bridge of Orchy Churches. Who will be using our churches in 5, 10 or 15 years time? A Presbytery committee is shortly going to visit us to look at the church provision in our area.

There will be 2 open meetings held:

- 12.30pm on Sunday 3rd June in Crianlarich Kirk
- 12.30pm on Sunday 10th June in Bridge of Orchy Kirk.

PLEASE COME AND HAVE YOUR SAY!



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

Strathfillan by the Way

Crianlarich Toilets

Stirling MSP Bruce Crawford has written to Stirling Council following a number of complaints from locals and visitors on the state of the public toilet facilities in Crianlarich. Mr Crawford wrote to the Chief Executive of Stirling Council to ask what plans were in place for maintaining the toilets and what will be done to assess and address the complaints that had been made. He said "I have spoken with a number of local people, as well as visitors to the area, who have raised this issue. These toilets are an important facility for tourists and it is crucial that we offer the highest standard possible. Having spoken with members of the Community Council, it was clear that there is a deep desire to see something done and I look forward to the response from Stirling Council on this matter."

Trossachs and Teith SNP Councillor Evelyn Tweed, is also pursuing this matter with Stirling Council, and stated that "Crianlarich is a beautiful village and an attractive destination for visitors to the area. Properly maintaining the toilet facilities is hugely important to promoting the area"

Stephen Kerr, MP for Stirling, visited

Cononish Goldmine

the Cononish Gold mine near Tyndrum. He was accompanied by local ClIr Jeremy McDonald and met Scotgold Non Executive Director, Chris Sangster, who took them on a tour of the mine, which on construction will become Scotland's first ever commercial gold mine The mine, situated in the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park

environmentally friendly as possible and will ensure the landscape is

protected during operations.
The mine will operate for up to 17 years, depending on the rate of extraction. The company hopes to create sixty jobs and have pledged to



near the beautiful Highland village of Tyndrum, is estimated to contain up to 200,000 ounces of gold, worth around £200 million at today's prices. The owners, Scotgold, have ensured the operation is as

Photographers

Are you a budding photographer? We are always looking for photos to use on our front cover for each issue. If you feel that you have any good recent local photos that may be suitable, please send them in. They need to be suitable for converting to A4 size and ideally should have a paler section at the top so that the "Killin News" title wording remains visible. We cannot guarantee that your photo will be used. We usually aim to have a photo that suits the season for each issue. Happy photography!

Apology

We would like to apologise for the incorrect bin collection dates that appeared in the last issue. Unfortunately the dates were changed by the council after Killin News had been sent to printer.

invest £500,000 in direct payments to community and assist in creating a visitor centre, should such a facility prove viable.

The expectation is that gold mined in Scotland will command a premium price due to its scarcity. Gold from a recent processing trial was sold to two premium Scottish jewellers to demonstrate this.

Stephen Kerr MP said:

" It was a privilege to be able to visit the Cononish Mine, and indeed see for myself the veins which will produce Britain's first gold since the 1980's. The sensitivity displayed by the company in their plans and their commitment to local economy is very much welcomed and I hope to come back very soon to see the mine fully operational."

Cllr Jeremy McDonald added.
"An extremely interesting and enjoyable visit. The planned visitor centre will have a great tale to tell. Let us hope it has the opportunity to do so as soon as possible."
Chris Sangster said:-

"Stephen visited us at a very interesting time, as following the recent unanimous decision of the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park's Board to grant planning permission for the revised project, subject to the conclusion of legal agreements and finalising financing, we are hoping to progress quickly to construction."

CRIANLARICH PRIMARY SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR & DUCK RACE

Saturday 9th June 2018. Time 1-3pm School Playground



Stalls available

(please phone the school to book 01838 300 231)
Raffle with outstanding prizes donated by local businesses.

Tickets available from school families and on the day.

Tombola, home baking, books and jumble – donations greatly appreciated.

Bouncy Castle and much more.

Welly Wanging 1.45pm – Trophies to be won!

Duck Race 2:45pm - Ducks available to buy from school and on the day.

Ducks are £2 each, or 3 for £5.

See You There!!

Killin Medical Practice

New Phone System

We are pleased that our new telephone system is now in place. Calls may be recorded; this is just for training and monitoring. The phone system is part of our improved management plan to bring our patients the best possible service. We would be grateful if you could phone as early as possible if you need an on the day appointment, we open at 8am. It is very useful to give the call handler as much information as possible in order to navigate you to the most appropriate care in the best timeframe. You may be appointed with our Practice Nurse Jamie, one of the Paramedic Practitioners or signposted to other relevant care providers such as Davidsons Chemist who offer a great range of services on minor ailments. We appreciate your continued support in this. For test results, please phone between 11am and 5pm. For prescription requests, please dial 01567 820 213 and leave your name, date of birth and details of the medication you require.

PPG

The Patient Participation Group had their AGM on Wednesday 2nd May. Linda Frost was re-appointed chairperson for the coming year. Anyone is welcome to join the PPG. The PPG is an inclusive partnership between the practice and our patients. It is a platform where wide areas of our local health provision can be shared. If you are interested, please come along on Wednesday 4th July at 11.45am here at the practice. We appreciate all of those who attend and would love to see new faces too.

Upcoming closures

The Practice will be closed on Monday 11th June, Monday 3rd September and Monday 15th October. If you require medical assistance on these dates please call NHS 24 on 111. Please allow an extra day for repeat prescriptions to be issued.

The Studio Killin Sheila's Wee Sweetie Shop We have approx. 200 kinds of Old Fashioned Sweets, also Jams and Conserves. We are also continuing the Picture Framing and small Photographic projects Telephone 07553 071 997

Killin and District Volunteer Car Scheme

For several years now the Patient

Participation Group connected to

Killin Medical Practice has been working away at trying to get a better transport service for patients who are not able to access ambulance services but still find it difficult, for many reasons, to travel the arduous long journeys to get medical treatment, especially where there are an unreasonable number of transfers between buses and poor connections. Stirling Council has given a grant to enable a volunteer car scheme to be developed for patients in the Killin, Lochearnhead, Ardeonaig, Tyndrum and Crianlarich areas to improve the patient experience. The scheme is being set up to provide transport for people who may have problems because of age, ill-health, disability or financial hardship, by providing a volunteer car service to help them with their journeys, not only to hospitals but also to medical centres or other places to ease discomfort and improve their quality of life. A number of people have offered to join the scheme as drivers and a committee has been formed, to take this work forward. An application has been submitted to register the scheme as a charity and once this has been approved work can begin to get the project underway.

More people are needed to come forward as car drivers, escorts and to take on the many volunteering roles that will be needed to make this scheme a success.

If you would like more information, or wish to join us, please contact Don Fraser on 01567 820690 or email dfraser3610@gmail.com

Patient Participation Group

Our last meeting was the A.G.M. on May 2nd.

The doctors have, as yet, received no communication regarding new N.H.S. contracts.

A notice indicating the position of the defibrillator is to be put up, probably on the opposite wall where it will be easily visible. The defib. itself is rather hidden. A small working group to maintain the defib. is to be established and the community choir have donated funding for replacement batteries, pads, etc. Remote clinics are an ongoing development by N.H.S. where, for example, patients from Crianlarich can give regular blood pressure readings to the surgery. This is intended to go further to include skyping with specialists at the hospital and may well be centred at fire stations where broadband speeds may be better.

After Martin Earl had put us in contact with Anne Ferguson, communities projects manager at Stirling Council, we had several meetings regarding hospital transport, using a scheme running for some time in Kinross as an example. We have been successful in getting £15,000 earmarked from the council for this project, which can be given as and when needed. We have also secured the backing of Dean Lockhart, MSP, after a recent meeting. This is now being taken forward as a separate group but closely linked to PPG.

We would really welcome new members. It is not onerous as we only have five or six meetings per year but it is a valuable link between local residents and both the surgery and other N.H.S. services.

Our next meeting is at the surgery on July 4th at 11.45.







Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships

On Sunday 11 March, 27 members of McLaren High School's Pipe Band and Trad Band travelled to Livingston to take part in the 6th Scottish Schools Pipe Band Championships. The Pipe Band, led by this year's Pipe Major Rebecca More, were first to perform for the School and put in a brilliant performance of Pipe Major William Ross's Farewell to the Scots Guards, The Atholl and Breadalbane Gathering, Men of Argyll and Campbell's Farewell to Redcastle. Many of the drummers have been playing for less than a year which makes their performance even more special. The band would like to thank pipe tutor Andrew Wallace, drum tutor Sandy Bayne and tenor drum tutor Vikki Paul for all their help and support leading up to the competition.

We also had a Freestyle entry in the competition where members of the Trad Band, together with 4 pipers, were joined by Greg McLachlan on drums and Holly McNaught on bass guitar to play their version of Trail West's Close to Home. Although they had limited rehearsal time, and this being the first time the pupils had all performed together, they sounded amazing.

Well done to everyone involved who played during the day, you were a credit to the school and should be very proud of yourselves!

World Maths Day

World Maths Day was on 7 March but unfortunately our Siberian winter blast blew our celebrations to another day. We rescheduled to 23 March and had an energy filled day of problem solving, tower challenges

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and competitions that got the heads spinning with all things number! The goal in the Tower Building Contest was to create the tallest tower out of just newspaper and tape. Teams were a maximum of 5 people and the hall was a buzz of activity as they all tried to get the highest tower possible! Well done to everyone who took part.

Zoolab

We were delighted to welcome Zoolab back to the school on 21 March. S1 pupils had an educational morning hearing about and handling the animals!



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Music Festival

Our annual Music Festival took place on Tuesday 27 and Wednesday 28 March, culminating in the Music Festival Concert on the Wednesday evening. This year we welcomed Gail Digney as our adjudicator. Gail is a wonderful violinist who until recently was full time with the Royal Scottish National Orchestra.

Winners of the 4 categories were as follows:

Junior Competition

1st Fiona Cantlay 2nd Catriona Norman 3rd Alastair Cantlay

Intermediate Competition

1st James Douglas 2nd Liam Rennie 3rd Ella Chodiniecki

Senior Competition

1st Kim Russell 2nd Ailish Duthie 3rd Louise Dineley

Chamber & Ensemble Competition

1st Dillon McFarlane and Ailish Duthie (vocal Duet)

2nd Catriona Norman, Eoin Brennan and Callum Bell (Folk Trio)

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n High School

3rd Harriet Holden, Flora Duff and Kayleigh McAlpine

The 1st place winners all performed at the concert, along with 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the Senior Competition. There were also performances from the orchestra, choir, The Harmony Sisters and other bands/ensembles during the evening. It was a great evening showcasing McLaren's musical talent. The concert was brought to a close with the orchestra playing a brilliant and moving rendition of Hans Zimmer's Man of Steel which was dedicated to William 'Chilli' Wood, our much loved janitor who passed away very suddenly and unexpectedly on 17 March 2018.

Killin Music Festival

On Saturday 7 April the school Pipe Band and Trad Band were delighted to be invited to play at the Killin Music Festival Spring Concert. This was an evening showcasing local talent and culminating in a ceilidh. The school bands each played for around 15 minutes, the Pipe Band opening the evening and the Trad band playing later in the first half. A great time was had by all. (photos courtesy of Ron Allner, Killin)

Scottish Night Ceilidh

McLaren High School Pipe Band held a fundraising Scottish Night Ceilidh on Friday 20 April. The evening took the form of a ceilidh, with music from the Ian Milligan Trio, and featured performance during the evening from the Pipe Band, the Trad Band and other pupil groups.

All the pupils did themselves proud and sounded amazing! Thanks to everyone who came along and supported the evening and to everyone who donated raffle prizes for the event. A grand total of £696 was raised for Pipe Band funds

Well done everyone.





A sight test is free – why not have one?

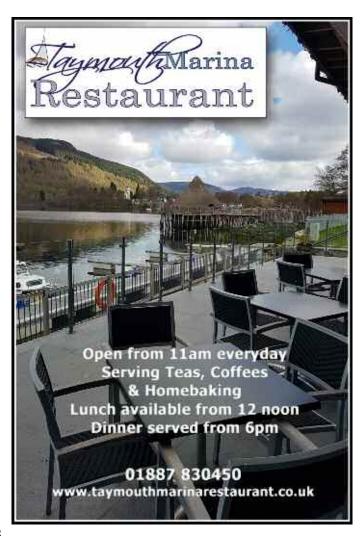
Did you know that up to 1 million children in the UK currently have an undetected vision problem?

A routine sight test is a great way to ensure that your child's vision is not forgotten about. Sight tests are free for all children under the age of 16. Toddlers and young children do not need to be able to read, as an eye examination can be carried out using pictures.



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Aberfeldy Opticians 01887 829756



Killin Pr

Australian Homework

Our new topic in Class 2 is Australia. We have been learning about the Australian animals, writing our own Dreamtime stories and learning a new song about a Laughing Kookaburra. Alice and Noa made some excellent Australian projects at home.

Grace Class 2



Chess Tournament

On Wednesday 9th May, eight pupils from Killin went to Crainlarich Primary to take part in an all new annual Chess Tournament. Each pupil played three games and it was thrilling. Well done to Crainlarich who won 2:1. We look forward to challenging you for the cup next year.

Innes Class 3

Banquet

In Class 1, we were learning all about castles. We made our own shields, crowns and table mats and held a banquet with traditional medieval food. Class 3 came to be our servants and we were entertained by a court jester!











imary School

Dalguise

On 24th to the 27th April, the P7s went on a residential to Dalguise along with all the other P7s in the McLaren cluster. We got to try out the big swing, a challenge course, abseiling, archery, trapeze and fencing. We also had a camp fire and a disco. We made lots of new friends who we will be seeing soon after the summer. We all really enjoyed the camp but we were so tired when we got home.

Iona Class 3



Fruit Sketches

Class 2 were working with charcoal to make fruit pictures. We laid fruit out on the table and then we sat in groups and drew the outline of the fruit. We then shaded the dark parts and put white chalk on to show where the light was hitting it.

Noa Class 2





Lamb Visit

Our new topic is Farm and Food so Christie brought in three lambs to show us. They were called Wolverine and Badger. We are getting to name the third one! We all got a chance to feed them. They were so hungry they nearly took the bottle from us. We really liked stroking the lambs and they were very well behaved because they didn't make any mess.

Archie and Fiona Class 1



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Killin Primary School



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Think Dance

After months of practise, our Think Dance group performed in front of a full crowd at the MacRobert Centre in Stirling. Our theme was Disney and our songs were from Toy Story, Aladdin and The Little Mermaid. Mrs Hibbert worked very hard with us to put our performance together. On the night it was perfect and everyone enjoyed it so much.

Lieke Class 2



Skiing at Glencoe

P6 and P7s from Killin PS went to Glencoe for three days skiing. When we arrived, we were given our equipment then we went up on the chairlift in pairs. We were put in different ability groups and we had lovely instructors. Everyone did very well and we all made good progress. I think we also grew resilience because we didn't give up.

Leo Class 3





We held a Play Event on Friday 13th April. We had a nice dry afternoon with the 14 children who attended playing a variety of outdoor sports, also indoor fun with the new board games, reading stories and colouring. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave up their time to help with this and of course to the children for coming along.

The Sports Club Committee



The Real Food Cafe Staff **Visit the Scottish Parliament**



Staff from the Real Food Café in Tyndrum met with First Minister Nicola Sturgeon during a visit to the Scottish Parliament last week.

Following recent successes, including Magda Ganea winning 2nd in Young Fish Fryer of the Year in the National Fish and Chip Awards earlier this year, the Real Food Café are also celebrating two team members, Alex and Cat Dima, who have just completed their SVQ Level 3 in Hospitality Supervision and Leadership.

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KILLIN COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING 13th March

Stirling Council

As Lynn Watson was not able to attend, M. Flynn passed on some information. The Call Centre at Stirling Council deals with thousands of calls and emails per month. New staff is getting trained with some working full time and others part time. The time scale of jobs depends on the urgency of the job with an emergency dealt with within 24 hours and nonemergency 4 weeks. All calls are logged and a reference number will be given. Email Stirling Council info@stirling.gov or call 01786 404040 with any repairs needing done. Waste services can also be done online.

Matters Arising

Stirling Council is keeping the recycling area down at the carpark clear of rubbish but more problems may arise in the summer months.

Gritting

Fiona Kennedy emailed Martin Errol regarding the gritting and grit piles on the single track roads around the village. The grit piles have not been topped up since October/November and the Community Council want a pile down by the bottle bank.

Snow Gates

Would snow gates work on Glen Ogle with warning signs at Crianlarich and Lochearnhead to allow the roads department to clear the glen quicker and save lorries getting stuck for hours?



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Clinics are held in the bowling green pavilion in Killin on

the following dates between 9.30 & 11.30am

Wed 13th June Wed 27th June Wed 11th July Wed 25th July Wed 3th August Wed 3th August Wed 3th September Wed 19th September

Ioin our pet Care Health Plan, This has been set up to enable you to spread the cost of routine preventative health care treatments.

Repeat prescriptions, food or any other veterinary requirements can be collected on these days, providing they are ordered in advance.

TELEPHONE 01887 820771 FOR AN APPOINTMENT

Dochart Bridge Shop Trees

Branches to be cut to allow signs to be visible when coming over the bridge.

Fibre Broadband

The National Park approved the fibre optic box being put outside the school

Patient Transport

A committee has been formed with some drivers sourced but more are required. An unpaid position for a coordinator will also need filled.

Ardeonaig

Road drains and ditches need cleaned. **Police Report**

<u>Crimes of Dishonesty</u> – 13 caravans broken into at Balquidder Braes in January.

Antisocial Behaviour – In January a female was warned by police after an incident in the Co-op in Killin and a male was warned by police after an incident of disorder in the Killin Hotel. Vandalism – A car parked at the Courie Inn in Killin was damaged overnight in February and had a rear screen shattered. Raised voices were heard after midnight.

Road Accident – Emergency services attended a two car collision in February on Glen Ogle. Heli-mid was in attendance and two people were taken to hospital with serious injuries. The road was shut for a lengthy period of time causing delays and diversions. <u>Drink Driving</u> – A male from Airth was involved in a collision in Glen Ogle in January when he struck a tree and the vehicle toppled over. He was breathalysed and found to be over the limit. In March a 27 year old was stopped in Strathyre in the morning and found to be over the limit. Antisocial Driving - There was a report of an Audi motor being driven at speed with wheel spins in Main Street, Killin in January. There was also a report of a Renault van being driven in a careless manner in February in Main Street. Both drivers were suspected of being under the influence of drink. Poaching - In February in the forest around Lix Toll, the carcase of a shot hind was found.

Fly Tipping – Old tyres were found dumped in the car park by Loch Dochart.

Mountain Rescue – A 23 year old French male lost his footing on Ben Vorlich in March in arctic conditions. The team found him after five and a half hours with the use of a night sight telescope. His party of three were badly equipped with no crampons or torches and had only one map and compass between them.

Planning – An extension at Kennel Cottage was approved by Stirling Council.

KAT

The Mill is open with plans to extend the opening hours as the season progresses.

Post Office/News First – The Land Fund application has been finalised and information is being collected on the likely usage of the shop. KAT need support from the community to show the paper shop/post office is needed in the village. KAT will act as landlord to MacGregors and it was asked if the paper shop would open at 7am. <u>Dochart Bridge</u> - Charlie Grant to ask about the cost of getting lights back under the bridge. Billy Ronald will ask for funding from the National Park. Co-op - Staff at the Co-op coped well during the cold spell keeping the shop open with no heating. Well done to the staff.

Any Other Business

Your Place Your Priority Grants. Grants up to £10k with the plans to be done in February in Callander.
Linkage - A twelve month pilot scheme run by Stirling Council looking at social connections in rural areas from Doune to Tyndrum. Michelle Flynn will be working on this with the referral stage at the end of March.

Killin Music Festival -Looking for information on the waste land down at the carpark with a view to putting containers there to supply storage space. The council do not have money to turn the area into a car park.

AGM will be held on 5th July at 7.30pm in Killin Primary School.



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Walk in the Park

Date	Meeting at 10.20am	All Routes: Walk from 15min – 1hour
06/06/18	McLaren Hall Car Park	Loch Circuit
13/06/18	McLaren Hall Car Park	Strathyre (car share) *
20/06/18 Home or	Capercaillie	River Dochart/Old Railway *
away - your choice!	For details - Please pre-book with Cathy	Big Fit Walk - Join with the other Walk in the Park groups at Arrochar (car share)
27/06/18	McLaren Hall Car Park	Mhor 84
04/07/18	Capercaillie	Craignavie Road *
11/07/18	McLaren Hall car park	Golf Club Walk (car share)
18/07/18	McLaren Hall Car Park	Loch Circuit
25/07/18	McLaren Hall Car Park	Moirlanich Longhouse (car share) *
01/08/18	No walks or strength and balance	e session today due to Highland Games

* denotes dementia-friendly walks

No need to book, just turn up | social time after the walk in a café (optional)
For more information contact: Walk in the Park Project Coordinator
Cathy Scott: cathy.scott@lochlomond-trossachs.org tel. 01877 330055

Strength and Balance – Nearly 3 years ago, Walk in the Park introduced a session of Strength and Balance exercises in the village aimed at older adults with the purpose of helping participants to maintain or increase their confidence for walking. These very gentle but effective exercises are done from a seated position or standing behind a chair. They include knee bends, leg raises and balance exercises and are based on the Otago falls prevention programme.

Since attending this friendly session, more than 30 participants have benefitted by feeling more confident when walking, have noticed an improvement to their balance and have enjoyed the social interaction

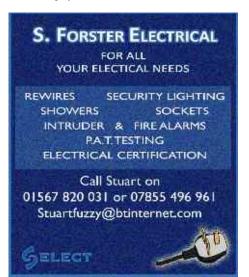
and the support of the group.

The session is free and continues throughout the year in the Killin Hotel on a Wednesday afternoon. As a thank you to the Killin Hotel for the use of the room, participants are encouraged to buy a tea, coffee or soft drink and enjoy a short social time after the exercise session. It's a great way to spend an afternoon as the sessions are fun and provide an opportunity to catch up with old friends and make some new ones too.

A short 10 minute walk in the park from the McLaren Hall Car Park is offered at 1pm prior to the exercises for those who wish to build up confidence for walking. If you would like to take part in this session to improve you balance or gain more confidence when walking but are not sure whether you should take part, please speak to the Project Coordinator, Cathy Scott or see your GP or physiotherapist for advice. Leaflets explaining the exercises are available on request as is the option to attend one of the sessions just to observe.

Wednesday Morning Walk, (45min - 1Hour) 10.20am, (see schedule for meeting place)

Wednesday 10 minute walk in the park, 1pm McLaren Hall Car Park Wednesday Afternoon, Strength and Balance, 1.30 – 2.30pm in the Killin Hotel







MUSIS FESTIVAL

Killin Musi

Spring Concert

On Saturday 7th April there was an extravaganza of local talent in the McLaren Hall to get everyone excited for Killin Music Festival. The evening was opened by the fantastic McLaren High School Pipe Band who performed a rousing set to start the night. This was followed by a wonderful performance by local music tutor Marc Fallon and his talented pupils Nathan Ireland, Seonag Hay, Caitlin Chisholm, Carmen Dearden, Matthew Murray and Fred Murray.

The Killin Community Choir sang beautifully under the leadership of Frances Morrison-Allen with accompaniment from Jacco Lamfers.

More McLaren High pupils graced the stage with a performance from their trad band led by Yvonne King showing that the future is bright for local traditional music. Duncan McKinnon gave a toe tapping set of tunes before Mocking Dogs entertained the audience with a selection of well-known songs. Jim and Frances Cushleys' family showed their musical talents with a great set on the fiddle from Charlotte Kane followed by a fantastic performance from her





brother Thomas's band "Capsaicin". Siobhan Anderson and Jennifer Austin finished off the night in traditional style with a ceilidh dance.







A total of £2199.77 was raised to help run the festival. A huge thank you to all the performers and local businesses who donated raffle prizes and everyone who came along to support the evening



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ic Festival

Killin Primary School

The pupils at Killin Primary School have designed posters for the festival and the winning entry was by Keira Campbell p7.

This was not an easy decision as they were all fantastic! You can come and see all the winning entries displayed throughout the festival in the shop at the Pavilion.



The Winning Poster

As part of the festival, the pupils will perform for the residents of the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home before being treated to an in school performance by Jack McRobbie's band Suas on Friday 15th June! The pupils will be performing with the Killin Community Choir at a coffee morning event on Sunday 17th of June in the McLaren Hall so don't miss your chance to hear what they have been working on! The event is free for anyone to attend from 12pm-2pm where there will be tea, coffee and cake served in aid of the Killin Cancer Research Committee.

2018 Line-up

We are delighted to have the following artists performing on the Main Stage in the McLaren Hall and in the Session Tent at the Pavilion.



Haven't got tickets? Keep an eye out on the "Killin Music Fest Ticket Exchange" Facebook page for updates.

Fringe Events

If you don't have tickets, or just fancy attending a few events, we have lots on offer outwith the McLaren Hall, Our session tent will be open to everyone with free entry from 3pm-6pm on Friday 15th June, and 12pm-6pm on Saturday the 16th June, no tickets are required. This will feature live music from The Camans, The Coaltown Daisies and local group, The Mocking



The Open Stage event will be taking place in the session tent from 2pm-5pm on Sunday the 17th June where you can catch some amazing emerging artists free of charge. The selected winner will get to perform on the main stage at Killin Music Festival 2019.

You can get involved in a singing workshop with Kim Carnie on Sunday 17th at 2.30pm at The Bridge of Lochay, or try some highland dancing at the Highland Hussle Workout on 11am on Saturday 16th in the McLaren Hall. The Episcopal Church will also be running a ukulele workshop and concert on Saturday afternoon.

There will also be a Craft Fair on the Saturday in the Church of Scotland with lots of local offerings and live music from local young people as well as tea and cake. This will include a free kids crafts drop in throughout the day.

For full programme information see or pick up a programme from News First or the festival shop.

Team KMF

All photos by Ron Allner



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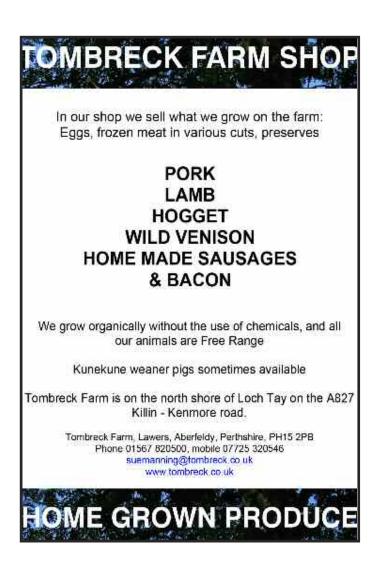
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Misadventures on the Tay

Back in April I embarked on a threeday paddling trip around Loch Tay, spurred on by a new inflatable kayak and the promise of decent weather. Thirty miles, gentle meandering, sunshine – easy-peasy. Forget headwinds, waves, rodents and bugs. Forget damp chills, bad food and dodgy campsites. This was going to be a great adventure...

It started in Killin. My hopes of setting off down river into a warm spring sun were dashed by a murky drizzle. Anglers were getting a head start, their little boats chugging down the Lochay in a chain of four. I followed their trail until they sped off at the river junction.

The first rough water experience happened near Firbush Point. I watched its movement both fascinated and unnerved. It had an animal-like behaviour: the hackles that trembled on the surface; the white crest of a wave as if teeth bared. Finally, it pounced. My yak took a mauling. This pattern I noticed frequently throughout paddling. Then, after a few minutes, everything would be still again. The animal could be tamed, but not for long.

Later that afternoon I reached Ardtalnaig, where I set up camp. I built a makeshift fire and watched the sun disappear behind the mountains. The next morning I found, to my horror, all my drybags were shredded. I watched in disbelief as they disintegrated in my hands and pieces of fabric scattered in the wind. The culprit was a long, fat vole, which ran loops around my legs before hiding under a rock. I inspected the inside of the boat for damage and found another vole hiding under the seat. The base of the boat had deflated slightly - could rodents chew through inflatables?

With dry bags ruined, I threw everything into some shopping bags and continued paddling. The boat manoeuvred sluggishly and water began filling the cockpit. I suspected there was a puncture. Suddenly, upon

turning a bend in the shoreline, a tremendous tailwind hurtled me forward like a rocket. For a second it felt as if the boat were hovering. I was pushed towards the middle of the loch, the shoreline disappearing from view. I attempted a hard turn for land but failed miserably - my hands slipped and I somehow whacked myself on the head with my own paddle. Now the boat was sideways, with a mean wave charging me. I faced the bow in the opposite direction and it rolled under me, causing the nose to point into the sky. After a ten-minute battle, I reached the shelter of a small cove. I was utterly exhausted.

The rest of the journey to Kenmore was more relaxed. I landed on Priory Island, believed by some to be the resting place of Queen Sybilla of Normandy, wife of Alexander I, King of Scots. The remains of a medieval manor house can still be seen here. Then on to Lawers and the old village ruins. There had once been a thriving community here. Now, the only occupants were sheep, which grazed around the overgrown streets and blackhouses. I met a local called Nick. who walked his dog here regularly. He offered to give me a tour of the village.

'This place used to serve as a steamer terminal,' he explained. 'Passengers would get on here and get off at Ardtalnaig on the other side.' He pointed to the opposite side of the loch, where I had camped the previous night.

We continued up the main street to the church, a skeletal structure like all the rest.

'This church used to hold up to twohundred people,' said Nick. 'Can you imagine so many people crammed into there?'

The last house on the street was a large, two-story building once belonging to The Lady of Lawers. An infamous soothsayer, she supposedly prophesised many terrible events in the area during the 17th century.

After the tour, I asked Nick if I was allowed to camp in the village. He led me to a grassy bank close to the shore, where people had camped before. Then he wished me luck and departed.

I'm not superstitious by any means, but something about this place felt odd. It had a peculiar atmosphere that unsettled me. I had to leave. This was a big mistake. It was getting late and I did not know where the next suitable camp would be. All the shoreline from here was heavily wooded and rocky. My backside and thighs were resting in water and I was getting cold. The wind picked up; a downpour started. My worst fear: The animal awoke. My kayak was buffeted left and right, up and over. Huge black waves were smashing into the nose, spraying over the cockpit. Rain lashed my face and wind howled in my ears. I kept shouting, cursing, commanding the boat to hold steady. It did, and I inched my way forward another couple of miles before reaching Morenish. With the base of the yak now submerged in water, most of my equipment sodden, and an uncontrollable shiver, I was prepared to pitch anywhere. I picked the nearest field and set up camp in the dark.

The following morning, having brushed off a dozen ticks and eaten my last soggy cereal bar, I paddled the remaining few miles home. I returned quickly, but not before observing an osprey couple feed their chicks – perhaps my fondest memory of this trip.

I later discovered that the suspected puncture in the yak was actually a loose port-hole cover (open ports let water pass through). It was a laughable notion looking back, but such is the nature of every misadventure. Forget thirty miles, gentle meandering, sunshine......

Michael Gardiner







Save the date for CP Village Hall Summit 2018!

Last year the Community Partnership invited Village Hall committees across the park to take part in a survey to help build a picture of the resources and services they offer. The survey also asked a series of questions asking what support they needed offering scope for further development.

In response the Community Partnership are delighted to announce that they will be hosting a Village Hall Summit 2018 'A Forward Planning Day for your Hall' on Wednesday 27th June, 4pm-8.30pm, NPA Balloch. Supported by their partners at the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority this informative event will bring together voluntary committees running halls and community gathering spaces across the National Park. Providing networking and sharing best practice with each other, delegates will be joined by guest speakers, hear case studies from Village Halls across the globe using their spaces in innovate ways, and running practical workshops to support Village Hall groups to create an outline development plan bespoke to their community facility. Joining guests will be a wide selection of third sector agencies offering advice and resources on a range of topics to



run and grow their services and

contributors is available by visiting

www.thecommunitypartnership.org.uk

assets in a sustainable way.

A full programme and list of

Mobile Internet Coverage

84% of Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum residents say their mobile tariff is not good value for money. A recent survey of Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum on 4G coverage, from Stirling MSP Bruce Crawford, has shown that there is widespread dissatisfaction about what local people are paying for in mobile phone tariffs when they are unable to connect to the most upto-date mobile internet services. He received hundreds of responses which also showed that 70% of local people are unable to connect to 4G in their own home, and 74% could not connect elsewhere in Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. 84% of people in Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum said that their mobile phone tariff was not good value for money as a result of the inability to connect to these services. Commenting, Mr. Crawford said: "I do not think enough has been done to connect rural Stirling communities such as Killin, Crianlarich and Tyndrum. This is a very serious matter and one that I will be raising with individual mobile network providers in coming weeks."



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Lodge Breadalbane St. Fillans No. 815

The annual Community Auction held each year on Easter Saturday raised over £1,500. This magnificent amount was achieved with the tremendous support of the community, in both donating goods and coming along to join in on the day. The Lodge enjoys a special place within the area in being one of the organisations which regularly raises funds to assist local organisations of all age groups. The Office Bearers and Members wish to put on record their grateful thanks to everyone who so generously gave such a diverse range of items all of which enhanced the total number of lots which this year was the most ever catalogued. The decision on allocating funds will be taken after careful deliberation between the Lodge Committee and Members, with the importance of where funds are most required and will be of benefit, uppermost when making donations. Whatever is decided will be publicised on the Lodge Web Site and published in this community newspaper. The Lodge has in the past come to the assistance of clubs and groups who have suddenly found a shortfall in funding and it will continue to support where emergencies arise.

Members will be continuing the work in the Old Killin Cemetery with keeping the grass to a safe height and are surveying what the next part of this evolving project will entail. The donations from associations of Clan MacNab, and Clan Campbell of North America are being put to good use, and thanks are due to both for their support.

Marking the end of the First World War in November this year is of poignance in every community. The Killin War Memorial and the lists in the Church contain many from the district, some of whom were members of our Lodge. The sacrifice they all made should never be forgotten.

The history of any long-standing organisation is important as in small communities' residents are usually involved with more than one group. In 2020 our Lodge will celebrate 125 years since it's charter was granted. Plans are now underway to mark this date and part of this special year will involve the community, as without the support over all these years, our Lodge would not enjoy the respect it has today both locally and in the wider Masonic spectrum.

Ron Allner Treasurer

U3A

June is the month when almost all of our groups hold their last meetings and take a break; the session being rounded off with a grand BBQ and Barn Dance to be held in Gartmore Village Hall on Midsummer evening 21st June, from 7.00-10.30pm. The Riverside Ceilidh Band will provide the beat and Skinner of Kippen will serve the meat. Tickets at £15 are available from group leaders. A free bus will link the villages of Killin, Lochearnhead and Strathyre via Callander, Thornhill, Port of Menteith and Aberfoyle to Gartmore and back. Our AGM and Enrolment Day will be held at Callander Kirk Hall on Thursday 23 August from 2.00-4.00pm and further details will be published nearer the time. Keep up to date with news and photos on our website: Callander and Perthshire U3A.

Bridge Group

The group meets every Friday 2-4pm in the conservatory of the Killin Hotel. Learners and returners will be made most welcome. Tuition is available and the cost is £2 which includes tea, coffee or a soft drink. We do not take ourselves too seriously! There is an informal group, also in the Killin Hotel, who plan to meet on Monday nights from 7 until 9pm but to make sure that is on please call Marion on 01567 829027

Marion Strang







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Obituary Iris Donaldson 1926 - 2018

Iris was born on 8th September 1926 in Bearsden, Glasgow. She was the third child born to Richard and Annie Donaldson, having an older brother Gordon, an older sister, Vivienne and a younger sister, Evelyn (Mavis). The family lived in Bearsden and Iris's father worked in Glasgow at his father-inlaw's paper merchants, Jebb Brothers. Her grandmother lived close to the family so she was very involved in their lives. The children all went to school in Bearsden until the war started and Iris had some happy memories of family life when she was young.

One special childhood memory for her was the family buying a chow chow puppy, Yang, who slept in a cot in between Iris' and Eve's beds. She delighted in waking up with this little puppy sleeping next to her bed and her enormous love for dogs lasted all through her life. As a child, Iris always enjoyed school sports and outdoor activities, particularly walking and ice-skating with her father.

Her life changed radically when war started, when at 13 she and her sister Viv were sent to boarding school, safer than staying in Glasgow, but she soon returned home to her father and went to school as a day boarder. Her grandmother, mother and younger sister had already evacuated, first to Dulnain Bridge, and then to Killin, thus laying down the roots for Iris' later life.

When Iris left school, she first went to college and then joined the Auxillary Territorial Service or women's army. She enjoyed this experience and was about to be sent to India which she was looking forward to, when the war ended. After the war Iris attended Agricultural College in Glasgow and trained to become a Milk Officer. The course involved placements with farms and she spent time at a placement in Arran which she came to love. She stayed in touch with those she met there and continued to visit Arran for many years. In the meantime, Iris' parents had rented a house in Killin, next door to a cottage that they planned to rebuild as a family home, 'Craigvockin'. This was completed and all the family used the house at

various times.

Iris began her working life, inspecting dairies for Perth Council and had lodgings in Perth but later got work in the West of the county which meant she could live back in



Killin. We think she was living there from the early 1950s so that was her home for over sixty years. After winning some golf lessons, she became hooked on golf and played competitive golf, winning several cups in tournaments.



Over the years, Iris had two separate rescue dogs. The first was called Ben and he loved going to work with Iris, enjoying his trips in the car. After Ben died, she took in a dog called Morven. She was

happiest in her garden weeding and feeding the birds and red squirrels. Her physical and her mental strength were very inspiring and family meant a great deal to her and although shy, she enjoyed going out socially, but this became more of a challenge when her hearing declined. Thankfully, she had a real skill for appreciating the simple things in life.

She really valued her Monday lunches at the Capercaillie with her 'Golden Girl' friends and regularly attended these until her illness. She also particularly enjoyed the keep fit classes she attended at the Killin Hotel during the past few years, enthusing about what they had learnt and looking forward to attending each week. She also looked forward to the monthly Sunday services at the retirement home where she would go along and sing the hymns and talk to the residents. Iris spent many years volunteering at the local National Trust property, Moirlanich Lonahouse.

My sister Jan took her and our mum on a few holidays to Oban in recent years. She particularly loved Oban, and also visiting Mull and Iona, taking real pleasure in their natural beauty.

Iris never owned a TV, just enjoying the radio or peace and quiet and was rooted in her past and in the traditions she had been brought up with.

She was very grateful for all the help she received during her illness. Iris stayed very hopeful that she would recover at least for a while and be able to return to Killin and see friends here but unfortunately her illness took over very quickly towards the end of her life and she didn't have time to return to her beloved home area.

So we are glad that we all had a big family get together for her 90th birthday in Killin and she followed that with family time in Oban. Iris died peacefully, surrounded by her family in Brechin, including her sister Eve and two of her nieces, Jan and Elizabeth. She will be sadly missed by all her family and friends.

Caroline Cormack Iris' niece

Musings from the Manse

Life: A gift and a trust

As I write this, spring has finally sprung! The sun has been shining, the air is warmer, the birds are chirping and the lambs are doing well on the hills and in the fields. The snow has not completely gone from the mountains but it soon will be. It has been a long, long, winter especially for the poor deer who have had a difficult time. They say that - "Spring is when the sun smiles at the earth and the earth smiles back." That smile has been a long time in coming this year but thankfully it is here now.

Spring brings the promise of days to come and the joy of saying "yes" to life in its wonderful richness. It is a time that reminds us that it is good to be alive. It is a time that lifts the spirits, feeds the soul and warms the heart. Well that is, if we are tuned in and don't miss it in the midst of our busyness, distraction, worry and stress. As in all things it is perspective that matters.

There is a story of a school teacher who having outlined the seven wonders of the ancient world asked her class to list seven wonders of the modern world. The answers that came back were sorted out and the list was - Pyramids; Taj Mahal; Grand Canyon; Panama Canal; Empire State Building; St Peter's Basilica; The Great Wall of China. However the teacher noticed that one pupil hadn't handed her's in. When asked about this, the girl responded by saying that she had different items from everyone else and seemed a little embarrassed and awkward. Nonetheless the teacher asked if she could have a look at the girl's suggestions.

The list was - To see; To hear; To touch; To taste; To feel; To laugh; To love. Wow!

As the Bible says "Out of the mouths of babes and infants" – young people often surprise us by the wisdom they have. Isn't it amazing how a slight change in subject matter can have such a profound effect on the way we see things. The first list is impressive but relates to objects. The second list refers to the very personal and intimate way we experience the world as living human beings. Now doesn't that have a "word in season" for us!

The Bible states we are "fearfully and wonderfully made" (Ps 139:14). Therefore, if you want to see a thing of wonder look in a mirror. No I'm not being funny I am completely serious. The person you see looking back at you is a unique and incredible one off! No-one has exactly the same DNA as you, or the exact same finger-prints and your face would be picked out of a large crowd by those who best know and love you. Finally no-one has exactly the same personality as you either...for good or ill!! None of us asked to be born and we had no say in it (well not consciously anyway!) but here we are responding to the incredible reality that is all around us. Life is a given to which we respond. Changing the word slightly we can also say that life is a gift; a precious gift indeed. It is something we receive; something we appreciate (or not); something we use productively, or squander, or take for granted; something we can treasure, nurture, relish and most

importantly, enjoy. The ball is in our

The great thing about spring is it marks a turning point in the seasons and no matter our long, hard and severe the winter has been the earth is awake with new life and new possibilities.

This surely is an apt metaphor for us. Often we go through "winter" periods in our lives through illness or tragedy or trials and difficulties. Sometimes it seems we are in a long tunnel and we can't see any light at the end of it. Yet as they say, "hope springs eternal in the human breast." Spring eventually comes round in some form or another for us and new beginnings take place or new courage, energy and patience is found to be joyful and hopeful even in the midst of challenge and difficulty.

If life is a gift then it is also a trust. We are responsible for making the most of this trust. Learning to live life to the full in a productive and unselfish way is both an art and a science.

Here we need all the help we can get. The key is learning to transform "Information into knowledge: knowledge into wisdom; and wisdom into action." Ancient philosophy and religion saw their roles as enabling people to do just that. I believe that the Christian tradition has a lot to offer in this regard. Why not check it out?

In the meantime, enjoy spring, and as it develops into summer may we be granted the grace to appreciate and maximise the wonderful gift of life which we have been given.

Russel Moffat



court!



The Future of our Post Office

In villages where there is no supermarket, PO's with wee shops attached can be successful. However, in Killin this is not the case; as many shops across the country are experiencing, economic survival is hard to achieve. For our PO, we need to increase our range of products to encourage greater footfall and higher spend. This is not viable in our current location, as we no longer have the storage space behind the shop.

Why the paper shop?

An "options appraisal" was done of all the empty shops; News First, Antique shop, £+ shop and Eureka. Eureka and the antique shop are bigger than we need and dearer, plus we have no experience of antiques or hardware. The £1+ shop's biggest disadvantage



is lack of parking. The paper shop is the only one of the right size, in the right location and with a compatible business strand. It also has storage. In the old days, PO's and paper shops always used to be combined

The way it would work

KAT (Killin and Ardeonaig Trust), with a remit to secure assets for the community, would apply for funding to buy the paper shop. If successful, they would be given most of the cost price and they are fundraising to make up the difference. The paper shop would then belong to the village, via KAT, and we could rent it from them. MacGregor's is a "Not-For-Profit" organisation, so no conflict there for KAT. We also need to raise funds to buy "News First" stock and relocate the PO counter

The importance of the Post Office in the future

A recent report in The Sunday Herald highlighted "...an increasing reduction in services for Scotland's remote locations with a lack of bus services, post offices, local shops, pubs, community and health centres, combined with poor digital connectivity, leaving people cut off." The PO has to be kept going somehow, somewhere. The recent fire in the bank highlighted how crucial the PO is, especially if you don't have a car. Rural services are decreasing slowly but surely. We operate MacGregor's and the PO on a voluntary basis, we realise its importance to Killin, but we all do other work to survive! The more people that get involved, the better

for the village. An hour a week cleaning or stocking shelves, an hour a month bagging up herbs and spices; all of this helps.

We are looking to fundraise for a manager to co-ordinate the joint venture. MacGregors team are happy to keep providing PO services, but to continue with paper shop services would require more shifts; early morning, late afternoon, weekends and someone to organise the paper boys and girls. Any folks out there want a challenge? Could be paid or voluntary! If we want to continue to have a thriving community, we have to take action.

Blether area

At the PO we have a few local residents who live alone and often pop in for a seat and a blether. They basically want company. On the continent, you often find a few folk sitting round a table at a pavement café, drinking coffee and playing chess. It's a social thing. They're not drunk or disorderly, but neither are they sitting alone at home watching TV. We'd like to include a social space in the Paper shop.

In summary

If we don't move to the Paper shop, the PO will close. If we move to the paper shop, we will need more hands on deck. We feel very positive about the possibilities but need your help. Please do email us to discuss!

> The MacGregors Team mail@macgregors.org.uk

Community Defibrillator

Training on the use of the defibrillator which is based outside the Falls of Dochart Retirement home is being arranged for Thursday 14th June. It would be great to have any many people as possible trained and if you would like to be part of this please give me a call on 01567 829033 / 07468 430533 or email me at

charlieandlinda.kerr@gmail.com.

Thank you to all who have already expressed an interest.

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Chris Packham's UK Bioblitz campaign

TV presenter and naturalist Chris
Packham is coming to Ben Lawers, a
National Trust for
Scotland Nature
Reserve, as part of the first independent audit of its kind in the UK involving Citizen
Science. His goal is to

highlight the extent to which the nation's species are under threat. On 14th July the whole campaign kicks off at Ben Lawers – the first of 48 sites across the country he'll be stopping off as part of his 'UK Bioblitz – nature reserves are not enough!' campaign.

The campaign has a serious purpose. The results of the 2018 audit will be recorded to create a benchmark which will help to measure the rise and fall in numbers of different species on these sites in the future. From Ben Lawers, over the course of 10 days, he'll weave his way across the UK, taking in Northern Ireland, Wales and parts of England along the route. All forms of life will be investigated in this snapshot of the country's wildlife: from flies to fungi, mammals to moths and birds to butterflies. At each site Chris and the UK Bioblitz team, which numbers



hundreds, including experts, young conservationists, film makers and people from all backgrounds and abilities. They will be helped by species specialists, alongside enthusiastic amateurs, to pinpoint the winners and losers in the battle for

Britain's countryside.

Chris said "I'm doing this because I want to highlight that the UK's landscape is in big trouble. We should have a far greater expectation of having wildlife around us all of the time but sadly we find ourselves going to nature reserves. The ultimate aim is to celebrate some conservation success stories, but also to flag up some of its failures." Chris concludes: "We treat them like they're museums and art galleries. We go there, we get fully satisfied there's lots of life, but on the way home, when we're driving through the countryside there's nothing left. Some parts of it are absolutely bereft, they're deserts, and what we want to do is say to people 'that's not good enough'. We want wildlife everywhere; nature reserves are not enough."

KILLIN FLORAL ASSOCIATION



The time for planting out bedding, tubs and hanging baskets is nearly upon us, so just a reminder of the Floral competitions we run every year. The three main categories are: Domestic, for householders in the village, which includes a category for pots and hanging baskets, as well as garden displays; Commercial, for all business premises and the children's tallest sunflower competition.

Thank You to Killin Co-op for allowing us to place our buckets at the tills. So far we have raised an amazing £253. This is a wonderful sum which means that we have a healthy amount of money to buy plants for the tubs around the village. A huge Thank You also to all the volunteers who plant up the tubs, care for the plants, water them and grow the young plug plants on. We are always looking for more help, to lighten the load for those already involved. If you have the odd hour to spare and would like to help out please let Alicja know on 01567 820690.

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Local MP visits Killin

On Saturday 14 April my team and I carried out one of our regular 'street surgeries' in Killin. Every Saturday I try to spend a couple of hours knocking doors somewhere in the constituency to seek people's views, provide an opportunity for them to talk to their MP and raise any issues they may wish to. We visited the Ballechroisk area and Fingal Road to speak to residents. I often find that the same issues are raised by many people and, here in Killin, it was no different.

Poor water pressure in some parts of Killin
Broadband speeds are not

consistent across Killin The waste bins in Breadalbane Park

need replacing. Saturday waste collections are not popular and are not consistent. In response to the issue with the public waste bins I have contacted the Chief Executive's office at the Council and received assurances that they will be replaced. As far as the waste collections are concerned I have already called for, and will keep seeking, a full review of the waste collection service as it is clearly in need of improvement. This is an issue raised in every area of the constituency I have visited. The water pressure problem has

been affecting some properties for a long time with Councillors, MSPs and the MPs office all raising the issue with Scottish Water. To date no one has received a satisfactory response, and we must keep trying to get the infrastructure improved as a priority.

With Broadband I am aware there is the wireless service available in some areas of Killin and BT provides good connections to some properties but not others. This sporadic coverage is something we find in many areas. Often there is a problem with those properties that have a line running directly to the exchange and this requires another BT Broadband cabinet to be located near the exchange to connect all these lines. I have contacted BT regarding the problems we encountered.

Thank you to everyone who spoke to my team and me. If we missed you, or if you would like to raise any other concerns or issues, please do get in touch. My contact details are below.

Stephen Kerr MP 49 Borestone Crescent Stirling, FK7 9BQ 01786 475034 Stephen.kerr.mp@parliament.uk

MacGregor's Classic Bike Run



On 25th April the annual MacGregor Classic Bike Run visited Killin and surrounding area.









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The Local Entrants



The Winning Entrants



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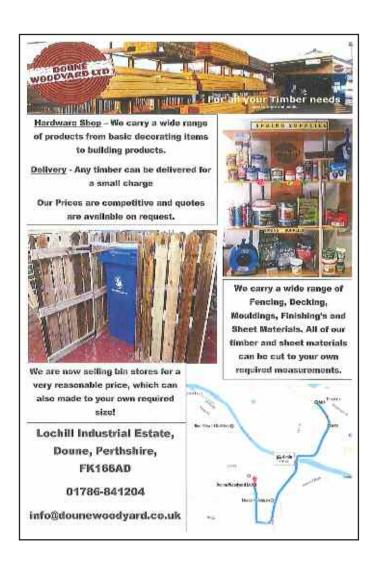
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Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve Guided walks & events June and July 2018 For details of all our events see

https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/ben-lawers/events

Thursday 14th June and/or Friday 15th June: Moth Night and/or Morning

Come and see some of the fascinating nocturnal moths of the reserve. You can either come along on Thursday evening as the Trust rangers set harmless light traps and watch as the moths start to come in, or on Friday morning to inspect the overnight catch, or both.

Duration: As long as you like **Cost:** adults £3, children £1.50 **Bring:** Warm clothes, midge repellent, torch and sunglasses. **Meet:** 10.00pm Thursday 14th and/or 6.00am Friday 15th June Ben Lawers NNR car park. No need to book.

Friday 22nd June: Ben Lawers ridge walk

Walk the 7 peaks of the Ben Lawers range, with a qualified mountain leader who has detailed knowledge of the flora and wildlife of the area. A good level of fitness is required. We will reunite you with your vehicle at the end of the walk.

Cost: adults £50, Duration: 8-10 hours Bring: walking boots, warm waterproof and windproof clothing, plenty of food and drink.

Meet: 9am Ben Lawers NNR car park.

Booking is essential.

Friday 29th June: Tarmachan ridge walk

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Or find us on Facebook
VET - Marslaidh Smith BVM&S MRCVS

has detailed knowledge of the flora and wildlife of the area. A good level of fitness is required.

Cost: adults £30, Duration: 5-6 hours

Bring: walking boots, warm waterproof and windproof clothing, plenty of food and drink.

Meet: 10am Ben Lawers NNR car park. Booking is essential.

Tuesday 3rd, 10th and 31st July: A kids-eye view of Ben Lawers

Join our hands-on exploration and leave no stone unturned on the way to becoming a nature know-it-all.

Duration: 2 hours

Cost: adults £2, children £5, family £12.50. Adults must be accompanied by a child (and vice versa).

Bring: Wellies and waterproofs. **Meet:** 10.30 am Ben Lawers NNR car park. Numbers are limited, so booking is advisable.

Wednesday 11th July: Butterflies and Moths of the Mountain

Discover some of butterflies and moths that inhabit the floristically rich lower slopes of these mountains, including (weather permitting) the elusive mountain ringlet.

Duration: 3 hours

Cost: adults £5, children £2.50,

family £12.50

Bring: walking boots, warm waterproof and windproof clothing. **Meet:** 1.30pm Ben Lawers NNR car park. Numbers are limited, so booking is advisable.

Friday 13th July and Friday 20th July: Mountain Flowers

On this high-level guided walk we aim to see some of the arctic-alpine plants for which these hills are famous. The ascent and descent require a reasonable level of fitness and we will encounter some steep ground.

Duration: 8 hours

Cost: adults £25, children £12.50. **Bring:** walking boots, warm waterproof and windproof clothing, packed lunch and drink.

Meet: 9.00am Ben Lawers NNR car park. **Booking is essential.**

Saturday 14th July: Chris Packham's 2018 Bioblitz

Become a wildlife explorer for a day and discover what's living right here on the Ben Lawers National Nature Reserve. Our team of naturalists and wildlife watchers need your help to find and identify as many different species of flora and fauna as we can before the clock runs out. Everything we find will be recorded and passed on to local and national databases. Come and help us make an enormous list. There will be activities for young and old alike from novices to experts. Free.

The event runs from 08:00 to 12:00. Meet at the Ben Lawers NNR car park.

Wednesday 25th July: Flora and fauna of the hillside

If you are a hill walker who would like to know more about the plants and wildlife around you or training to be a mountain leader, then this could be the walk for you. Familiarise yourself with some of the characteristic plants and wildlife on the lower slopes of these mountains.

Duration: 21/2 hours.

Cost: adults £5, children £2.50
Bring: walking boots, warm
waterproof and windproof clothing.
Meet: 1.30pm Ben Lawers NNR car
park. Numbers are limited, so booking
is advisable.

Ben Lawers NNR talks programme 2018

Illustrated talks by National Trust for Scotland conservation staff, held in the meetings room, at the Ben Lawers Ranger Base, Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin at 8.00pm.

Admission £1. Refreshments will be available after the talk. Wednesday 11th July; From glen to summit; the wildlife of Glencoe Dan Watson, Ecologist on one of the Trust's newest National Nature

Wednesday 25th July; **Ben Lawers, the peak of plant conservation**Paul Thompson, Ranger Naturalist talks about the management of one of Britain's most important nature reserves.



Reserves.

Letters

Bank Update

Following the recent fire at Killin Bank of Scotland, On behalf of KCC, Tim Frost, wrote to the bank to ask about progress and possible reopening date. Part of their response was as follows: "We understand that the temporary closure of Killin branch following a fire is likely to have caused some concern to local residents and businesses. We very much regret any inconvenience customers are experiencing.

Before we can reopen the branch we must ensure that it is safe to do so.

Following the fire we have now received the structural engineer's report and we are in the process of reviewing and finalising the work required. I regret that we are not in a position to provide a forecast date for reopening at this time. However once we fully understand the situation, we can update you further" Tracey Greenhough, Customer Services
NB. If you wish to see the whole letter, it is displayed in the Killin News office window.

Well done Sula Furnishings



The Sula Girls were surprised and delighted to be announced as the winners of The Scottish Independent Retail Awards Soft Furnishing Supplier of the Year 2018. The black tie event was held recently at The Crowne Plaza hotel in Glasgow. The Retail Awards promote and support Scottish Independent retailers and the awards are based solely on votes that have been received by customers. So I would personally like to thank anyone that nominated or

voted for us (we have no idea who did!) and to thank all those who have sent us congratulations and best wishes through our social media. It's been quite overwhelming! But I would also like to express my thanks for all the love and continuing support that we have received locally over the past 18 months since we had to leave the shop in Balquhidder. It means a lot to us.

Diane, Catriona and Julie



Thank You

It is a long time since I returned home from hospital, having had a fall in January, it is never too late to say thank you to my family and friends who visited me, sent Get Well cards and brought goodies, also the many phone calls I received.

I would also thank all who helped me get to the ambulance depot, Michael the paramedic and the ambulance crew who took me to Larbert.

Chrissie Fenton

Unhappy Robin Redbreast

I must protest most strongly at your depiction of me in your April issue as 'The Beast from the East'. I have served for generations as a symbol of Christmas cheer and have nothing to do in any way with bringing bad weather. Nor am I a beast. I demand an apology.

Robin Redbreast

Litter

Recently I have had cause to drive from here in Glen Dochart over to the A9 and up to Aviemore. I was disgusted at the amount of litter lying on the roadside verges. In places you could hardly see the ground for the amount of rubbish. Nearer to home, the ground around the laybys in the glen are similarly strewn with bottles, cartons, dirty nappies etc. It is no better over the border. I really think that the Brits must be worst litter louts around. It's time to clean up our act and take our litter home with us. Yours disgusted and disappointed.

Emma Paterson

Butterflies

It is good to see butterflies around again this year as there were almost none to be seen last summer. So far we have seen four varieties – peacock, orange tip, tortoiseshell and wood white.

I wonder how many different kinds are common in the Killin area.

Margaret MacIver

John Morris Safety Ltd

John Morris

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2nd Killin & District Scout Group Stirling & Trossachs.

"All of the sections within the group are enjoying the welcome return of sunny weather and more daylight. There have many outside activities including cycling with scouts and an 'egg-citing' Easter egg hunt for our joint meeting before the Easter holidays.

One of the highlights was our joint



camp at the start of April, between Cubs and Scouts at the Stirling and Trossachs District Scout camp at Invertrossachs near Callander. We had reasonable weather that was not too cold but a little wet on Saturday evening.

We slept for 2 nights from Friday evening to Sunday morning under our new lightweight tents purchased through the Co-operative charitable grants. They were perfect for the site as the camping area is about 50 metres uphill and 500 metres away from the main cooking hut. This was a positive thing, as it meant everyone slept well after our busy days activities on the Saturday! The Saturday activities included a walk from the campsite up to one of the small lochan's that the Rob Roy way crosses. One of our Scouts successfully navigated us the whole way.

Lunch included soup made from our new Kelly Kettle to warm us up before going Bell Boating on Loch Venachar.

Tel: 01567 820 571

The Invertrossachs campsite is also the home to all of the districts water craft. We say thank you to two volunteer leaders from Scout groups in Stirling who came up and lead the session for everyone. The bell boats are two long plastic canoes rafted together to make an extremely stable craft. All the cubs

and scouts got the chance at steering even if they do steer like an oil tanker! We were easily able to get from one side of the loch to the other. Everyone was keen to get out into canoes to get even better at steering.

A tradition of Scouting if of course having a campfire but the rain on Saturday evening made this a

difficult task taking a lot of the leaders' patience and tenacity. Everyone joined in with campfire songs but we were not able to toast marshmallows on a stick! Needless to say after all that fun everyone had a bit of a lie-in on Sunday morning. It takes a surprising amount of time to pack up and clean but everybody helped get the job done. Having a 'night away' is one of the activities that makes Scouting quite special and allows the young people to really grow. As a volunteer it takes up a



lot of our time with planning and then running nights away, but it's also when we have the most fun and can see the real benefits of Scouting. By the time this article goes to print the Scout Association will have issued its new strategy and what you have read can clearly show this in practise:

"Preparing young people with skills for life".

We are looking forward to more "fun in the sun" this summer with the Scouts and Explorers getting ready for their August joint camp with a group from Essex at Meggernie Scout Centre in Glen Lyon.

Beavers

Beavers are aged 6-8 and will be meeting every other Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 6-7pm.

Laura Bathgate - Beaver Leader killinbeavers@yahoo.com

Cubs

Cubs are aged 8-10½ and will be meeting every other Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 6-7.30pm.

Stephen Rawlinson - Cub Leader 07742 886918

2ndkillincubs@gmail.com

(please note this is a new email address)

Scouts

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

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.

Harriet Wishart – Explorer Leader 07581 151442

2ndkillinscouts@gmail.com



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Local Planning Applications

National Park

9th March

Proposal: Alterations and extension to

dwellinghouse

Location: Tigh Na Leacainn 25 Manse

Road Killin

Applicant: Mr & Mrs D Noble Application Type: Householder

Planning Permission Decision: Approve

16th March

Proposal: Demolition and replacement of existing byre, erection of extension, erection of porch and internal

alterations

Location: Cononish House Cononish

Road Tyndrum

Applicant: Mrs Elizabeth Symmonds Application Type: Listed Building

Consent

Decision: Current

1st May

Proposal: Reconstruction of front porch, erection of storm porch on the rear elevation, replacement of windows in dormers, change of 3no windows by lowering sills and internal

alterations to kitchen

Location: Yellow Cottage Killin Applicant: Mr Ian Fraser Application Type: Listed Building

Consent

Decision: Current

2nd May

Proposal: Further application for planning permission for the Portakabin and associated access approved in 2017/0095/DET but without the restricted time period condition Location: The Real Food Cafe Main

Street Tyndrum

Applicant: Ms Sarah Heward Application Type: Detailed Planning

Permission Decision: Approve

Perth & Kinross Council 8th March

Proposal: Alterations and extension to dwellinghouse and formation of

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associated works

Location: Grey Timbers Fearnan Applicant: Mr And Mrs Ross and Hilary

Application Type: planning permission

local

Decision: Awaiting decision

7th May

Proposal: Change of use, alterations and extension to steading to form a

dwellinghouse

Location: Wester Croftintygan Farm

Lawers

Applicant: Mr G Robertson Application Type: planning permission

Decision: Approve the application

Stirling Council

9th March

Proposal: Two storey extension and refurbishment of existing dwelling house including new dormers Location: Boreland House Glen Lochay North Road Killin Applicant: Mr Fred Stroyan Application Type: Full Decision: Unknown

9th March

Proposal: Two storey extension to dwelling house, repair of sections of roof, demolition of existing single storey extension, new dormers and replacement rooflights, installation of heating internally and repair of existing windows where required Location: Boreland House Glen Lochav North Road Killin Applicant: Mr Fred Strovan Application Type: Listed Building

Consent

Decision: Unknown

13th March

Proposal: Reinstatement of jetty and

erection of fishing hut

Location: Harbour Lights Killin Applicant: Loch Tay Fishing Club

Application Type: Full Decision: Awaiting decision



Proposal: Erection of dwelling house Location: Tullochan Farm Killin Applicant: Ms Donna MacKenzie

Application Type: Full Decision: Unknown

18th April

Proposal: Construction of a small external seating area with a small fire

Location: Firbush Point Field Centre

Applicant: The University Of

Edinburgh

Application Type: Full Decision: Approve

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- 1 Glenn Marshall (Kirklington) 63
- 2 Richard Downie (Polmont) 64
- 3 Alec Lyons (Tulliallan) 65

Category 2 (15+)

- 1 Kenneth Whyte (Old Ranfurly) 66
- 2 John Strang (Killin) 67 BIH
- 3 Mons Bolin (Killin) 67

Nearest the pin 0 - 14: William McNab (Callander)

Nearest the pin 15 +: J Ball (Hilton Park)

Nearest the pin in 2: R Downie (Polmont)

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Mactaggart Trophy (Best Local h/cap 15 +): John Strang 67

Lix Toll Trophy (Best Local h/cap 1 - 14): Gordon Aitken 66

Magic 2's

Kay Dowling, Jim Carruthers (2), Richard Downie, Mons Bolin, Paul Melia, Gordon Aitken

CSS: Gents 65 Ladies 67





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What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

Monday

- Gentle Yoga, 10.30-12.00, Old Mill
- Juniors P7 Badminton, 6-7pm, McLaren Hall
- Adult Badminton, 7-10pm, McLaren Hall
- Junior Badminton, 6pm, Crianlarich Hall
- Bridge, 7-9pm, Killin Hotel, contact Marion 829027
- Indoor Bowls, 7.30pm, Lesser Hall

Tuesday

- Softplay Club, 12.30-2.30pm, Sports Pavillion
- Killin Craft Group, 10am-12pm, Community Rooms, restarts 4th October
- Internet Cafe, drop in between 11am-1pm, Killin Library
- Junior Badminton, 6-7pm, McLaren Hall
- Adult Badminton, 7-10pm, McLaren Hall
- Beavers, 6-7pm, Lesser Hall
- Cubs, 6-7.30pm, Lesser Hall (every other Tuesday)
- Choir, 7.30pm, Church, contact Franny 829048
- Netball, 7.15pm, Killin Sports & Leisure Club
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- U3A Art, 2pm, Killin Hotel

Wednesday

- Strength & Balance, 1.30-2.30, Killin Hotel
- Quilters, 2pm, Community Rooms
- Highland Hustle, 6.30-7.15pm, McLaren Hall
- Metafit, 7.30pm, McLaren Hall
- Scouts, 7-9pm, Lesser Hall
- Explorers, 7-9pm (last Wed of month), Lesser Hall
- Painting & Crafting, 2-5pm (1st week of month), St Fillans Church
- U3A French, 2.30-4pm, Killin Hotel

Thursday

- Tiddlers & Toddlers, fortnightly 10am-12pm, Sports Pavillion
- Women's Guild, 2pm (3rd week of month), Falls of Dochart Retirement Home
- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark

Friday

- U3A Bridge, 2pm, Killin Hotel
- Yoga, 10.30-12.00, The Big Shed

Sunday

 Killin Gun Club, 3rd Sun of month March-December. Contact Stuart Ogston 07999 510014 Henry Paterson 01567 820354 KGC-ClayPigeon@outlook.com

Coming Soon! June

- 2-3 Bob MacGregor Memorial Trials, Kinnell Estate
- 3 Future of Strathfillan Churches, 12.30pm, Crianlarich Kirk, p9
- 4 Strathfillan CC Meeting and AGM, 7pm, Crianlarich Hall, p8
- 6 Walk in the Park, p19
- 9 Crainlarich Primary School Summer Fair & Duck Race, 1-3pm, School Playground, p10
- 10 Future of Strathfillan Churches, 12.30pm, Bridge of Orchy Kirk, p9
- 13 Walk in the Park, p19
- 14 Defibrillator Training, p28
- 15-17 Killin Music Festival, p21
- 16 Ukele Workshop, 1.30-2.30pm, St Fillans Episcopal Church
- 16 Scottish Folk Music and Singing, 3-4.30pm, St Fillans Episcopal Church
- 20 Walk in the Park, p19
- 21 U3A Grand BBQ & Barn Dance, 7pm, Gartmore Village Hall, p25
- 27 Walk in the Park, p19
- Various dates NTS events, p33

<u>July</u>

- 2 Strathfillan CC Meeting, 7.30pm, Crianlarich Hall, p8
- 4 Walk in the Park, p19
- 4 PPG meeting, 11.45am, Killin Surgery, p11
- 5 Killin Community Council AGM, 7.30pm, Killin School, p18
- 11 Walk in the Park, p19
- 11 Ben Lawers NNR Talk, 8pm, NTS office Killin, p33
- 14 Ben Lawers Bioblitz, p29
- 18 Walk in the Park, p19
- 25 Walk in the Park, p19
- 25 Ben Lawers NNR Talk, 8pm, NTS office Killin, p33
- Various dates NTS events, p33

<u>August</u>

• 1 Highland Games

Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays

Mobile Libraries

June 15, June 29, July 13, July27, August 10 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

June 11, June 25, July 3, July 23, August 6 Glen Lochay 11.15-12.30 Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

Perth and Kinross Fortnightly Tuesdays

June 12, June 26, 10 July, 24 July, 7 August Tombreck 16.40-17.00 Lawers 17.15-17.30

Which bin? Saturdays 9th June 16th June 23rd June 30th June 7th July 14th July 21st July 28th July 4th August 11th August Grey = grey bin + blue hin Brown = brown bin + blue box Green = brown bin, green bin + blue box

Recycling Centres Callander Monday-Friday: 5pm-8pm Saturday: 10am-2pm **Sunday: Closed** Aberfeldy **Tuesday and Thurday** 9am-7pm **Saturday and Sunday** 10am-5pm Crieff North Forr, Brioch Forr **All Year** Monday-Friday 9am-7pm Saturday & Sunday 9am-5pm



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