

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

February/March 2020

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Killin News

Editorial

In this first issue of a new decade, we have included a touch of nostalgia, looking back to how it was in Killin just twenty years ago (p29). We still had cartoons by Alan in those days and Mervyn's weather articles (p38) as well as the ever popular regular crosswords. Are there any budding crossword compilers out there? We are always on the lookout for features and are very pleased that in this issue we have the first in a new series of regular articles (p23). If you are aware of or want any events included in the paper, please let us know in plenty of time, (the copy deadline dates and our production policies are always printed on page 2) and please note that opinions expressed in published articles do not necessarily reflect the views of our team.

Sadly, our wonderful village floral tub displays remain under threat (p7) as no volunteers have been forthcoming, which is also the case following our phone book article in the last issue, meaning that a new phone book is unlikely.

On a lighter note, it is always a real pleasure to spend time selecting which photos to print from the many provided by Ron and others. As you will see, there is certainly a fabulous assortment included this time, covering the Santa Dash, the Hogmanay lanterns, fireworks and panto, all of which are well established and happy events. Thank you to all involved.

We look forward now to the arrival of spring and it's longer days.

Happy garden planning.

EH

Editorial Policy Statement

The Killin News is a free community newspaper produced and distributed every two months by volunteers to households and businesses in Killin and district. The aim of those involved is to produce an informative, accurate and entertaining journal for those who live, work and visit in this area. Letters and articles published in the newspaper do not necessarily reflect the views of the Production Committee and they reserve the right to shorten, edit or not publish any item. Contributions will be attributed to the author. Vested interests will be declared where applicable. Articles should be between 200 and 300 words, photos in high quality and the content should be original work relevant to Killin and environs. All personal emails are acknowledged by a reply. If you do not receive a reply please contact us by phone or drop the article in the office letterbox.

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



DEADLINES

Issue 175

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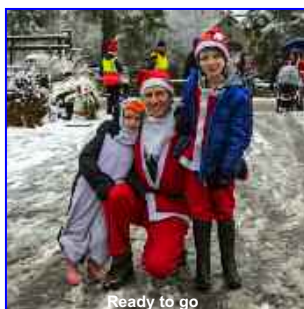
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Front Cover

Killin Pantomime
Photo Ron Allner

Santa Dash 2019



Ready to go



And they're away



The 7th annual Santa Dash, with over 100 Santas taking part



Everyone at their own pace



Rewarded after the event



So tired!

Note from Killin Primary School:

This year we had another successful Santa Dash and School Fair despite the snow! The money we raised will be added to our Playground Fund. Thank you to Tay Fitness, Killin Parent Partnership and everyone who took part to support us.

Isobel, P7



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2019 Hogmanay

The setting was great, the weather was great, the locals and visitors were great and the fireworks were great. It all made for a great atmosphere and start to 2020 for Killin.

The return of the fireworks to the Falls of Dochart was a success. Midnight Storm who provided the display did a marvellous show for us all.

We were both very pleased with how the event went, but want to stress



that it was a team event involving people without whose support the display could not have taken place. For that reason, much of this piece will be about thanking those who helped it all happen.

Firstly, being without a stage for the fireworks, a new one had to be built. Local joiners John Sinclair, Richard MacPherson and Iain Watson all volunteered with the help of Andrew Anderson and Anthony Dowling and, between the five of them, built an impressive stage which will hopefully last for years to come. Thanks to all of them, including Mons Bolin who very kindly donated some wood. On the night, we had the marshals who were key to keeping people safe and collecting donations for the display. They also receive our gratitude for their help and having to keep sober when most people all around them were in high spirits.

Thanks to Kay Riddell, Margaret Galloway, Keith and Anneke Mayo, Janis Duncan, Davie Fettes, Eilidh Shearer, Laura Aitken, Megan Rhys and Aimee Macleod. Our thanks also go to PC's Craig Murray and Lyle MacAuley for closing off the road and keeping us all safe from traffic. Thanks to Owen Rhys, a Killin Mountain Rescue Team member, who very kindly managed to run a line across the Falls from which fireworks were displayed, providing another highlight.

The event was very well attended by both villagers and visitors alike. All seemed to enjoy themselves and the feedback we have received has been very positive. Donations from

everyone amounted to some £1560 on the night. That is an amazing sum showing true generosity and community spirit. Thanks to every person who donated.

Much has been previously said about the mess left behind after the event, but having put out a number of bins on the night, the vast majority of people used those bins to get rid of their rubbish, making the job of clearing up so much easier. Thanks again.

The result of the generosity shown from the public, coupled with money donated by many local businesses (listed opposite), the sponsored cycle ride and calendar sales means the fireworks will be very likely to go ahead again for 2021. In anticipation of that we have already booked Midnight Storm to provide the display.

It just remains for us both to wish everyone a very happy New Year.

**Mike Beresford
Jinny Anderson**





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Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

Breadalbane Park

We reported in the last issue of the Killin News that we were successful with our funding application to the Co-op to raise funds for the play area. In November we received a phone call from the Co-op to say they had made a mistake and we were not actually successful in our funding application and have been withdrawn. You can imagine we are all very disappointed to learn this. The Friends of Breadalbane Park will be applying again for the Community Green Flag for the park. The application has to be in by the end of January.

If you want to be involved with the Friends of Breadalbane Park Group, our meetings will be advertised on our facebook page or you can contact me. We meet as and when required. If you find any problems in the park, these can be reported to Stirling Council, who are responsible for maintenance.

Old Mill

The new lights in the Old Mill have been completed. What a difference it makes being in the building, which now has a bright warm atmosphere. The sluice gate is in process of being fixed and we hope it will be

completed by the start of the season in April this year. We are looking forward to seeing the wheel working again.

KAT are re-looking at the plans for the Old Mill and taking the project forward and will be putting an Expression of Interest application into the National Lottery Heritage Fund.

Theresa Elliot
Project Manager
01567 820628
07789 265 823

Old Mill - Old Traditions and New Plans

We would firstly like to thank all of you who turned up to share in the tradition of Rebedding the Healing Stones on Christmas Eve. It was a truly enjoyable event, not least because so many people came along and so many children joined in. The delicious cake donations also contributed greatly to this! One participant said to me "you can feel the joy in the room", which I think describes the event nicely.

You may have noticed the Mill is currently closed. This is so we can restock and plan some more craft, upcycling and heritage events and displays for the summer. Keep your eye out for announcements on our Facebook page over the next couple of months.



If you have items to donate you can put them in the box outside the Mill, or contact us via Facebook or by emailing raina@killincdt.co.uk to arrange dropping them off. If you wish to volunteer, either in the thrift shop, or for helping with events and craft activities, please send an email to the same address or via Facebook.

Alternatively you can ring 01567 820628 and leave a message, but it may be a few days before we can get back to you whilst we are closed.

The Mill will reopen on Saturday 7th March. We hope to see you then!

Raina Jones
Mill Manager



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Killin Floral Association

Help Urgently Needed To Plant Up Village Tubs

Unfortunately, no one has come forward, following our appeal in the last Killin News, to volunteer to take up the four places left vacant in the floral association, now that four longstanding members are resigning. This will mean that there will not be anyone acting as Convenor to the group, applying for money to buy the plants and arranging for the tubs to be maintained, compost replaced, planted up and watered. This will also mean the end of the Floral competitions, including the tallest sunflower at the school.

This obviously means that unless people come forward to take this on,

the tubs will not be planted up this summer, which will not be a good look for the many visitors coming into our village.

The Association have written to Killin Community Council informing them of the situation, in the hope that they can come up with a solution to this problem and will be able to find someone to take on this responsibility.

Anyone who feels that they would like to see the tubs planted up and is interested in doing so, or in any of the other things the floral association do, please contact Alicja on 01567 820690.

Alicja Fraser



At the December meeting which was held in the lesser McLaren Hall, our president, Elizabeth Woods, welcomed a large turnout of members and friends who were entertained by Jean Faichney, one of our members. Jean, along with help from Cathie Reid and Jenny Huntley, showed off her flower arranging skills by demonstrating how to make a door wreath using fresh and artificial materials. Cathie entertained us by making a lovely fresh flower arrangement. Jean also brought along some arrangements which she had already made and were suitable for various purposes, doors, graveside etc. A lovely buffet was served and Elizabeth closed the meeting by wishing everyone seasonal greetings. January 2020 kicked off in the Bridge of Lochay hotel on Saturday 4th January. The theme for the afternoon was "You will go to the Ball" and the ladies did not disappoint. Almost everyone had been in the attic, charity shops and backs of wardrobes hunting out their partywear. Each and everyone was lovely. Bob, Amanda and staff served a beautiful lunch and the ladies had a great afternoon.

Ann Watson

Any Ideas?

Has anyone any explanation as to how this lump of ice formed in our birdbath? We can't think of any way it could have formed as the ice all round was clear.

Margaret MacIver



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6th Killin Hogmanay Lantern

This year our Lantern Making Workshop took place after the Killin Santa Dash. The hall filled up and everyone enjoyed some lunch before creating some wonderful lanterns. Our lanterns are made using willow which is a sustainable, natural resource, with tissue for decoration along with tiny string lights. It was a busy, fun community event resulting in an amazing array of unique, colourful lanterns.



All this is only possible with the generous donations from Pete and Iona from Tayfitness Events (our main sponsor), Killin Masonic Lodge, Killin Co-op and donations in our collection buckets. Huge thanks to you all.

We wish to thank Lynn and Michael at The Courie Inn for encouraging donations on our walk when we stopped outside to show off our lanterns on Hogmanay, also David Riddell for storing our lanterns for us, Calum Frost for his help transporting lanterns to the start of our walk and Killin Hotel, where Stuart made us all welcome with tasty hot chocolate and his judging skills!

It was such a difficult decision but Stuart chose: 1st Innes Chisholm with his submarine, 2nd Struan MacNaughton with his beautiful (well researched!) white bird and 3rd was Dylan Murphy with his wonderful blue shark. It is truly amazing how, year after year, folk design and make such different lanterns.



Again thanks to Ron Allner who took some great photos of our workshop and walk and got us in the Stirling Observer too!!
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**** Killin Hogmanay Lantern Workshop ****

Alma Walker



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Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Community Action Plan (CAP)

The Community Partnership and the local Community Action Plan Steering Group are still working towards producing our new Community Action Plan. The housing needs survey garnered 18 responses, which was great, and a new Place Standard App has been issued recently. This means you can have your views recorded for the CAP without leaving the comfort of your own home. You can find this handy wee survey at <https://arcq.is/10D8Lm>

Bike Skills Park: We are still working towards getting the Bike Skills Park 'shovel ready' for March, and our landscape architects and trail designers are working away to get everything done. The Trust is currently working on researching and applying for funding to construct the Park once the designs are completed.

Small Grants Scheme 2019: We recently awarded £200 to Crianlarich Village Hall Committee towards the

Lunch Club Christmas Lunch. We hope everyone had a good time. If you are a community group in Strathfillan and are looking for a small amount of money to help buy materials, run a project or other activities, then please contact Kelly at the Trust. The funding pot is limited so please don't hang about!

AGM: the Trust's AGM was held on November 11th 2019 and was well attended by 33 members and non-members. Following nominations from the floor, a private vote was held for Board Trustees. The following local residents were voted on to the Board: Ellen Cattanach, Colin McGeoch, Theresa Elliot, Catriona McKenna, Sheona MacLennan, Billy Ronald and Kelda Platt. We would like to welcome them to the Board, and we look forward to a successful 2020. We would like to thank the Real Food Café for supplying a delicious buffet, and Crianlarich Stores for providing drinks. We would also like to thank Anne Sobey from the Community Partnership and Dr Summers from

the Tay Liaison Committee for their interesting presentations. And last, but not least, we would like to thank everyone who attended, and we hope you come along again next year.

Following the AGM we elected our office bearers at the first Trust Board Meeting with the new Trustees. They were elected as follows: Chair: Theresa Elliot, Vice Chair: Ellen Cattanach, Treasurer: Isla Craig. I would also like to remind all Trust Members that they are entitled to request approved Trust Minutes from all Board and General Meetings. If you would like to see approved minutes please contact Kelly at the details below.

Contact: if you want to get in touch with the Trust for any reason we want to hear from you. Office hours are Tuesdays and Wednesdays 9.30am to 2.30pm, at Crianlarich Village Hall. You can email Kelly anytime at kelly@strathfillancdt.org.uk, or phone 01838 300249 during office hours.

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Crianlarich Community Auction

It is nearly that time of year again. The annual Community auction in Crianlarich will take place on Friday, 13th March. As in previous years, we would welcome your donations, be they big or small. The hall will be available in the week leading up to the event to drop off your goods. If you need help with a larger item, then get in touch and we will uplift it for you. Unfortunately, we cannot accept televisions. Whilst you are enjoying the auction, hot food, drinks and home baking will be on sale. We hope to see you there!

**Crianlarich Village Hall Committee
Evelyn Ronald (Chair)**

Strathfillan Lunch Club

Thanks to funding from the National Lottery Community Fund, a delicious Christmas dinner was provided by Lesley and Liz from the Rod & Reel Restaurant. They always give that bit extra, and the lunch was enjoyed by all. During coffee we were entertained by children from Crianlarich Nursery who sang Christmas songs.

Moira Robertson

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Killin Community Council

KCC December 2019

SSE Meeting: The consultation meeting in the Hall had gone well and the SSE had listened to objections to proposed plans.

Christmas lights: It was decided to consider Christmas lights which might be funded partly by the KCC and partly by money from Killin Fire and Rescue.

Community Action Plan: This is on target for a first draft in January and publication in April.

Road signs: A 40 mph Welcome to Killin sign will be put up on the far side of the Bridge of Lochay and another on the Park boundary indicating the entrance to the Park. The 20mph signs for Pier Road will be going up shortly.

Climate change: In view of this, Stirling Council will be looking at more flexibility in the rules for changes to old buildings.

Next Meeting: Monday 17th February in Killin Primary School

Police Report

Local Issues: A theft of money from the Capercaillie had been reported. An alert was being given, mainly to farmers, about thefts from fuel tanks. A Formal Police Warning had been issued following anti-social behaviour in the Falls of Dochart pub. A Vulnerable Person Report had been issued to the Public Protection Unit

following a disturbance in the Ballechroisk area.

Ben Lawers Car Park: Regular patrols and checks being carried out at the National Trust car park for Ben Lawers, where the parking machine in the isolated and secluded car park has been previously violated.

Mountain Rescue: The team have been busy and rescues included a lone walker being airlifted to hospital with an injured ankle, a man with a fractured tibia being stretchered off a hill track and another, who had got stuck in icy conditions as darkness fell, was rescued following around six hours of effort.

Personal safety: Everyone was advised to take good care of personal property while visiting cities and towns and to remember that in the unlikely but possible event of a terrorist incident, the rule was run away quickly, shout to warn other people and do not stand and watch.

Road safety: Drivers were advised to take extra care in winter conditions, making sure vehicles are in good condition with good tread on tyres and driving lights clean and working. A lorry driver had a lucky escape in November when his truck overturned at Lix Toll, blocking the road and considerable time was taken in offloading the timber contents before recovery by specialist agents.

Update on Village Phone Box

The village phone box at the Park entrance has now been adopted by Pamela Farquharson as it is on her land. Pamela has plans for it but all she will tell us so far is "Watch this space", so we'll have to wait and see.



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Prehistoric Rock Art in the Killin Area

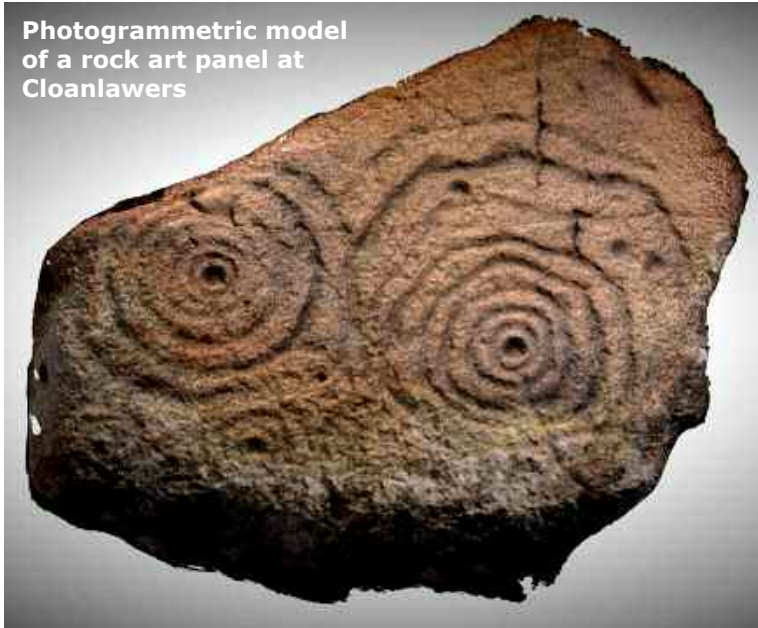
According to Scotland's Rock Art Project (ScRAP) there are around 300 known examples of prehistoric rock art within 10 miles of Killin. These enigmatic markings, such as cup marks, cup-and-ring marks and other motifs, can be found carved onto boulders and rocky outcrops across the landscape, from down by the shore at Morenish right up to over 1000m just below the summit of Ben Lawers, and along the length of Glen Lochay. By their nature they are difficult to date, but as some also appear on prehistoric monuments, such as chambered tombs and standing stones (including the Killin stone circle), they are believed to have been made over a relatively long period some 6000–3800 years ago (c. 4000–1800 BCE), i.e. during the Neolithic and Early Bronze Age.

Similar rock art occurs in many parts of Britain and Ireland as well as more widely in Europe and beyond, yet its purpose remains unclear, as do the meanings of the carved symbols. It was to enhance the understanding and appreciation of rock art in Scotland (where there are some 2400 known decorated examples) and to facilitate a more systematic analysis of the phenomenon, that ScRAP was established, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council, and

hosted by Historic Environment Scotland, in collaboration with Edinburgh University and Glasgow School of Art.

By training and supporting community groups in the recording of decorated rocks (referred to as

Photogrammetric model of a rock art panel at Cloanlawers



'panels'), ScRAP is creating the first detailed and comprehensive database of Scotland's rock art. The recording involves taking details of the panel's location and context within the landscape, its geology, form, size, shape and inclination, the types of motifs carved, and assessing the risks each panel may face from erosion, traffic, animals etc. Each panel is sketched, described and photographed. Also, a series of photos are taken to create a photogrammetric 3-dimensional model which can be rotated and manipulated to highlight the decoration for further study.

If you would like to know more, do visit the Scotland's Rock Art Project website. It tells you everything you need to know about rock art and the Project, as well as how to get involved in your local group if you are interested. Since October I have been recording some of the local rock art panels, and it would be great to establish a Killin group.

Andrew Powell

andrewbailliepowell@gmail.com



Recording rock art at Cloanlawers with Dr Tertia Barnett of ScRAP



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Our Christmas performance took place in our hall this year with an amazing attendance by the friends and family of KPS. Primary 1 acted out the nativity while the other children told the story through song. Thank you to all who attended, performed and assisted with the raffles.

Caitlin, P7



Gemma from the Dogs Trust Scotland came to school to teach us how to approach and look after dogs. She taught us what to do if we find a dog without it's owner and how to keep ourselves safe. She also taught us about dog senses and how we should react to different behaviours.

Lily, P7

This year's Spelling Bee was really hard with words such as architectural, handkerchief and contemptuous to learn. The finalists fought a knock out round in front of the whole school. I was very nervous and was flabbergasted to win. Well done to everyone who tried their best. Congratulations to Mason, Katie, Liam, Paige and Lieke.

Callum, P6



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Shooglie Road Productions came to visit us again, this time with an amazing performance of Aladdin. We were joined by Crianlarich PS and Strathyre PS to watch the show. It was very funny and there was lots of audience participation.

Lieke, P7



Our Christmas Party this year was brilliant. We danced the Gay Gordons, Strip the Willow, the Circassian Circle and the Virginia Reel. The party games were great fun and the food was delicious. Before we went home, Santa arrived and gave us all a balloon and goodie bag. Thank you to the SWI for organising a fantastic party. Thank you also to Wendy and Brenda from Escape for the baubles and to Lodge Breadalbane St Fillans 815 for the magnificent tree.

Kenzie, P7



On 8th January the whole school had the amazing opportunity to go to the Edinburgh Playhouse to see the West End hit, 'The Lion King'! As soon as the lights dimmed, our hearts started racing. All of a sudden the music started and elephants, tropical birds and hyenas came charging down the aisles while giraffes, lions and antelopes appeared on the stage. The costumes were incredible and we loved singing along with the songs. We had a fantastic day and would give the show 10 out of 10!

Jodi, P7

50th Birthday Celebration!

25th March 2020

**@1.30pm – 3.00pm in the
School Hall**

Killin Primary School are celebrating 50 years of being a primary school in the existing building.

Staff and pupils would like to invite all parents, past pupils and teachers to our Birthday Tea Party where they can enjoy an afternoon of nostalgia.

We are collecting photos and items for our museum which will be on display on the day.

We look forward to seeing you there!

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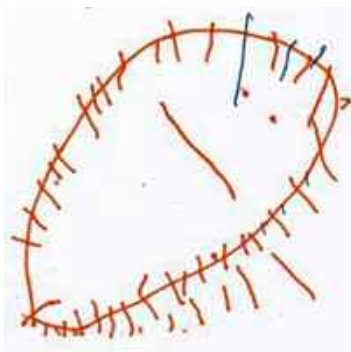


Killin and Crianlarich Nurseries

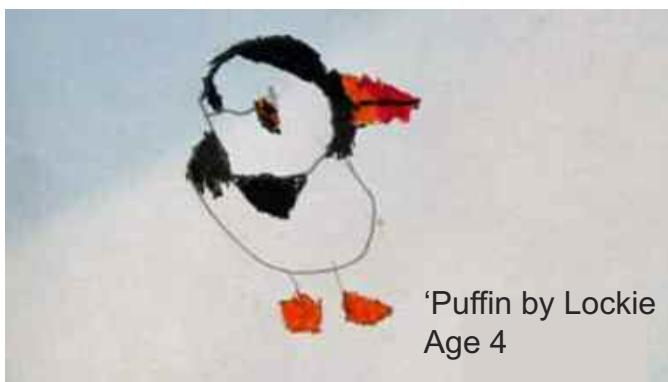
'Environmental Action Killin' Art Competition (nursery age group).

In October, EAK held a public event to help to raise awareness of Climate Change and the pressures facing species and habitat. In relation to this, Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Ranger, Gareth Kett, visited Killin and Crianlarich Nurseries to talk to the children about wildlife and the children were invited to take part in an animal art competition.

Congratulations to all the winners and well done to all the children for their wonderful paintings and drawings!



'Tiger' by Sofia, aged 3



'Puffin' by Lockie Age 4

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Compassionate Communities Living Right up to the End

Strathcarron Hospice has provided specialist palliative care across Forth Valley since



1981. As specialists in palliative care we know that with the right support people with long term conditions can enjoy life and can make plans which will help their families to care for them. We have spoken to people across Forth Valley, and they have told us that although professional help is important, what they really want is a supportive compassionate community – a community where caring for one another during life's challenges is something which everyone can be involved in. Strathcarron Hospice has been fortunate to secure funding from Big Lottery Community Fund to enable us to work with 3 communities across Forth Valley to build and support resilient compassionate communities. The project areas are Killin, Alva and Denny.

We have appointed "Community Builders" in each area who will work closely with the community to build networks of trained volunteers who will support people to live right up to the end.

Our Community Builder in Killin is Sara McPhee. Over the next few months Sara will be out and about in Killin and the surrounding villages getting to know what is already available to support people who are ill, ageing, dying or grieving. She will be speaking to individuals and groups, and will set up discussion events to discover what is important to local people and what might help the community to support neighbours to live, die and grieve well. If you would like to get involved in building Compassionate Killin please contact Sara on **07815 680754** or sara.mcphee@nhs.net

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Masonic Lodge Events

New Year's Night Dance



2020 was welcomed in with the Traditional Family Ceilidh Dance in the McLaren Hall. Donnie Black's award winning Scottish Ceilidh Band led the dancers in a mix of Scottish Dances including some not always included in most repertoires. The Local Masonic Lodge members

were aware of the current discussions on the capacity of the McLaren Hall for various functions and on the evening took note of the numbers attending along with personal space and dancing area. Considering the range of ages, which were from babes in arms up to senior citizens, the conclusion from complimentary comments and observations, was that a capacity of 250 was best and covered all points: safety, clear fire exit routes, adequate individual space and control by stewards. The photos and video on the Lodge website back up the above statements. The Lodge members wish to thank all who supported the dance and the raffle, the many donations of prizes and the goodies in the kitchen. Special thanks to 'Escape' for help with the decorations, Willie for supplying the tree, and the girls who ran the kitchen.

Alex Stewart

Community Auction

The Annual Community Auction for 2020 takes place in the McLaren Hall on Easter Saturday 11th April. The last date for being notified of and receiving donations will be Monday 6th April. This allows for the final listing in the catalogue and the numbering of the "Lots" to be completed and make the catalogues available on Thursday 9th.

Notices will be prepared before March and will give full details of which Lodge members can be contacted to arrange collection of donations. Please note that large electrical goods, computers and TVs, along with personal clothing and soft furnishings cannot be accepted for a variety of reasons.

The Lodge members are amazed at the generosity of the residents in our community, which never ceases to astound everyone, and makes the day such a success. The revenue generated goes back into the community to help local organisations and worthy causes and is donated by the Masonic Lodge in the name of the community.

On behalf of the Lodge members thank you all for your past and future support and we all look forward to another successful community generated evening.

Alex Stewart



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Walk in the Park

Date	Meeting at 10.20am	All Routes: Walk from 15min - 1hour
05/02/20	McLaren Hall Car Park	Glen Ogle to Viaduct - car share
12/02/20	McLaren Hall Car Park	Auchlyne Road (new) - car share
19/02/20	McLaren Hall Car Park	Glen Lochay - car share
26/02/20	McLaren Hall Car Park	Mhor 84 - car share
04/03/20	Capercaillie	Craignavie Road
11/03/20	McLaren Hall Car park	Moirlanich Longhouse - car share
18/03/20	McLaren Hall Car park	NCN7 at Strathyre - car share
25/03/20	Capercaillie	River Dochart / Old Railway

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. 07852 334272

Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/KillinWalkinthePark>

Christmas Lunch

The walking group held their annual Christmas lunch in the Killin Hotel on Wednesday 11th December, when we were treated to a delicious meal. Volunteer Walk Leaders were thanked for their support and the amazing contribution they make to the success of the project. Volunteers were presented with a gift and certificate from Paths for All in recognition of the contribution they make to the walks and strength and balance sessions in Killin. The photo shows the walk leaders with their gifts.



Fiona's story

I joined Killin Walk in the Park walking group in September 2018. After many of years of being involved in groups that revolved around my children in their pre-school years, it was time to do something for me. Walk in the park I thought? I don't really do long walks! I'm not that fit! Why would I want to join a walking group? On a lovely Wednesday morning that September I made my way to the meeting point and was welcomed by Cathy, the walk co-ordinator and, as the saying goes, I've never looked back. I very soon started to look forward to the Wednesday walks and began taking a sense of achievement away from every walk, often saying "a mile

makes it all worthwhile". Soon the walks become more than just a walk, they became an opportunity to practice photography skills, and depending which other members are taking part in the walk, can become wildlife & nature lessons, sometimes history lessons too, but most of all the walks are about being outside enjoying the beautiful countryside in the area. As my involvement in the walking group grew, I was not quite ready to become a walk leader, so Killin Walk in the Park Facebook page was born to promote the walking group and encourage new members to come along. The Facebook page, which I administer also showcases photos and interesting facts from the walks.

As a result of taking part in the walk group I also set myself challenges along the way. In January 2019 I signed up to the monthly challenge Race at Your Pace (Walking Challenge). In June my niece and I

signed up for Walk your Way to raise money for the Stroke Association. After being part of the walking group for a year it was time to become a Walk Leader. From my experience I'd encourage anyone to come along and join in, "it's more than just a Walk in the Park".

Fiona Boath

Please see the above schedule for Wednesday morning meeting times and routes or pick up a flier from the Medical Centre or Library.

All walks are free. Walks are followed by optional refreshments in a local coffee shop when walkers pay for their own refreshments. Strength and Balance exercise sessions continue to be held in The Killin Hotel from 1.30–2.30pm on Wednesday afternoon. This very popular session offers gentle Otago based exercises to keep you walking with confidence. The session is free and open to all ages and is followed by refreshments in the Killin Hotel. Participants pay for their own refreshments.

For more information about Walk in the Park and walk schedules for all groups including Callander, Killin, Aberfoyle, Drymen, Balloch and Arrochar visit www.trustinthepark.org/walk-in-the-park

Killin Drama Club The Wizard of Oz



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The Frost Report



Make a New Year Resolution!

We may be a month into 2020 but it is not too late to make a New Year resolution. Especially an important one and one that should last not just through this new decade but all our lives. In a recent letter to the Courier newspaper, a reader puts forward the request to open our minds this New Year. To open them to questioning the misinformation being peddled for profit regarding human activity linked to global warming. Daily we are told totally unscientifically proven so-called facts. Or, as someone would say, fake news. Why? To scare us or just for personal gain. The facts state that CO2 comprises 0.04% of the atmosphere and 3.8% of this is contributed by humans. As Paul Daniels would have said, "not a lot!" If Chris Packham had his way there would be far less people, as he states that smallpox, measles, mumps and malaria are there to regulate our population. I wonder if he is volunteering to be controlled in this way?

You may have noted the recent death of David Bellamy. This clever and entertaining character introduced a generation, especially youngsters, to the magical world of botany. He was once so popular but suddenly disappeared from our screens. At that time his views that global warming was a natural and inevitable event, which had previously happened in the history of the world, was not politically correct and so he was 'shelved' by the BBC. When he became patron and honorary life member of The National Gamekeepers Organisation, he became a veritable pariah. The Bellamy Award trophy is the NGO's annual Conservation Trust's educational award. This "recognises those who display exceptional creativity and initiative in promoting sustainable land management." When he was 80 he still gave lectures which were well

attended.

Today is January 14th, the date that the oystercatchers returned last year. There is no sign of them, maybe due to storm Brendan. As the pier here at Ardeonaig is underwater, their usual perch is not available. At least their journey from the coast is not as far as a recorded migration of a wee robin, weighing 19gms. It migrated 140 miles from Germany in 4 hours. This was done in darkness, presumably to avoid falcons and gulls and not just emulating world war bombers. Last week we had a brief visit from a squirrel. They must be getting to the end of the wild food in the hazel and beech woods, and be needing a little supplement. Hopefully we will soon see more of them.

A very unusual flock of visitors was seen here a couple of weeks ago when half a dozen black grouse did a fly past.

We always marvel at the local birds busily feeding away in all storms and they don't seem to get wet. It's hard to stop marvelling at the wonders of the natural world and we are so fortunate to live in such a place as we do. So much out there is past our understanding and it does us good to take a wee while to watch and reflect. Those of you who read the article "Man with two Dogs" in the Courier will have seen that such time spent is very healing to the spirit. Even in our homes, cosied up of a winter evening, we can watch fabulously filmed wildlife programmes. It is so sad that even these have become depressing as, at the end of them, we have an epilogue of disasters that we are made to feel personally responsible for. It has been good to be made aware of this but enough is enough, let us be able to leave a programme feeling inspired and happy as we used to be.

Our planet is a wonderful place and, compared to many of its other

residents, we humans know so little. Recently over 400 new species of beetles, lizards, amphibians etc. have been discovered worldwide, as well as the rediscovery of the pink footed mongoose and a tiny deer in Vietnam, both thought to be extinct. S.N.H. have apologised for mistakenly killing 300 trees by lethal injection on the Loch Lomond island of Inchtavannach and causing a detrimental impact on a beautiful scenic area. Terrible bush fires have happened in Australia before, but the aborigines used to carry out controlled burning to reduce the extent of these. Older cultures often know more than modern ones. Lessons could have been learnt. I wonder what the Scottish government would make of Billy Connolly's joke that trees should be banned as they are a major cause of forest fires. Meanwhile, with the politicians trying to make sense of how to justify importing foodstuffs which further increases CO2 production, whilst also planning to cover our farmland with trees to help reduce CO2, the beavers are saying "Hooray, Berty Beaver for first minister!". While the vegans worry where they will grow all their crops, especially the ones needing long distance importation or the burning of fuel to heat the greenhouses, the gurus are producing environmentally friendly cattle which will grow faster but eat less (have they heard the old story about the man who had just found how to keep his donkey without feeding it when it died?) Let's cheer ourselves up with the knowledge that a new South African gin is flavoured with a range of tasty botanicals infused from elephant dung. You can spend 500 rand (£26) for a bottle of Indlovu (Zulu for elephant) and get a " lovely earthy, woody and almost spicy bouquet."

Tim Frost

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THE KILLIN CONNECTION

Killin, a wee place with big connections. This new regular feature explores the area's rich heritage, it's links to major historical events and the legacy of it's people worldwide

At the Water's Edge

Last summer, a team of archaeologists from the Scottish Universities Environmental Research Centre (SUERC) carried out a terrestrial survey and excavation of an Iron Age settlement at Ardnagaul, outside Killin. In their dig they discovered remains of a roundhouse dwelling, including a few surviving objects such as a large timber post hole for supporting timber and a hammer stone (also used as packing for the post hole). A charcoal sample from this site has been radiocarbon dated to 100 BC. It is one of only a handful of known terrestrial Iron Age settlements around Loch Tay and the latest piece in the jigsaw revealing what life was like here over 2000 years ago.

The goal of SUERC's *Living on Water* project is to determine whether these settlements were contemporary with the crannogs on the loch. So far, the excavated sites show occupation a few centuries after peak crannog activity around 400 BC. However, the results are far from conclusive. Rather, new patterns are emerging about the chronology of the terrestrial dwellings. The team's second site at Easter Croftintygan found a ring-ditch house, again with post holes, a potential hearth feature and a ditch fill that was left unexcavated. Radiocarbon dating of the charcoal indicates that this house dates from 1st century AD, a near contemporary to Ardnagaul. Elsewhere, two sites excavated by the Ben Lawers Historic Landscape Project at Croftvellick and Tombreck also suggest activity in the Early Iron Age,

with the latter dating to 200-50 BC. Another pattern linking these sites is that they all survive within later historic settlements. Croftvellick and Tombreck are both nestled in amongst much later medieval and post-medieval structures. The Ardnagaul roundhouse appears to have been used as an animal pen at one time and



the team's dig was often hampered by ceramics, clay pipes and other modern obstacles. The circuit of the outer wall had been disturbed and portions cleared away. At two other sites near Fearnan, the team found only one potential prehistoric feature amongst the litter of pottery, glass and coal fragments. Clearly these fields have been heavily middened in the past and sadly that might be the reason why so few sites exist around Loch Tay. For Dr Michael Stratigos, research associate at SUERC, there are more questions than answers about the wider landscape beyond the crannogs: "We know from the environmental evidence that people are farming this landscape; they're using the landscape

from the loch shore to the tops of the mountains; and we know that people are living on the loch but are they living in the wider valley? The answer is we still don't really know."

"In the immediate onshore locations from the crannogs it doesn't seem like there is any archaeologically visible activity taking place. I don't want to say that these crannogs are absolutely isolated with nothing going on immediately on shore but we can't see it. Where we can see it, is in the areas slightly up the slope. My hunch is that this actually represents just a bias in archaeological record where stuff survives rather than where activity was definitely taking place."

What is clear is that the mixed arable and pastoral economy of the crannog dwellers grew more sophisticated through time. By the 1st century BC, they were engaged in flax production – something approaching early industry even. Incidentally, this is around the time Ardnagaul roundhouse appears. The chronology of the crannogs themselves must also be noted. Periods of abandonment and reoccupation feature often in the crannog timeline, suggesting these were not permanent residences. There must have been terrestrial sites to which the crannog dwellers moved in those abandonment periods, of years, decades or centuries, when they were not living on the loch. We may have to wait a few years yet before these answers are given to us.

Michael Gardiner



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Musings From The Manse

The Drama Of 2020

Well, we are into a New Year and its designation sounds like something from a science-fiction movie. Of course, 2020 vision is being able to see with clarity and precision (although I need to go to Specsavers soon!) so the question is, will human beings manage that in this coming year, given the challenges we face globally, nationally and even personally? History is full of drama, much of which bequeathed to the modern world a mixed bag of good and bad. We have just finished a year of political turmoil in our own country and however we voted, let us pray that some stability and progress can be made in social and political terms for the good of all. Unfortunately, none of us can stop the world and get off so we have to make do with the situation we find ourselves in. Yet, drama is at the heart of existence. Nothing worthwhile, novel, unique, important, interesting or radical happens without struggle, effort, sacrifice, and creative tension. It is so in nature; it is so in history; it is so in our own personal journeys of life and faith. Many of us enjoy a good drama on the TV and appreciate the twists and turns of a clever plot line which keeps us in suspense and is full of surprises. These usually involve competing characters, motives, behaviours, unforeseen events, and action-packed incidents. From the point of view of entertainment, this is all well and good, but what of our own lives?

Are we part of a narrative bigger than ourselves? Are we engaged and participating in a plot line that is exciting, enriching and purposeful? Are we going anywhere? It's a "vision" thing as opposed to a Homer Simpson "stuff" thing. Are our lives all about the "stuff" that is in them or that happens to them or, are we able to transcend all of that with a larger and more expansive "vision" of the world and our place in it? The Biblical narrative is an Epic from the Creation to the Consummation of all things. It once undergirded the way we saw the world and our role within it, but that has been lost. Perhaps we need to recover that. Interestingly, a survey conducted in August 2019 indicated that 89% of 16-29yr olds felt that life had no meaning or purpose and headlines like "Millennial Angst" appeared (no wise cracks from the grumpy old farts please! I can just hear the comments already – "Well in my day...." Yeah, Yeah whatever!) The great Judeo-Christian Icecap that once covered Europe has melted and we are all fumbling about trying to adapt to a brave new world. Perhaps it's time to get back to our roots. We can't recreate the past and who would want to, it wasn't perfect anyway, but we are in danger of throwing the baby out with the bathwater... something we do with Jesus every year along with the decorations when tidying up in the aftermath. But then as they say, "The trouble with Christmas is the bills come in January and

the Baby grows up!" The church building in Killin is a testimony to something bigger than itself and to the longevity of a message, a hope, and a faith that has inspired and guided many generations past and present. How much longer will that be the case? The Christian faith has, in ways apparent and hidden, shaped and nurtured our culture. At its centre there is an amazing person who challenges us personally and individually. It is the adult Jesus we have to reckon with: the one who started a revolution; the one whose influence and impact on the world is second to none. The great Napoleon once said that "Jesus may have won men's hearts but I control their destinies." Then he marched into Russia and was defeated by the snow. Hitler once said, referring to Jesus, that "No anaemic Jew was worthy of the worship of any good German." His Reich which was to last a thousand years ended in catastrophe after only twelve. Joseph Stalin once vowed to eradicate the name of Jesus from the land of Mother Russia. Yet immediately after his death, it was his name which was removed, and even the city of Stalingrad was changed to Volgograd. The Monty Python Team were right: "Brian" wasn't the Messiah only a "very naughty boy!" Jesus however, was and is. Will 2020 be the year you check this out for yourselves and discover a revolution in your own lives?

Russel Moffat

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Killin Bowls Club - Funding Success Ensures Green Future

Killin Bowls Club ended their first year on a high after successfully being awarded funding from Club Sport Stirling for new lawn equipment. Club Sport Stirling is a voluntary organisation supporting the growth and development of sports clubs in Stirling's communities, and they were delighted to be able support the group who have reinvigorated bowls, both recreationally and now formed a club again, with over twenty members since April.

The funding award of £800 will pay for the much needed purchase of spreading equipment that will see the green getting back to its best for the new season in the spring. This is in addition to funding also received for a new lawn mower through Stirling Council's community grants. Of course, the equipment is no good without the commitment of the club to maintain the green and volunteers who meticulously plan the required feeds and cuts that come with having a pristine green. We will be sure to showcase some before and after pictures in a future issue!

National Park Outdoor Recreational Delivery Plan (Consultation)

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park are currently undertaking consultation on their draft Outdoor Recreational Delivery Plan. The plan outlines the ambitions of the park and its partners for getting more people more active, more often. Alongside the area's community action plan, it is important that all thoughts are mirrored in these larger plans for greater outcomes and developments.

Please visit the following site to take part in the consultation and see current proposals for Killin and the greater area.

<https://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org/park-authority/get-involved/consultations/active-park-healthy-people-outdoor-recreation-delivery-plan-consultation/>

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Killin and District Volunteer Car Scheme

The car scheme continues to work very successfully, with more and more people using us, for local as well as journeys further afield. We have also taken on regular weekly journeys, to Killin Connect, Strength and Balance and other regular appointments. We do not charge for journeys in Killin but are happy to accept donations for these.

We are always looking for more Volunteers to join us. As well as more drivers, we need people to help us with publicity and fund raising, also to become co-ordinators and trustees, for which there is an interview process as well as other related duties. If you feel able to support us, please speak to Don Fraser on 01567 820690. An hour or two a week makes such a difference to what we can achieve. We are still looking for drivers in outlying villages, especially Tyndrum and Crianlarich. We are planning on visiting both villages in the near future to further publicise the car scheme and to recruit drivers from those areas.

Alicja Fraser

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Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust: 2020 AGM and Open Meeting

HPCLT's 2020 AGM will be held at 2pm on Saturday 28th March at the Tryst, Pitlochry. The meeting is open to all – you don't have to be a member. The formal business of the AGM will be quite short, and will be followed by a talk by Dr James Rae of the School of Earth & Environmental Sciences, University of St Andrews, entitled *Climate Science and Solutions*. There will be light refreshments, displays illustrating some of the exciting work being done by HPCLT, including our Rural Skills training for young people, and the chance to talk to some of the people actively involved in HPCLT. Come along to this annual meeting and find out what we are doing to restore the 445 hectares

of land at Dùn Coillich to a healthy, biodiverse ecosystem. Since 2002, over 220,000 native trees have been planted, helping to create a patchwork of woodland, heathland and wetland. Dùn Coillich is a partner in the Heart of Scotland Forest Partnership, which in turn is part of a much larger movement throughout Scotland to enhance the upland landscape for the benefit of wildlife and people. HPCLT also looks after the Wee Birks Field in Aberfeldy. This will be kept as an area for public enjoyment, with the informal paths kept clear of vegetation. Some 40 native flowering trees were planted in 2019.

Andrew Walker

Scottish Wildlife Trust

Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire Members Centre

The next talk will be on Monday 17th February at 7.30pm in the assembly hall of the Breadalbane Community Campus Aberfeldy (PH15 2BJ) when Rick Worrel, forestry consultant and co-owner of Castle Wood, will give a talk 'Castle Wood – a place for business, wildlife and recreation'.

Please note the change of venue for this talk.

The following talk will be at 7.30pm in the Tryst, Church Street, Pitlochry (PH16 5EB) on Monday 16th March. The talk will be given by Jo Pike and Caroline Hendry, respectively SWT Chief Executive Officer and Regional Visitor Centre Manager. The talk will be 'Loch of the Lowes – a vision for the future'.

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Scottish Air Ambulance

2020 is set to herald a major advancement in the provision of emergency pre-hospital care in Scotland.

This spring, Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA) will launch a second life-saving air ambulance helicopter, flying expert clinical care to the scene of serious illness and injury and airlifting patients onwards to definitive hospital care. The new helicopter - callsign Helimed 79 - will operate from a new base at Aberdeen International Airport, providing an identical service to the charity's existing helicopter, Helimed 76, based at Perth Airport. Working in tandem with Scotland's two government-funded helicopter air ambulances (based at Glasgow and Inverness), SCAA's two helicopter air ambulances will play a critical role in the country's 999 response network, flying help and hope to communities in every part of the country. Since the charity's first service

launched in 2013, SCAA has touched the lives of thousands of patients. This amazing service has only been made possible thanks to the generosity of people all across Scotland who have taken the tireless



work of fundraising for the life-saving charity to their hearts. People have walked, run, abseiled, dressed up, dressed down, baked, cycled, climbed, collected, sung and sponsored friends - an endless array of innovative and thrilling fundraising

tasks - all to help fuel a service that needs your support today to ensure it is there for you tomorrow.

Sustaining a second helicopter air ambulance is a major challenge for SCAA but with the people of Scotland

behind us we are confident we can deliver more help, to more people, more often as we add to the capacity and resilience of these vital national lifesaving resources.

Thank you to everyone who is already supporting SCAA and to those who will get behind us in the future and help fuel the life-saving flights that could impact on your family, your friends, your colleagues or your community.

A happy and safe New Year to all from everyone at SCAA - the People's Helicopter - funded by the People of Scotland, for the People of Scotland.

John Bullough
Chairman
Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance
(SCAA)

the Big Shêd

On Saturday 22nd February, Sadhita returns for a one day yoga workshop (10am-2pm, followed by lunch) priced £50, including a vegetarian lunch. The workshop sounds great for anyone who spends a lot of time sitting and staring at a computer screen as it will consist of two practices: one based on remedial back work and the other shoulder work. Some meditation will be included. There are spare yoga mats and other equipment at the Big Shed, but do bring your own if you wish. Sadhita was born and raised in the UK and originally trained as a physiotherapist, so he has an incredible understanding of the structure of the human body. He's been living in Spain for a long time and runs training for

those wanting to teach yoga. You can get more background about him from his website

<https://www.bodhiyoga.es>

To book your place, contact us by: email: websitecontact@bigshed.org.uk, text/phone, Facebook or the website.

Yoga class with Emma Burtles resumed on Friday 10th January. The class now starts slightly earlier at 10.15am and finishes at 11.45am. The class costs £6 and there's no need to book.

<http://www.bigshed.org.uk/wordpress> & www.facebook.com/theBigShedTombreck
tel 07508645453

The Big Shed is at Tombreck on the north side of Loch Tay, about 2-3 miles beyond the Ben Lawers Hill Road. Access is signposted from the main road and there is parking. Remember the Big Shed is also available for private hire and it's a great space to celebrate a "big" birthday!

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Killin - Then and Now

Twenty years ago the world had Millennium fever. Despite arguments as to whether it began in January 2000 or 2001, everyone was up for marking the new era. At a public meeting in March 1999, the Killin Millennium Committee announced which of the proposals from villagers had been chosen and various sub-committees and individuals then got busy.

Five memorials were proposed, three of which - the McLaren Hall clock, a cairn with a time capsule (opposite the Killin Hotel) and the clearance around Fingal's Stone - were achieved but two others, a commemorative window in the church and access from the bridge to the west side of the island fell by the wayside. Other successful projects included a video about life in Killin, clearance of the old railway line to the head of the loch and various celebrations, including fireworks on the Falls at Hogmanay. The fireworks proved so popular that fireworks and exchanging New Year greetings by the bridge afterwards have become a focal point for every Killin Hogmanay since.

The video, started by Jane Calder, covered all the annual Killin events and interviews with various villagers.* The village then was a place which older people retired to and to which young people often did not return after further education as there were no jobs. Now, with medical services less easy to access but greater on-line possibilities, more younger people have moved in as they can work from home. At the turn of the century many Americans visited each summer but since 9/11 an American accent is rarely heard. Then running and cycling were not common sports but are now very popular with all ages. The Mill was the Breadalbane Folklore Centre and is now run by KAT (the Killin and Ardeonaig Community Trust) which did not then exist. So many things have changed but many events are still part of Killin life. What changes will the next 20 years bring?

We still have :

Killin Show
Gun Club
Golf Club
The Auction
Craft sales
Remembrance Day
WRI
New Year dance
Fishing Opening
Ploughing Match
The pantomime
Burns Supper
Herb Society
Tuesday Club
The Killin website
The rubbish skip - just

Went and came back :

Duck Race
Green bowls
Folk/Music Festival
Highland Games

A few names we may remember :

The Clachaig
McRae's Butchers
Breadalbane Folklore Centre
Corrie Crafts
Wee Bake Shop
McGregor's Florists
Tarmachan Tea Shop
Swords
Pride of Place
Killin Time
Granny Campbells
Tighnabruaich Hotel
KRS (set up to get a Resource Centre)
Drumfinn
The Youth Hostel
Arts and Craft Exhibition
Killin Keepfitters
Killin Crafts and Woollens
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Craigard Hotel
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(*All the unused film of people and events is still safely kept by Iain Campbell Snr. and how to put it into modern media form and preserve it is currently being discussed.)

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Robert Burns - The Wounded Hare

This poem, written in 1789, was sent in by Rosie Third who is writing an article about hares for our next issue



Inhuman man! curse on thy
barb'rous art,
And blasted be thy murder-
aiming eye;
May never pity soothe thee
with a sigh,
Nor ever pleasure glad thy
cruel heart!

Go live, poor wand'rer of
the wood and field!
The bitter little that of life
remains:
No more the thickening
brakes and verdant plains
To thee a home, or food, or
pastime yield.

Seek, mangled wretch,
some place of wonted rest,
more of rest, now thy
dying bed!
The sheltering rushes
whistling o'er thy head,
The cold earth with thy
bloody bosom prest.

Perhaps a mother's anguish
adds its woe;
The playful pair crowd
fondly by thy side;
Ah! helpless nurslings, who
will now provide
That life a mother only can
bestow!

Oft as winding Nith I,
musing, wait
The sober eve, the cheerful
dawn,
I'll miss thee sporting o'er
the dewy lawn,
And curse the ruffian's aim,
and mourn thy hapless
fate.

Malcolm Campbell 1939 - 2020

On behalf of
myself and
my family I
would like to
say a big
thank you to
everyone
who
attended my
husband,
Malcolm
Campbell's
funeral. It
was lovely to
see so many
people
paying their
respects to
Malcolm. We
would also
like to say a

big thank you to everyone who kindly donated to
Alzheimer's Scotland. In total £895 was raised in
Malcolm's memory.

Lastly many thanks to the Reverend Russel Moffat for a
lovely service, and to Andrew Anderson & Sons Funeral
Directors for helping to organise the funeral.

Cheryl Campbell



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Pearl Noble

7.1.1919 – 25.8.2019

Our Mum was born in Easter Aberchalder, Gorthleck, Daviot, Inverness shire to William and Catherine Fraser; she had three brothers and was the second in the family. She was brought up in farming life and married our Dad, Willie Noble, at Laggan, Kingussie and lived on farms at Daviot, Inverness-shire. She had four children, Iain, Billy, Margaret and Rena all born in Inverness-shire and moved to Perthshire 61 years ago when we were all in primary school. Mum worked in the Ardeonaig Hotel then Ardeonaig School until it closed in 1986. Our Dad was caretaker at Craggan Boys Brigade Centre at Ardeonaig for 19 years. Mum took over the roll when our Dad died and retired after 17 years when she was 82. She was delighted to have members of the Boys Brigade keeping in touch and visiting her after she retired. Our Mum loved baking, knitting and sewing, and she was a great DIY person, painting, papering, gardening and tackled anything that needed to be done. Her aim was always to fix and repair, a talent fading these days. My first early memory was being on a flat roof of the porch where we lived on the Farm at Daviot, not sure why she had us up there with her. I imagine being on a farm it was easier to keep an eye on Rena and me on the roof rather than have us at ground level and up to mischief. I think I was 4 and Rena 3 at the time.



I was just so impressed to be somewhere definitely off limits and too young to be interested in the job. The work was completed and down the ladder we came, a great adventure at a young age. Both our parents were very hard workers and did most jobs themselves and we thank them for instilling in us a great work ethic. Mum lived in Ardeonaig until 2 years ago when she had two strokes and she was no longer able to be at home. This required her to move to the amazing care of Mandy and her staff

at the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and all the local medical care and services. Mum progressed very quickly under their care and recovered back to her old self, but unfortunately with limited mobility. It was very frustrating for her not being able to do all the things she loved doing, especially her sewing, knitting and gardening. She was delighted to hear what all the staff and their children were doing; the highlight was getting visits from their children and also from the nursery and school children every week. Being in Killin helped her recovery as she was able to be more involved with family and village activities. We are all very grateful that she was able to get a room at The Falls of Dochart, a great credit

to Killin. She was delighted to have five grandchildren and seven great grandchildren and wanted to know what we were all doing and achieving, keeping us right at every turn. Many thanks to Russel and Ross for all their help in organising Mum's funeral; the collection was donated to the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home.

**Iain, Billy, Margaret,
Rena and Family**

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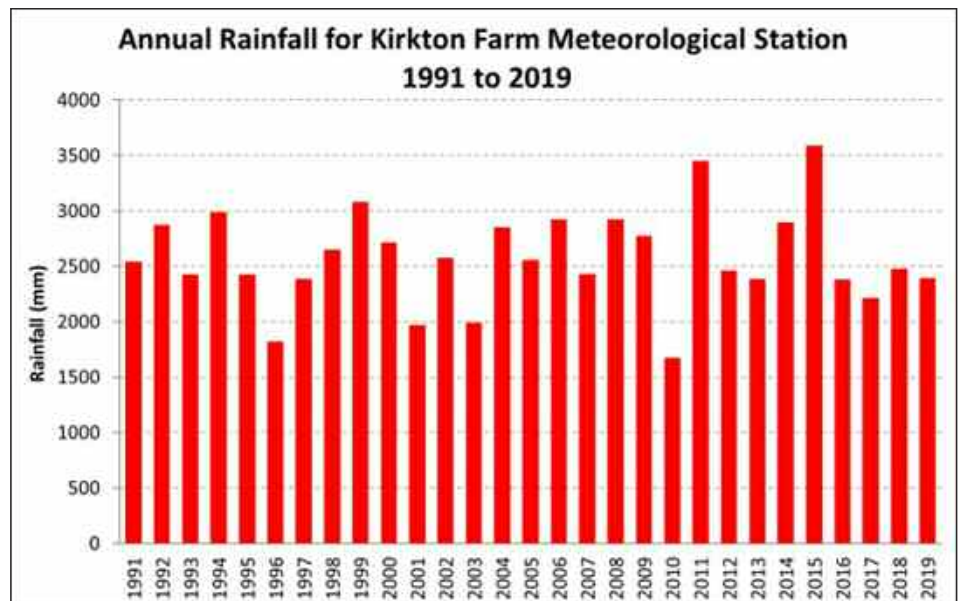
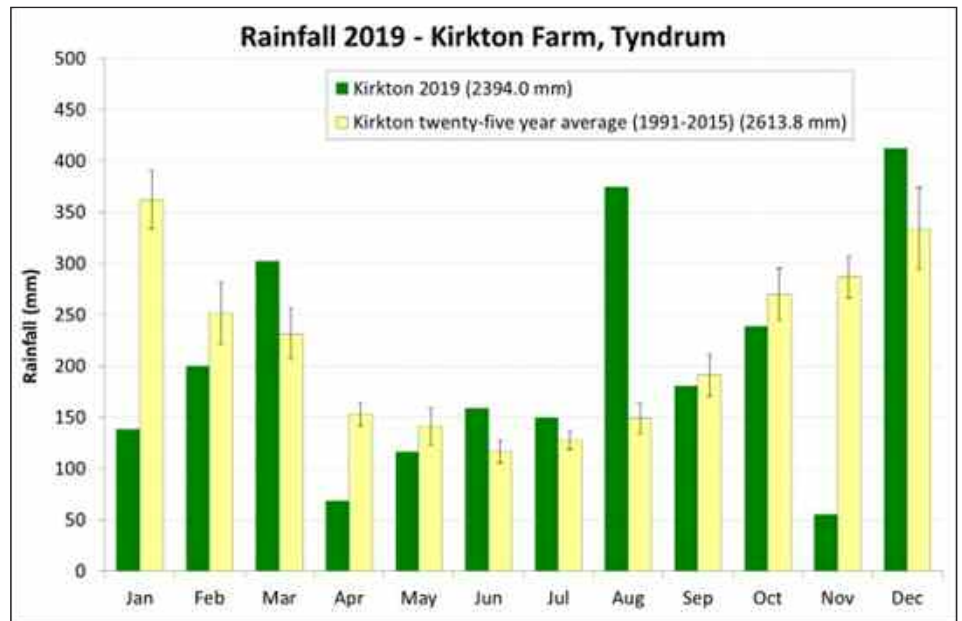
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2019 Weather Review for K

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

The main features of the weather at Kirkton in 2019 were a dry January and a dry April; a very wet August; an exceptionally dry November; and a relatively mild and wet December. The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office automatic weather station at Kirkton in 2019 was 2394.0mm (94.3 inches). This was 219.8mm less than the 1991-2015 twenty five year average (2613.8mm). The wettest month was December with 412.0mm (16.2 inches) of rainfall. August was also particularly wet with 374.8mm of rainfall (over 2.5 times the average rainfall for August). This was the wettest August on record. The summer of 2019 (June, July and August) was also the wettest summer on record. The rainfall was above average in March, June, July, August and December. The driest month was November with 55.4mm of rainfall (only 19% of the 25 year average). This was the driest ever November recorded at the farm. January and April were also particularly dry with only 138.4mm of precipitation in January (38% of the 25 year average) and 68.4mm of precipitation in April (45% of the 25 year average). The highest rainfall over a calendar week (Monday to Sunday) was 155.6mm between 2nd and 8th December. There were four calendar weeks when the total rainfall exceeded 100mm. The highest rainfall in a single 24 hour period (09:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 69.8mm on 30th August. This was the wettest summer day on record. There were four days in 2019 when there was more than 50mm of rainfall recorded (4th August, 30th August, 7th December and 10th December). The total number of rain days was 263 (72.1 %).

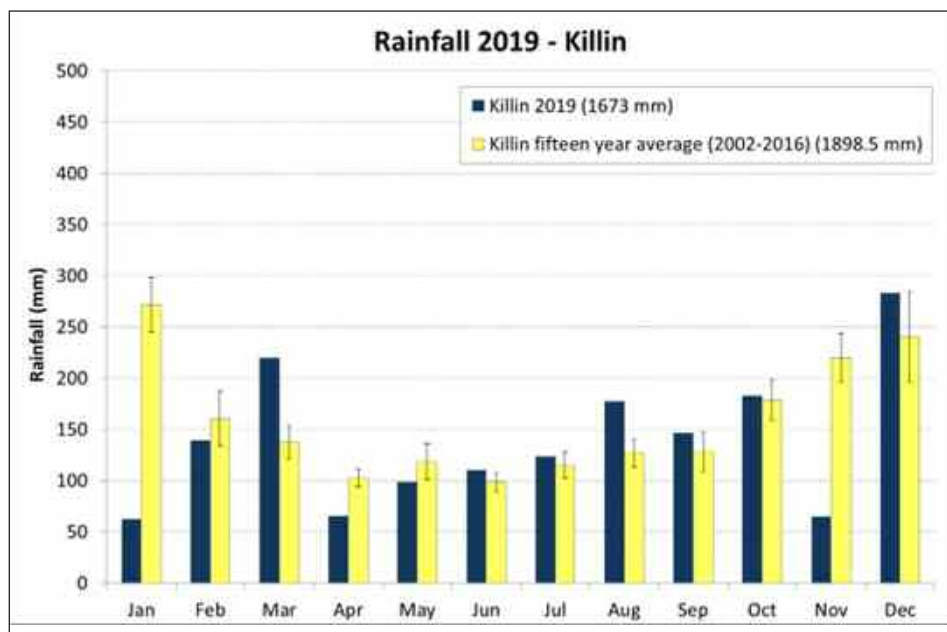
The lowest temperature recorded during 2019 was on 1st February when the temperature fell to -11.9°C. This was the lowest temperature since January 2011. The temperature on 25th February reached 15.2°C, which was the highest ever winter maximum temperature since recording began in 1991. The lowest maximum temperature was recorded on 30th November (-1.2°C). There were only two days in 2019 when the temperature failed to rise above freezing (2nd January and 30th



November). An air frost was recorded on a total of 81 days. There were no air frosts recorded in June, July or August. The highest temperature recorded was on 25th July (29.1°C). This was the warmest July day ever recorded at the farm. July and August were the warmest months of the year with mean temperatures of 15.66°C and 14.80°C, and mean maximum temperatures of 20.19°C and 18.65°C respectively. Temperatures of 25°C or above were recorded on four days (27th June, 28th June, 25th July and 25th August), while temperatures above 20°C (but less than 25°C) were recorded on a further 33 days (three days in April, three days in May, five days in June, fifteen days in July, nine days in August, and two days in

September). Sleet or snow was recorded falling at the weather station on 23 days. There was no snow recorded at the weather station in November and only one day of snow in December. There were three days in 2019 when sustained gale force winds were recorded at the farm (26th January, 12th March and 3rd April); and there were four days when thunder and lightning were recorded (12th March, 24th July, 31st July and 4th August). Thanks to the Met Office for supplying the data from the automatic weather station at Kirkton.

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



Killin Rainfall 2019

The total rainfall recorded in Killin in 2019 was 1673.0mm (65.87 inches); this was 225.5mm less than the 2002-2016 fifteen-year average (1898.5 mm). January was the driest month with only 62.5mm of rain, while December was the wettest month with 283.0mm. During 2019 Killin received 69.9 % of the rainfall recorded at Kirkton (i.e. some 721.0mm less). The rainfall was higher at Kirkton than Killin in all months apart from November.

Killin Heritage Society Events

The Killin Heritage Society will begin its 2020 programme of events with a talk on renewable energy, focusing on the Breadalbane Hydro Scheme by Roger Twigg.

Everyone is welcome to attend at 2.30pm on Sunday 16 February in the National Trust for Scotland, Lynedoch, Main Street, Killin.

There will be tea and cakes to follow, with entry just £3.

We aim to run a similar event in March and have already arranged for Polly Pullar, local naturalist and author, to speak to us on Thursday 23 April at 7.30pm at Lynedoch.

Details on all our events are sent to those who give us a contact email and will be published on posters in the village and the Killin Facebook page.

If you would like details, please send your email address to keithmayo2000@yahoo.co.uk



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Callander	Gartmore	Loch arnhead	
Deanston	Killlearn	Strathblane	

We may be able to build in other communities in the future – please let us know 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.

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Killin Community Choir

November 16th 2019 was a very special occasion for

the Killin Community choir. We celebrated our 10 year anniversary and WOW! We had a great night. The evening was filled with joy and very happy memories. The programme included music from the past 10 years, and the first half concluded with the world premiere of "Community of Love", a piece inspired by the beauty and warmth of Killin. The composer of the piece was the very talented Ken Johnston. We dedicated this piece to the people of Killin, as well as dedicating the

performance to May Graham, Sheena Chisholm and Ken Chew. We were thrilled that Kathryn Storey, who formed the choir, was able to attend the concert.

We had visiting artists Steven Faughey, Monica Toll and Christian Schneeberger who performed music ranging from opera to Italian song. The audience raised the roof and joined in with a rousing Hebrew wedding song, with plenty of actions and movement. This was led by the pupils from the Killin Primary School who always give us an entertaining performance. They also recited a beautiful poem about the community, written by the pupils.

The choir would like to thank all who donated raffle prizes and the amazing cake created by Jillian Lawrence. We would especially like to thank everyone who came and supported this event and who have supported the choir over the last 10 years. The National Lottery "Awards for All" funding made all of the above possible. The funding also enabled us to workshop at the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home and the Killin Primary School. Our aim is to record Community of Love sometime this year.

Franny Morrison



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2nd Killin & District Scout Group Stirling & Trossachs

Scouts



They say that the greatest gift you can give is your time; because when you give your time you are giving a portion of your life that you will never get back. In today's world we are all busy people: work, hobbies, commitments, families, housework... and the list goes on. So why give up an hour or two of my week to take Beavers?

Growing up, I was a member of Girlguiding. I really enjoyed it and it gave me so many friends, new experiences and skills which I am so thankful for. Being part of the community here in Killin, I want to make sure that our kids have these same opportunities that I had. The Beavers who come along really enjoy it and to use the scouting strapline we help to teach them "skills for life" - for me this makes it all worthwhile knowing that I am helping make a difference.

Many of the activities we do are things I already enjoy, like being outside and exploring, activities such as gardening or cooking, or getting creative and crafty, so I get enjoyment out of it too. Realistically, yes there are sometimes nights that I could see it far enough as I'm rushing home from a busy day at work or have something I need to do. However, I know if I wasn't there or we didn't have Beavers/Scouting at all, these kids would be missing out and once they all start piling in the door at the start of an evening, an hour is over before I know it!

Laura Bathgate
Beaver Leader

Group Executive and Christmas Fair

On Saturday 30th December the Executive group, with the help of the Scout groups, hosted the 3rd Christmas Fayre. Fourteen tables provided a wide and varied range of gifts to be purchased. The Cubs, Scouts and Explorers sold items, which they and the Beavers had produced, alongside serving teas, coffee and cake, and raised £392. A separate raffle was held to start the fundraising for the Essex Jamboree 2020, which raised £85. Some of our Scouts and Leaders plan to take part in this event. It's a great opportunity for them to be part of the wider Scouting family.

The Christmas Fayre has become very popular in the short time it has been running and is widely supported by the community. The Executive group greatly appreciate this and a date is in the diary for 2020. So save the date, we'll see you on Saturday 28/11/2020.



Beavers

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

Our Beaver colonies have been busy as usual! Before Christmas we finished our My World challenge badge by celebrating St Andrews Day - the haggis was very popular, just look at those clean plates!! We also learnt how Christmas is celebrated in other countries; Mexico and Germany making pinatas and decorating gingerbread. As we move on into 2020 we're going to be doing our cooks badge - watch out masterchef!!! Our weekly parent helper rota is now working really well and we are very thankful for each and every parent who has helped us out!

Laura Bathgate - Beaver Leader
07708216065

Cubs

Cubs are aged 8-10½ and will be meeting every other Tuesday in The Lesser Hall, Killin, from 7.15pm to 8.30pm.

Since the last Killin News article the theme has been very much

Christmas! We also looked at the important North American festival of Thanksgiving. A bit of history and games connected to it including having our very own play food festival. My thanksgiving jokes did not go down well. Our Joint meeting with the Scouts to finish the Christmas term went really well and hope the Cubs and Scouts enjoyed it.

Looking ahead we will be welcoming A LOT of beavers this term and in the following terms ahead. This does mean parents are being requested to help with meetings. Looking ahead after Easter we may well be struggling to accept new members and be operating a waiting list for those wanting to join Cubs. With a lot of help from parents and prospective helpers we may be able to limit any affects.

Stephen Rawlinson - Cub Leader
07742 886918

Scouts

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

The Scouts have been getting crafty and creative during the December period. A good attempt at doing craft out of wood was made. A lot of use of tools and paint was involved with some original designs too.

A lot of thought is now being given to future sleepovers, including a joint one at Dynamic Earth in Edinburgh. Planning for the Essex Jamboree in August is well under way. A lot of time will be spent this term planning our expeditions and adventures. Please keep an eye on our Facebook page and posters for fundraising events being planned into the Spring.

New Contact Details Scout Leaders - David West
07522 162025
2ndkillin scouts@gmail.com

Letters

Wartime at Loch Tay

Can you help me with a puzzle that has been troubling me for 74 years ? In 1945 I went with my parents on a bed and breakfast holiday to Lochearnhead. Always interested in lake steamers I insisted on a visit to Killin Pier. I was very surprised, with the war nearly over, that approaching the pier, I was met with a thick barricade of barbed wire. I saw a man, who appeared to be based locally, and asked why on earth a steamer pier was so protected. He replied that, unlikely it may have seemed, but two or three years previously, there had been a rumour that the Germans were considering invading Britain through Scotland and that with their fleet of large seaplanes, they would use Loch Tay as an entry point.

I have always wondered if he had been pulling my leg, but then you have to explain the vast array of expensive barbed wire then protecting the pier. If anyone has any information regarding this, I would be grateful if you could email me at the email address below.

An expatriate Scot.

Robin Watt, Evesham
robin.jm@btinternet.com

Belated New Year Wishes

We would like to send our heartfelt wishes for a happy and healthy new year to the whole community in the beautiful village of Killin. A sudden change of family circumstances on 22nd of December prevented us from joining you all for your Hogmanay celebrations, and in particular the fireworks over the falls. While our thoughts were with you all, we were soon updated with what a success it had been by Enid and Kay the following morning.

Thinking that we were well travelled we will never understand why it took us as a family over half a century to find the most beautiful village in Scotland, (ask Google!).

We have had family connections in the area for years, since my uncle Len purchased Inverinian in Glen Lyon in the 60s, Robert and his wife Fiona reside in the area today.

In summer 2015 we purchased a week's holiday in the glen at a charity auction because we wanted to introduce our family to what we had enjoyed as children.

During this visit we had back tracked down the glen to Aberfeldy for food shopping trips, however a habit of a lifetime changed - after a stop at Balgie, we drove over Ben Lawer and instead of turning left, Diane said "Why don't we turn right and see what's in Killin?" We parked behind Bridge End Mill.

The three girls went shopping, I don't do shopping but this day turned out to be different. I was absolutely lost for words in the beauty of the village that we had just discovered. When I regained some composure, and on noticing Tigh Muileann was for sale, I phoned the agents and made an offer on the property there and then. The four of us stood together outside the mill in amazement, at which point I turned to Diane and just said "Has this place given you a special feeling like you've never experienced?"

I have since told my Uncle that we had found Killin. His response was "You're a bit slow after all this time!!"

In the meantime we will endeavour to help and support the community whenever we are able.

Happy New Year!

**Michael, Diane, Katie, Libby
and the Corgis of Tigh Muileann**

Telephone Book

Many thanks for your article about the telephone book. I have no answer as to who should undertake the production I am afraid... I am aware of the challenges. I just want to say that I use it *all the time*. I would definitely miss it if it disappeared.

Again, many thanks for your work.

Catherine Huber

Fishing Opening Cancellation

The planned official opening ceremony for the salmon fishing season in Killin, which was due to take place on January 15th had to be cancelled this year, due to extremely high river levels. We are not aware that this has ever happened before.



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Clinics are held in the bowling green pavilion in Killin on the following dates between 9.30 & 11.30am

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Wed 1st April	
Wed 15th April	
Wed 29th April	


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Local Planning Applications

National Park

06 Nov 2019

Proposal: Construction of 154 metres of temporary access track
Location: Inverardran Road 923 Land South Of Inverardran Crianlarich
Applicant: Mr Andy Malcolm
Application Type: Prior Notification
Decision: Prior approval not required

10 Dec 2019

Proposal: Erection of telecommunication mast (smart meter) and installation of associated equipment
Location: Land Opposite Tyndrum Lodge Tyndrum Crianlarich
Applicant: Arqiva Ltd
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Approve

15 Nov 2019

Proposal: Replacement and installation of septic tank with associated soakaway
Location: Auchtertyre House Crianlarich
Applicant: Mr William Colquhoun
Application Type: Detailed Planning Permission
Decision: Approve

20 Nov 2019

Proposal: Erection of shed
Location: Riverside Craignavie Road Killin
Applicant: Mr Paul Godfrey
Application Type: Householder Planning Permission
Decision: Approve

27 Nov 2019

Proposal: Erection of single storey extension to side elevation and raised decking areas to side and rear elevations
Location: Caberfeidh Manse Road Killin
Applicant: Mr C Walker
Application Type: Householder Planning Permission
Decision: Current

16 Dec 2019

Proposal: Erection of two storey extension
Location: 6 Strathfillan Terrace Crianlarich
Applicant: Mr David West
Application Type: Householder Planning Permission
Decision: Refuse

Perth & Kinross Council

12 Dec 2019

Proposal: Retention of cabin for agricultural storage and staff welfare facilities (in part retrospect)
Location: Rynachulaig Farmhouse Killin
Applicant: Dr Kathy Freeman
Application Type: planning permission local
Decision: Approve the application

Stirling Council

15 Nov 2019

Proposal: First floor extension above garage and car port
Location: Cean Na Drochaide 1 Pier Road Killin

Applicant: Mrs Sandra Laurence

Application Type: Full

Decision: Approve

26 Nov 2019

Proposal: Erection of dwelling house
Location: Land Opposite nd South Of Ardeonaig Hotel Killin
Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin
Application Type: Full
Decision: Unknown

26 Nov 2019

Proposal: Construction of 2No single bay marinas to house 2No houseboats
Location: Ardeonaig Hotel Killin
Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin
Application Type: Full
Decision: Unknown

26 Nov 2019

Proposal: Change of use of hotel rooms to form 4No holiday let units
Location: Ardeonaig Hotel Killin
Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin
Application Type: Full
Decision: Unknown

26 Nov 2019

Proposal: Erection of 4No holiday let units
Location: Ardeonaig Hotel Killin
Applicant: Mr Greg Deakin
Application Type: Full
Decision: Unknown

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Scots Magazine Honours Mervyn

Looking back over the years, one of our most regular contributors was Mervyn Browne whose detailed and informative weather page was always eagerly awaited. This week, one of our readers brought along the latest Scots Magazine in which there is an excellent article about Mervyn, written by Polly Pullar and including some beautiful photos. It is well worth reading.

As a taster, here are a few facts. He was born in Ireland, moved to Perthshire as a teenager and took with him his already established love of nature. This never faltered, despite pressures to take on other careers, and despite a short-lived experience of life away from the



mind, preserving and planting hedges and trees, and improving the land. Both weather and astronomy have always fascinated Mervyn and we were so privileged that he found the time to share his knowledge with us all in Killin. He kept copious records, sending them to the Met Office, while his detailed records of birds and their migrations, along with his botanical records, have highlighted the effects of climate change. After more than 60 years of observations and records, and a lifetime of farming,

Mervyn was awarded an MBE in 1999 for services to the community and conservation. We would like to thank him for his contribution to our small community and wish him a continuing happy and contented stay at the farm.

Footnote: We obtained permission from Mervyn to include this article in Killin News.

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countryside, he soon re-emerged to take up a life of farming, at first in Balquhider where he learned the skills of working blackface sheep with collie dogs, and later, in the 1950's, he was able to buy the farm at Milton of Ardtalnaig. He has been there ever since. His many working dogs were always very special to him and he always farmed with conservation in

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What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

Monday

- Flow Yoga, 7-8pm, Community Rooms
- Gentle Yoga, 8.05-9.05pm Community Rooms
- Juniors P7 Badminton, 6-7pm, McLaren Hall
- Adult Badminton, 7-10pm, McLaren Hall
- Junior Badminton, 6pm, Crianlarich Hall
- Bridge, 7.15-9pm, Killin Hotel, contact Marion 829027
- Indoor Bowls, 7.30pm, Lesser Hall (winter months only)
- Outdoor Green Bowls, 6.30pm, Bowling green (summer only)

Tuesday

- Killin Craft Group, 10am-12pm, Community Rooms
- Internet Cafe, drop in between 11am-1pm, Killin Library
- 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
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- U3A Art, 2pm, Killin Hotel
- CAB drop-in session, 10:30-12:00, MacGregor's Market, 1:00-2:00, Killin Library

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
- U3A French, 2.30-4pm, Killin Hotel

Thursday

- Women's Guild, 2pm (3rd week of month), Falls of Dochart Retirement Home
- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark
- SWI, 7.30pm (1st Thursday of month, Lesser McLaren Hall)

Friday

- U3A Bridge, 2pm, Killin Hotel
- Yoga, 10.15-11.45, The Big Shed

Sunday

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

Coming Soon !

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April

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- 23 Killin Heritage p33

Church Services

- Sunday 10am, Morning Worship, Killin Parish Church
- 2nd Sunday of the month, 3pm, Falls of Dochart Retirement Home
- Catholic Service on 1st Sunday of the month at 3pm in Kilin Episcopal Church. Held by the Callander Resident Catholic priest, Father Les

Which bin? Saturdays

8th Feb 15th Feb

22nd Feb 29th Feb

7th March 14th March

21st March 28th March

4th April 11th April

Grey = grey bin + blue bin

Brown = brown bin + blue box

Green = brown bin + green bin

Recycling Centres

Callander

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

Aberfeldy

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

Crieff

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

Mobile Libraries

Tyndrum/Crianlarich Fortnightly Fridays

Feb 7, 21, Mar 6, 20, April 3

Crianlarich

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

Tyndrum

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

Glen Lochay/Ardeonaig Fortnightly Mondays

Feb 3, 17, Mar 2, 16, 30
Glen Lochay 10.50-12.30
Ardeonaig 2.00-2.45

Perth and Kinross Fortnightly Tuesday

Feb 4, 18, March 3, 17, 31
Tombreck 16.40-17.00
Lawers 17.15-17.30



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