

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

February / March 2025

Issue 197

Price £2



Killin News

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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**Front Cover
Photo Ron Alner**

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Killin Hogmanay Lantern Workshop and Parade

For the first time in 14 years we did our Lantern Walk in pouring rain !
Thank you SO much to everyone who joined our walk, came out to see us and made kind donations.
Our well-loved Lantern Making Workshop produced the usual high standard of unique, amazing lanterns.



This FREE
Community activity
is possible due to
our funders :
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Quotes From Lantern Makers

"our children really enjoyed it, using their creative imaginations to come up with new designs"

"amazing experience"

"thoroughly enjoyed the lantern workshop. Such a lovely community event"

"absolutely loved it, first time making lanterns and had such a great time"

"brilliant to see all the different ideas people have"

"really good family activity, brings the community together. Loved the cheese sandwiches"

"great fun, thank you very much"

"this is a great annual event that brings the community together"



Many thanks to Ron Allner for taking such wonderful photographs on our rainy walk and at the workshop, Davie Fettes for allowing us to store our lanterns in the Pavillion, Lynn Crow and family (including Lady Fungus!!) for coming out the Courie Inn with sweets for our lantern kids and to my family who give so much help and support to keep this event going.

Alma Walker



Killin Mountain Rescue Team

A Round-up of 2024

Killin Mountain Rescue Team responded to 30 callouts last year, equating to just over 1200 volunteer hours.

To break down some of these numbers, our rescues averaged about 4 hours in length with 10 members attending. However, one of our longest search and rescues of the year involved over 20 people and lasted up to 8 hours.

We had a two day missing persons search on Beinn a'Chroin, which involved 9 other mountain rescue teams and other agencies, including search and rescue dogs, police and coastguard.

A rescue helicopter was involved in 14 rescues or searches.



Night time Land Rover assist

August was our busiest month by the number of call outs received but April showed the longest volunteer hours. For once, Ben More was not that busy this year. However Ben A'an and Ben Lui were our hotspot incident sites. In total, 33 persons were recorded as needing our help.

2024 felt like a quieter year than as of late. We can only extrapolate that this lower number may be due to a number of factors, with the poor weather in the summer months giving lower numbers of people in the hills



SARDA training day

followed by a settled October. It is also possible from looking at the Northern teams' statistics, that potentially the last few years were particularly busy in our patch and people are now exploring further afield.

These numbers are only a snapshot of the statistics collected from our incidents which are recorded and supplied to Scottish Mountain Rescue to aid mountain safety.

As ever, a significant amount of time is also dedicated to training, managing equipment, running the charity as well as other administrative duties.

Financially we are in a healthy position and with new Trustees now on the board we are doing some sensible forward planning.

We have welcomed 5 new trainees to our membership and two of our probationers are now full-time members. A lot of work is being done to train and mentor these newer members.

As always, we attended over 20 events ranging from the First Aid cover at the Killin 10K, Killin Agricultural Show and Hogmanay Fireworks as well as talks for schools, scout groups and visiting walking groups. A core part of the team's purpose is to educate in Mountain safety and we hope that in attending such events we contribute to reducing the number of incidents on the hills. Members are volunteers, most work full time and have families and otherwise busy lives. Contributing to



the ongoing operation of the team requires considerable time and effort from our members who will no doubt continue to work just as hard in the coming year.

Winter preparation

We had some of the coldest conditions for over 10 years recently but winter does remain quite fickle.

As a reminder, don't be complacent and 'Think Winter':

<https://www.mountaineering.scot/safety-and-skills/thinkwinter>



Congratulations to John Lovegrove

New trainee, John Lovegrove has successfully completed his epic 164 miles running event, the Montane Spine challenge North. Not only did he complete, he broke the mountain rescue team record by 3 hours and came 4th overall. This goes to show his exemplary resilience and willingness to put up with pain and some misery. All necessary skills for a mountain rescuer! As we go to press, he has already raised over £2000 for the mountain rescue so we are doubly proud of his efforts. Well done! If you do have any questions or queries, do please contact the team via email at:

secretary@killinmountainrescue.scot

Stephen Rawlinson
Secretary

Killin Mountain Rescue Team

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Killin Hogmanay Firework Display

Despite the awful weather on the night, the fireworks this year were fantastic again with a large turnout of people to welcome in the New Year. The fireworks are such an important attraction to the village.

all of the very generous people that donated prizes and money and bought raffle tickets.

I would like to thank Mike Beresford for all the years of hard work he put in with the fireworks, the festive lights, the lights on the bridge and



The display would not be possible without the help of a lot of people, especially Antony Dowling and the boys that kindly erected the staging, the people that rattled tins etc. and

the other things he was involved in. He has now moved away to start a new episode in his life and I wish him and Fiona all the very best. He will be missed.



We have a new group of wonderful people taking over the organising of the fireworks etc. from now on. I will still help out, but I'm sure great things are ahead for the village.

Thank You.

Ron Allner

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Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry

Bees and the Wildlife of Loch Tay!

Did you know that it's the start of the bumblebee surveying season? And that you could get involved? Why not come along to the February talk hosted by the Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust to find out more!

Annie Ives is Project Officer for the Bumblebee Conservation Trust, working on a fascinating project called 'Skills for Bees: Scotland' – and she'll be speaking at our next talk on **Monday 17th February** in Pitlochry.

The aim of Skills for Bees is to improve long-term monitoring of bumblebees by empowering local people to identify and survey for bumblebees.

Annie will give us some insights into the lives of these precious pollinators, explain why they are so important, and give practical tips to those who might be interested in supporting bumblebee surveys in our area.



Even if surveying isn't for you, it's a chance to learn more about the 20 different species of bumblebee we have in Scotland – and familiarise yourself with the Foggie Bummer!

Following that on **Monday 17th March** will be an illustrated talk and film from Dr John Holland, Upland Ecologist from Scotland's Rural College (SRUC), who will give us an insight into the wildlife of the head of Loch Tay and the Loch Tay Marshes SSSI.

The area is a stunning example of an open water transition fen, and it, along with the surrounding woodlands, marshy grassland and open water habitats, are home to a wide range of plants and animals.

150 species of bird have been recorded at the site over the past

25 years, including a number of rare species. Beavers and otters have also made it their home, along with scarce plants making the most of the specific habitat, including coralroot orchid and creeping subspecies of lesser water plantain.

Come and find out more about this remarkable place and the range of bird, mammal and plant species that can be found if you know where to look!

Talk times: 7.30pm - 8.30pm
Place: The Tryst, Church of Scotland, Church Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5EB.

Suggested donation: £3 for non-members, £2 for members (you can donate in person on the day).

Contact markandrosie@btinternet.com for more information. Sign up to hear about events and find out more about activities on the numerous reserves in our area and beyond.



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Local Planning Applications

National Park

Nothing to Report

Perth & Kinross Council:

05 Dec 2024

Proposal: Alterations to dwelling-house

Location: North Steading

Tombreck Lawers

Applicant: Mr Chris Horner

Application Type: planning permission local

Decision: Awaiting decision

Stirling Council

Nothing to Report

Killin Medical Practice

We would like to wish all our patients a happy New Year.

The practice would like to thank you all for your generous gifts over the festive period.

We will be increasing our fees for Non General Medical Services on April 1st 2025.

We will be publishing a list of prices on our website

<https://www.killinmedicalpractice.scot.nhs.uk/>

prior to the price increase.

You may have had a vaccination invite recently asking you to attend the Practice. Please note this is a misprint and **all immunisations are being done at the Nurses Clinic in Lyon Road.**

Ann Massey
Practice Manager



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SJP Approved 04/09/2024

Killin Nursery

Killin Nursery are proud to host our

stay, play
and blether away...group!



We would love to welcome local parents and carers with infants and young children, to pop along, meet other families, enjoy a cuppa, some chat and an opportunity for your children to play and socialise.

When - Thursday 30th January, 2-3pm.

Where - Killin Primary School hall.

(Please enter using the rear door in the playground.)

Our nursery stay, play and blether away group continues to be offered fortnightly to families within our local community. Please feel free to pop along for a cuppa and a chat. A big thank you to our educators, Kayleigh and Allana, who always go above and beyond to facilitate this well-received group.



The children have been learning all about Chinese New Year. Educators shared the fascinating story behind the animals of the Chinese zodiac.

The children then made Chinese lanterns which symbolise people letting go of the past year and welcoming the New Year with good fortune. Children are also working together to create a papier-mâché snake to accompany our nursery Chinese dragon.



"I'm Nurtured Nora and I want you to know that it's important to be cared for and to care for other people and other things."

To ensure everyone has a common understanding of wellbeing, the Scottish Government introduced eight indicators, often referred to by their initial letters, SHANARRI – Safe, Healthy, Achieving, Nurtured, Active, Respected, Responsible and Included.

For children to reach their full potential they should have opportunities to become successful learners, confident individuals, effective contributors and responsible citizens. Supporting each wellbeing indicator will help make this happen.

This term the children at Killin nursery will be developing their knowledge and understanding of Nurtured Nora. They will be learning all about being cared for and caring for others.

A big thank you to Alma for helping to make our very own nurtured Nora.



S H A N A R R I

Village Life. Taken from Sketches of a Highland Village by James Anderson

In these days, the picturesque cottages in Gray Street and Monemore as well as numerous others in the Main Street were all thatched with wheat straw which had to be renewed at quite frequent intervals by the tenants but overall, they were kept tidy. Most of the cottages had a Croft with cows keep and this meant a common grazing which was on the north hillside above the village. A herd had to be employed for this and the last man on that job was the late Duncan Cameron of Maragowan. In the mornings as he moved forward, each cow was let out and he collected them and brought them home in the evening. The Gray Street cows had their own grazing on the Acharn hill, which latterly was fenced by the railway. In these days, the Smithy (Smiddy) was where the Police Station is now and the smith acted as Veterinary Surgeon or Farrier. The last smith was a man named MacEwen.

The cottages had no mains water supply and the tenants had to carry water from pumps set at intervals along the side of the street. In winter the streets were lit by paraffin lamps, but only in "The dark of the moon." On stormy nights they often blew out leaving us in darkness.

We had numerous shopkeepers and tradesmen in the village, carrying on thriving businesses. We had two bakers, D. McKerchar and Son and Angus MacNaughton. You could get a good treacle piece from Angus the baker for a halfpenny and sweets from Miss Dewar of Gray Street (she had a parrot for an added attraction for the children), or from Bob Suileag in Monemore. There were two saddlers, A. Cameron and Son and Peter MacKay (Patie Kay) who was also beadle in the United Free Church. Two Plumbers, D. Buglass and William Roberson, better known as "Electric Will," two bootmakers D. McLaren and William Ferguson, who was also the Postman to Glen Dochart and three joiners' businesses, the principal one being Campbell Brothers who were also Undertakers. The senior partner was known to us all as "Toy Jock." There were two butchers, John McAnnally and John McMartin, four tailors' shops, two at least employed one or two men and several ladies carried on dressmaking, some of them employing one or several girls. There were at least three stonemasons with one Archibald McPherson a keen politician being especially active at the general election time. On one occasion the Marquis of Tullibardine was contesting West

Perthshire as Conservative candidate and "Big Archie" gave him a severe heckling. After the meeting his lordship tackled Archie and asked for his vote. "You can have my two sons for your Atholl Highlanders but certainly not my vote" was the reply. The woollen mill was worked by John Cameron and son, who employed several weavers who manufactured tweeds and blankets and rollocks of wool to keep the spinning wheels humming. They were quite numerous then. Cameron did a bit of cattle dealing as well, while the Meal Mill at Millmore at the Dochart Bridge, now a showroom, was in action up to the time of the First World War, grinding the oats grown in the glens and Loch side. The Davidson father and son were the last millers there. The other stonemason I remember, Duncan MacDiarmid lived in Myrtle Grove, his wife having a tearoom where Mr. Andrews ship is now. He was a good tradesman but a rather artful and devious character. On one occasion he had been out fishing with a gentleman who suddenly turned and asked MacDiarmid "Are you the man they call the conundrum?"

" Yes sir" was the reply "Can you solve it?"



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Killin Youth Project



We would like to take this opportunity to dedicate our update and celebrate our dear friend and amazing volunteer Crumb who very sadly passed away.

Crumb was a huge part of Killin Youth Project and dedicated his time to being there for our young people. He was very passionate about the wellbeing of our young people and was always there at group sessions with a smile and a high five.

During his time with the project Crumb became an invaluable source of support and encouragement to everyone involved, kids and adults alike. He was always cheerful and had a wonderful way of putting everyone at ease.

The young people were so fond of him, and we will all miss him very much. Crumb will always be part of Killin Youth Project, and we are going to hold him in our hearts.

High Five Crumb from all of us.



If you would like to find out more about the project please contact:

Carla Finlay
Project Manager Youth and Sport (KAT)



Strathfillan by the Way

Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Crianlarich Community Garden

At the time of writing the extremely cold spell has just passed, and the current milder weather has us looking forward to spring and the next growing season. We are hoping that we didn't lose too many plants to the freezing temperatures, but only time will tell. On the 11th and 12th of February we will be holding a volunteer day in the Community Garden to build and fill our new raised beds (weather permitting!). Look out for the posters and Facebook posts. As part of the Growing Food Together Fund project, the Trust are producing a range of recipe leaflets and plant propagation information leaflets. We are also aiming to hold a couple of meetings and talks to discuss best practice in growing and maintaining plants in the garden. If you'd like to get involved or are interested in taking a bed, please get in touch with Sheona@strathfillancdt.org.uk



With this cold weather and plenty of ice about falls are all the more likely. If we have reasonable reaction times, we are likely to get a hand or wrist out to help break the fall and so it's really important to have strong wrists! The exercise below helps strengthen the muscles and bones in the wrist. You can use a tennis ball and squeeze instead if you prefer but remember to keep breathing and hold the squeeze for a few seconds. If you have had a fall, then this website is a great place to find out more about how you can reduce your risk of another fall in the future - <https://fallsassistant.org.uk/> - even better come along to our Strength and Balance sessions.

Wrist Strengthenener

- » Fold or roll your band/tea towel into a tube shape
- » Sit or stand tall then squeeze the band tightly with both hands, hold for a slow count of 5 then release
- » Make this exercise more challenging by squeezing then twisting your band before holding for 5 seconds
- » Breathe evenly throughout and if you find it hard to breathe normally then hum or sing as this will make you breathe
- » Repeat 5-10 times daily



AGM

Following our successful AGM, the Trust is happy to announce that we have three new Board members - Diane Mailer from Auchroch, Julian Clarke from Glen Falloch Estate and Mike Holroyd from Crianlarich. All join the Trust with specific skills and experience, taken from a range of working backgrounds. We look forward to working with them and thank them for dedicating their time to serve the aims of the community and the Trust.

Indoor bowls

Our indoor bowls restarted on the 14th of January. We meet on Tuesday evenings in the Crianlarich Village Hall at 7.30pm and costs £4 per person. We have a good attendance, but we are always on the lookout for new members so please come along and give it a shot!

Membership


We are always on the lookout for new members to join the Trust, at any time of the year. There are two levels of membership, Ordinary and Associate, which allows anyone to become a member no matter where you live. It is free to join, and further information can be found on our website www.strathfillancdt.org.uk or by contacting us via email at office@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Strength and Balance Classes

Are you interested in getting active? Or are you looking for an opportunity to socialise within the community? Come and join us at our local Strength and Balance classes in Crianlarich Village Hall. We meet on Thursday afternoons between 2 - 3 pm, followed by tea and biscuits. Our sessions are FREE (although donations no matter how small kindly accepted) with no need to book! Everyone is welcome and if you need help to get here, please contact Sheona or Dawn at the Trust to arrange a lift. We look forward to seeing you! If you would like further information on the classes, you can contact Fiona@trustinthepark.org from Trust in the Park or Sheona@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Let us know how you get on - give us some feedback on the SCDT Facebook page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2495715407394997>

DALL LODGE



COUNTRY HOUSE

We would like to express our gratitude towards the Killin News- team and their great work!
Mona & Ronan

If you would like to support your local crafter, please check Facebook for the opening times of "The Nook".
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Message from the Killin Parent Partnership

2024 was packed full of KPP events helping to raise money for the primary school. From Rock and Roll Bingo and the Duck Race, to the Pumpkin Patch and the Nativity, it was a great year of fundraising. So, we would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the parents, carers and wider community who so generously donated. Thanks to you we managed to raise £3,600. On top of that, we were successful in securing a Coop Community Grant of £2,900. All in all, it was a fruitful year for the KPP allowing us to finance much needed provisions for the school children.

You might have noticed the front of the school is looking fabulous! Grounds days, help from parents, carers, teachers and pupils, along with funds raised by KPP, saw the outside area transformed into a fun and useable space for the children. A special thanks to Headteacher, Mr Waugh who grafted for days, spade in hand, to keep the project moving.

Our next meeting is on 19th Feb at 6pm: any parents and carers are welcome to come along. Here's to many more successes in 2025!

Leeanne Coyle, KPP Secretary



In December, the Primary and Nursery took part in a charity mile. Our Santas and Elves ran an amazing 85 miles collectively!

Thank you to everyone who supported us. Funds raised were split between the school, nursery and the Fire Fighters Charity. Thanks also to our local fire officers for their support: Robert, Chris, Calum, Toni and Anthony, and to Lyndsay from the charity.



Class 2 and 3 were delighted to be part of the 2025 Salmon Season Opening Ceremony at the Killin Hotel.



Class 1 think their red deer stag pictures are a "roaring" success!



Class 2 took a real interest in the red planet Mars and the cool technologies NASA are creating to discover new facts. Here are examples of the creating stage and the final designs Class 2 have come up with for the future!



Thank you to our local Co-op who are supporting 'Fruity Friday' at KPS. Pupils will be able to choose a piece of fruit to enjoy at break, from a selection donated by the Co-op. Initially the Co-op will be providing 30-40 pieces of fruit weekly, which we will monitor to ensure all pupils

who would like a piece can get one, whilst being mindful of the importance of minimising food waste.



A huge thank you to everyone who came along to cheer on the pupils at our 2 Nativity performances in December – The Fleece Force. Over £500 was raised between ticket sales, the raffle and tea donations! Thank you to the KPP for their support.



Congratulations to our Spelling Bee Winners 2024. All the children worked very hard to learn a list of challenging spelling words at home and at school. The final was nail biting as always!



In December, the SWI hosted a FANTASTIC Christmas Party for us. We had lots of fun games, party dancing, delicious food and a visit from our friend from the North Pole. Thank you to the SWI for a magical afternoon.

Killin Drama Club - The Pied Piper



Once again, we had a fantastic annual pantomime put on by the Killin Drama Club in the McLaren Hall, Killin.

The Pied Piper, by Alan Frayn, was a truly spectacular show, with countless highlights.

A large cast of talented adults were well identified by the audience, and each one fulfilled their role admirably. The enthusiasm of the youngsters involved was a force to be reckoned with.

There were some impressive special effects and all the backstage and technical skills were of the usual high standard by the club, as was the scenery which is all created by club members.

As always, the performances were very well attended, with a high turnout each night.

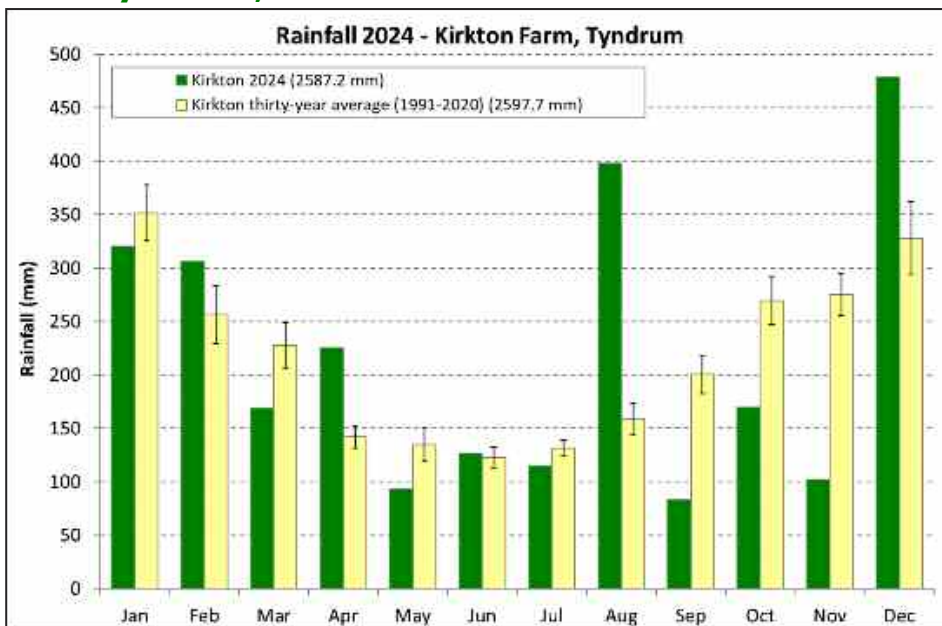
The Club sends their thanks to all who assisted with this outstanding production - so many volunteers stepped up to the mark - Oh yes they did!!!

Weather 2024 Kirkton Farm (Met Office Automatic Weather Station), near Tyndrum, Perthshire

Rainfall

The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office automatic weather station at Kirkton in 2024 was 2587.2 mm (101.9 inches). This was very close to the thirty-year 1991-2020 average of 2597.7 mm and was 47.2 mm more than the 2023 rainfall total. The wettest month was December (478.8 mm; 18.9 inches; 151 mm above the 30-year average). August was also particularly wet when a total of 397.8 mm (15.7 inches) of rainfall was recorded. This was the highest rainfall of any summer month since recording began at the site in 1991 and was 238.9 mm above the 30-year average for August.

Although the rainfall over June and July was close to the 30-year average, the exceptional rainfall in August meant that the overall summer rainfall of 639.6 mm was the second highest on record. The very wet August was followed by a dry September with only 83.2 mm of rainfall (41 % of the 30-year average). October and November were also drier than average, resulting in the driest autumn since 1993 (354.6mm; 47.6% of the 30-year average). The highest rainfall over a calendar week (Monday to Sunday) was 156.4 mm between the 19th and 25th August (Week 34). There were seven calendar weeks when the total rainfall exceeded 100 mm (Weeks 3, 4, 5, 15, 34, 51 and 52). The highest rainfall in a single day (09:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 61.6 mm on the 29th December. There were an additional five days when more than 50 mm of rainfall was recorded, and a further 21 days with more than 25 mm of rainfall. The highest rainfall in a single half-day 12-hour period (21:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 52.0 mm on the 29th



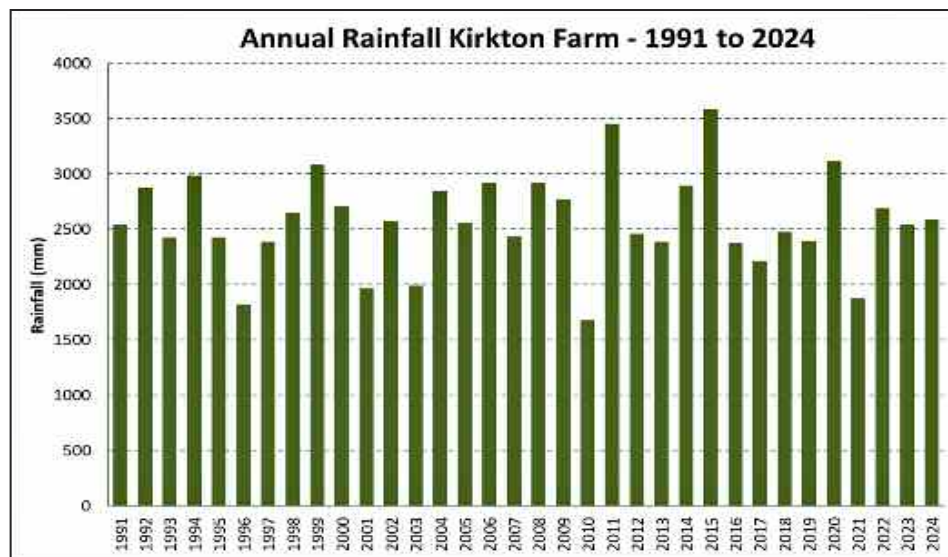
December. A total of 91.6 mm of rainfall was recorded in the 24-hour period from 21:00 GMT on the 4th February to 21:00 GMT on the 5th February. The total number of rain days was 264 (72.1 %). There was only one calendar week when no measurable rainfall was recorded (Week 38; 16th - 22nd September). In the 26-day period from the 28th October to the 22nd November there was only 9.0 mm of rainfall. There were 36 days during the autumn when no precipitation was recorded (40%), compared to 22 days during the summer (24%), and 24 days during the spring (26%).

Temperatures

The lowest temperature recorded during 2024 was on the 17th January when the temperature fell to -12.7°C. There were five other days in 2024 when the temperature fell to -10.0°C or below (18th January; 19th January; 21st November; 11th December; 12th

December). There were three days in 2024 when the temperature failed to rise above freezing (17th January, -0.8°C; 10th December, -1.4°C; 11th December, -1.7°C). An air frost was recorded on a total of 69 days. As in 2022 and 2023 there were no air frosts recorded in May, June, July or August.

The highest temperature in 2024 was recorded on the 6th September (26.2°C). This is the second year in a row that September has had the hottest day. Temperatures of 25°C or above were recorded on only 1 day (6th September), while temperatures above 20°C were recorded on a further 29 days. May was the warmest month with a mean maximum temperature of 18.4°C, which was the highest mean maximum temperature for May since recording began at the site in 1991 (3.8°C above the 30-year average). The mean temperatures for March, April and May were all above the 30-year averages, with the May mean temperature of 13.64°C being more than 4°C above the 30-year average. In contrast the mean temperatures for June, July and August were all below the 30-year averages. The mean annual temperature for 2024 was 8.45°C, which is 0.67°C above the 30-year average.



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)



KAT Killin and Ardeonaig Trust

A New Year and a New Shop!

While a few of the KAT projects may seem to be curled up and having a wee nap in front of the fire after a frantic festive period, don't be fooled; our newest kat has crept in and is already making a difference padding along Main Street. In fact, I think there's a regular clowder of kats traipsing back and forth in preparation for.....

The big move is almost complete

Thanks to all our customers and donors who have been patient during the closure period that has allowed us to move the Reuse Shop and the Tool Library into the revamped retail unit at Fassiefern. Volunteer staff members have been busy dismantling the Morenish Place shop - cleaning and packing up items, cleaning down shelving and transporting it down Main Street (you may've seen Eleanor and Rachel wheeling a whiteboard down the road!) and setting up the new space, as well as meeting to discuss operational strategies and best ways to take RecyKillin forward. Moving has been quite the task and although we're very keen to get the shop re-open, we want to be certain we do a thorough job, ensuring our reuseable offer is the best it can be. We plan for The Grand Reopening in mid-February. There'll be an open day where we hope you'll all come along to view the new shop and space. By time of reading, this will have been announced, but check out website killincdt.co.uk, Facebook page facebook.com/reuseshopkillin, or see the shop window poster for details.

And we're accepting donations again - huge thanks to those who held onto their boxes and bags during January. Please see our Facebook page for the new shop opening hours or call Rachel on 07884 535659 to arrange a drop-off time. We do ask that donations are not left outside on the pavement when we are closed.

The community fridge will also be moving to Fassiefern - we've a lovely new cabinet for outside storage as well as a fridge inside the Reuse Shop. We'll continue to post daily on Facebook with details of food available. Also, watch this space for information of cooking workshops aimed at reducing food

waste, coming soon to Fassiefern. The new Fassiefern space is really quite something and we'd like to thank Theresa for all her hard work and project managing know-how in turning it around and ensuring the village has such a great asset.

Volunteering opportunities

If you've time to volunteer and would like to gain some retail experience, either on the shop floor, in the stock room, or with the Tool Library, please do get in touch. Our sustainability aims can only be achieved with the help of our volunteer staff members and we'd like to open the shop for longer hours to serve you, so please do get in touch if you've even just a few hours a week to lend a hand. In Fassiefern it's been great to have electricity and be able to progress with the big move, also thankfully, we'll have furniture arriving soon for the Business & Learning Hub. It's starting to look good.

The builders have still to clean the floor, this is more complex than it sounds. We've had a representative from the floor company to give advice on whether the floor is damaged or needs a deeper clean. Thankfully it just needs a deeper clean and guidance has been given. Sadly, due to heavy rain during the holidays, we've had a few leaks. Building work didn't include the roof, so we're waiting on a roofer coming out to scope this. It's disappointing as the building won't be looking pristine when we open, but we're on the case, and it will get sorted. Our prime location shop unit is ready to let. What a perfect setting to promote your business. Contact Theresa@killincdt.co.uk or call her on 07789265823 for a look around and if the shop fits, get ahead for the tourist influx, racing to your own Grand Opening.

St Fillan's Church (Tin Church)

We've been working with the Episcopal Church to take on the building for the community and collaborating with Comrie Croft who'll run the building as a hostel. Potential funders require us to consult you, the community, to see what benefits you would like to see from this project. They want to know how the income KAT receives from this project will benefit our community, and for you, the

community to be part of that conversation.

We'll put up a Facebook poll to see what ideas you have, and we'll have paper copies for you to complete at the Fassiefern open day.

Killin Youth Project

The team heard some very sad news, so reflecting on the wondrous, positive character that is Crumb, Carla has devoted her news to celebrate him.

Development

After the Old Mill Christmas Market, and Rebedding of the Healing Stones, which you can read about elsewhere in this edition, we're now in our 'development' time of year. The team are busy recruiting new Makers and Artists, if you're interested in selling your work with us please contact Cheryl via cheryl@killincdt.co.uk

Heritage

We're also working as ever on expanding our heritage offer. We've found lots of help and advice from local community museums, Scottish National Archives, Smith Gallery and University of Stirling and we're really excited about what is to come. We're also working on a new exhibition for our Heritage room, and by the time you read this, we'll have had our 'Tales of Killin' exhibition on tour at the Falls of Dochart retirement home. Keep an eye on our Facebook page www.facebook.com/Oldmill.KAT for updates as they happen.

The Old Mill will reopen Tues-Sun each week from Saturday 22nd March 2025, see you then!

As always, when you want to find out about each of your KAT projects and everyone who contributes tirelessly to support our community, take a peek at our website www.killincdt.co.uk

Bridget Saddler



Killin and District Volunteer Car Scheme

The car scheme continues to be busy with us undertaking 57 journeys, including local ones, in December.

Without the wonderful volunteers who do the driving, this would not be possible. Their dedication, in giving up their spare time and the way they support every single passenger can only be commended. They are known for the friendly service they provide, and for the positive impact they have on passengers and their families.

We are always looking to recruit more people to drive for us and encourage anyone who has a desire to help people and is willing to offer their spare time to join us.

We will be holding our AGM on Saturday 15th February in the Community Room Killin, from 10.30. If you are thinking that you may be interested in driving for us please come along meet the drivers and passengers and we can answer any questions you may have. Coffee and Cake will be available.

If you would prefer to speak to someone on the phone Don can be reached on 01567 820690 or by email kdvcscheme@gmail.com. If you would like to book a journey with us call 07988280743

Alicja Fraser

Community Meals at Killin Church

Community meals at Killin Church starts Sunday 27th October and then on the last Sunday of the month (Oct until Easter). 12-2pm.

Free meal and activities for children. All welcome.

Volunteers also welcome.

Contact Vicky Burns
vickyburns83@gmail.com



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Rebedding of the Healing Stones at the Old Mill

The Rebedding of the Healing Stones was a special one this year. Instead of just having me telling the tales of St Fillan, we had inputs from some far greater talents. Firstly we were treated to Céline Boisson playing the harp for us during the ceremony. It is such a beautiful instrument and fitted the mood of the ceremony perfectly.

And if that wasn't enough, we also had Amanda Edmiston, the Doune-based storyteller who is a firm favourite of the children at Killin Primary School, wrote us a new 'charm' for the ceremony, which was based on her research. This is what she says about it:

"The new charm for Killin has been created following extensive research to try to see if there were any traditional recorded words or sayings, spoken word charms or blessings associated with the tradition of lustration: of washing the stones in the Falls of Dochart



Wilson and Killin's William Walker were both recorded in 1964 as saying they only knew of the tradition as it stands today and whilst there are mentions of the healing traditions surrounding the stones recorded in the studies and research of MacLagan, MacNeill and others, they

do not add anything other than what we already know. To this end Amanda has written the new blessing with regard for historic form and patterns associated with words that can transmit a little magic and meaning to objects and

situations. You may spot that there are three verses, each is six lines long and St Fillan is mentioned in each verse, so three times. The words also ask the listeners to subconsciously start feeling better and to consider the power of the stones to enhance their health, so without even realising, the charm will have started to work as the words are spoken and heard!

Sources informing the piece include the 9th or 10th century Merseburg incantation, which has recorded variants in Ireland, Orkney and Shetland associated with healing sprains. The collected works of Alexander Carmichael held in the *Carmina Gadelica* (1900), in particular the Lustration (associated with washing or cleansing with water) and the Charm of Lasting Life, - both had elements appropriate to the many healing possibilities for Fillan's stones. Amanda hopes that everyone takes this new piece of writing in the spirit in which it is intended, to carry on the traditions, innate beauty and healing associated with our ancient folklore, memories and stories."

Amanda is working with Stirlingshire based teacher, Gaelic speaker and choir leader Mairi MacKay to translate her poem from English into the Gaelic, so we look forward to sharing that when we receive it. The ceremony was well attended



once again, thanks to all that came, particularly the children, who carried out the ritual of cleansing and rebedding the Stones. The Healing Stones of St Fillan are available to view and to use. It is always free,



Céline Boisson

annually and re-bedding them in fresh river wrack." Céline Boisson Writer Amanda Edmiston (*Botanica Fabula*) has worked on many Scottish social history projects with communities and museums. Unfortunately, none of these projects offered any further traditions associated with the stones other than the still observed Christmas eve washing and re-bedding. Older oral histories contained in the School of Scottish Studies archive were the same. Former mill owner Graham



Returning the old bedding to the Dochart

though donations and exchanges are traditional and welcome. To arrange a private 20 minute visit please email raina@killincdt.co.uk And finally, the Old Mill Makers' Market and Heritage Hub will reopen on Saturday 22nd March 2025. It will be open Tues – Sun all the way through to Sunday 2nd November. We have lots of exciting things planned for 2025, do come and see us and join the fun!

Raina Jones
Old Mill Manager

Opening of the Salmon Season



On behalf of the West Loch Tay Salmon Fishing Association I'd like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who came along to the 2025 Loch Tay Salmon Fishing Opening Ceremony. The turnout was absolutely amazing. This event had not taken place for several years for various reasons and we were concerned that it would not get much support. We could not have been more wrong, as we had around 100 in total attend, some from the village and many from further afield.

Huge thanks are due to

- Prachi at The Killin Hotel and her staff for providing coffee and food.
- the Rev Jeff McCormick
- the children of Killin Primary School for the blessing and reading.
- Mr Donald McLarty for his introductory speech.
- Mrs J Stroyan of Boreland for performing the opening ceremony and her kind words.

I'd also like to take this opportunity to give a little advice to fellow anglers venturing out on the Loch at this early point in the season. All anglers should be aware of how to identify Salmon in their various stages of life and if not aware please seek advice on this before fishing.

Kelts, Baggots, Rawners, and even Springers should not be lifted out of the water if at all possible. They should be kept in the net and unhooked, before being given time to recover and then released. If you must hold a springer for a photograph, your hands should be wet and it should be done as quickly as possible. Similarly, if you have difficulty unhooking a fish in the net, an unhooking mat should be used. Fish should then be returned to the net, placed in the water and given time to recover.

With the decline of wild salmon on the Loch and throughout Scotland, every fish is precious and should be treated as such.

Tight Lines.

Rob Jamieson

West Loch Tay Salmon Fishing Association



Congratulations



Rhiannon Shanto and her husband Lewis McClymont welcomed baby Rory David McClymont on 22nd October 2024.

SWT Callander Future Events

Thursday 13 February

7.30pm

'Riverwoods' by Rosie McGuigan, Scottish Wildlife Trust

Thursday 13 March 7.30pm

'Scottish Wildlife Highlights: what to see and when to go' by Bob Elliot, Director of OneKind and Naturetrek leader

Both in St Andrew's Church Hall, Callander, FK17 8AL.

Suggested donation £3 includes tea/coffee and biscuits.

Hope to see you there

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Killin Community Council Meeting

7TH November 2025 in Lesser McLaren Hall

1. Recording of those present: C. Grant, S. Inglis, F. Inglis, P Farquharson, S. McRobbie, PC I. Leggett and PC I. Frickleton

- Apologies: A. Aitken, J. Laurence, T. Dowling and G. Maxwell

- C. Grant chaired the meeting in the absence of A. Aitken. He welcomed everyone to the meeting, thanked the local Fire Brigade for erecting the village Christmas tree, and gave his condolences to S. McRobbie on the death of her mother-in-law, M. McRobbie.

2. Declarations of interest - none

3. Adoption of previous minutes – missing point from previous minutes. The KCC is looking into funding for footpaths at the old railway line, and the head of the Loch. S. McRobbie will see what funding is available. Update – S. McRobbie has sent an application to the SSE Community Project, currently awaiting a decision. A quote has been received for the necessary work and this will be in the region of £100,000. This will include work from tree surgeons, path widening and ensuring a safe and robust path for all parties to use. If the grant is not awarded, there are other avenues available that could be considered – Parks for all via the National Trust.

- Minutes proposed by S. McRobbie and seconded by S. Inglis

4. Notes of interest from members of the public - none stated

5. Stirling Council report - G. Maxwell unable to be present due to illness.

- The Big Conversation is still underway – questionnaires and opportunity to give feedback of how the Council spend their budget. The Team is looking at what they can suggest – F. Inglis reminded everyone that The Conversation is still available online.

- Progress at Old Co-op – no updates

- C60 Bus update – no updates

- Bins – a double sized bin has been added to the station car park. However, this is still very small, and not ideal. There is currently no money in the budget to have any proposed suggestions augmented.

6. Treasurer's report – P. Farquharson informed the meeting that currently there is £4891.83 fund available, the fund includes £521.93 from Stirling Council for administration. No funds have been laid in or out in the last 8 weeks and £100 paid out on the 7/11/24 for Minutes.

7. Police report – PC Leggett and PC Frickleton raised several points from recent events. These included a number of shoplifting reports and road closures, particularly Glen Ogle due to ice and snow. Bear Scotland are currently responsible for the weather management and road safety of Glen Ogle.

8. Planning report – KCC had raised an objection to the plans for a garden room at the Capercaille Chalet. This has however been approved.

9. KAT and other reports – next KAT meeting next week; will update following next meeting.

- Unfortunately, they have been unable to open the new Re-use premises yet. Hopefully this will happen soon. C. Grant will keep the KCC informed.

- National Park – D. Fettes not present to update.

- SSE presentation - F. Inglis and S. Inglis attended the presentation. Very informative but the project not likely to be completed until 2026.

- Scottish Water, Killin – no update pending current projects at present

10. Roads' report – S. Inglis has sent an extensive list of pot holes and road damage within Killin to Stirling Council. Currently awaiting a response. S. Inglis also addressed the problem of the overgrown hedge by the battery points for electric cars in the car park at MacPherson Court, as this is restricting access to the pathway.

- KCC has received an email from Killin Primary School regarding the pedestrian crossing, and road safety. This matter was discussed at length, and it was felt that the matter needs to be raised with G. Maxwell. It was noted that the lights at the pelican crossing are not always functioning. It is the responsibility of the Local Council Roads Department to address this matter. Police are attending the school on the 31st January to do a presentation on road safety with the school children. Stephen Bly will be informed of the matter.

11. AOCB

- The Caravan Club has still not addressed the matter. G. Maxwell has not heard from R. Dixon regard the trees. Matter still outstanding.

- Public Toilet – the matter of the public toilet was raised by S. McRobbie at the meeting. It appears that the toilets are now closed for the winter with an unknown date for when they will be re-opened. This has caused distress to members of the public.

- Period poverty – the matter was raised by H. Wiffen. The closest collection centre is Callendar. H. Wiffen happy to apply to Stirling Council for locations to be set up in Killin

- Child poverty – this matter was discussed at length by all members of the KCC, with several ideas and suggestions made. It was felt that it would be an idea for P. Waugh, Headmaster, Killin Primary School, to attend the next meeting to have further discussions.

12. Date and time of next meeting – 4th March, 2025 7 p.m. McLaren Hall

Morna Lucy Webster
19/07/1973 – 22/12/2024

Morna was born in Stirling to Gordon and Sheila Webster, a younger sister to Yvonne. She went to Killin Primary School before heading to McLaren High School.

Morna moved to Glasgow to study travel and tourism at Glasgow College of Food Technology and once qualified she worked for American Express in Hope Street and later Corporate Express in Cumbernauld.

Morna loved things with wheels and particularly enjoyed riding her bicycle that she cycled to Oban on two occasions, raising money for charity, and she cycled the full length of the Hebrides to see Wolfstone in concert. From pushbikes she moved on to motorbikes. Unknown to Gordon and Sheila she took lessons in Glasgow, passed her test and bought a 600cc Suzuki ZFR that she called 'Susie'. She loved her motorbike and went on many runs, happy to take her tent with her to camp out.

Morna was always happy outdoors, out walking in the hills or just enjoying being outside, often taking photographs as she went.

Though Morna was diagnosed with MS at 21, she managed her illness with strength and grace. When her MS meant that she was no longer able to work she decided to come back to Killin where she



tried a variety of new activities including sailing on Loch Venachar and wheelchair curling at the Peak. She also took part in the Killin 10K, competing three times in her wheelchair, raising money for MS research.

When Morna was out and about she would always speak to people, asking how they were and what was going on in their lives. People who stopped to chat with her would be met by a smile and even a bit of cheeky banter.

Morna and her beautiful smile will be missed in the village.

moved into her own flat. At home she was a keen cook, and she also loved her garden where she enjoyed growing various flowering plants and vegetables.

When Morna was unable to keep up some of her previous hobbies, she

The family extends their heartfelt thanks for cards and messages received following Morna's death, and for the generosity of those who attended the funeral and those who donated online helping to raise £928.80 for the Anne Rowling Clinic for MS Research.



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Alexander 'George' Hunter 1936-2024

On the 3rd October 2024 at Forth Valley Royal Infirmary George passed away surrounded by all of his family. Although sudden, we could not have asked for a more peaceful passing for our lovely dad/grandpa.

He was born on the 9th March 1936 in Gargunnoch where his parents were tenant farmers. As a younger child he and his sister Margaret attended school in Crieff. His father's job then brought them to Croftosh Farm Auchlyne, Killin. He began working for his father on the farm and it was here that he developed his incredible work ethic. My grandpa was never scared of a hard day's work. He was the hardest working person that I have ever known. He would often share stories of his working days, driving lorries all over the UK. His best memories were working in Scotland, especially trips to Mull, Skye and South Uist.

Grandpa also completed 2 years National Service with The Black Watch. He had so many stories from this time in his life and always told them with such happiness and fond memories, especially when he got to dance with the Queen at Balmoral.

Once completed he returned home to Killin where he met Granny Mary. She and her cousin were in Killin for the day when Grandpa bumped into them in the cafe. He asked her to the dance in Lochearnhead that weekend. Then in November 1957 they were married and started life together in Killin. They went on to have 4 children - John, Tony, Christine and Shona. They then went on to have 11 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren.

Once Grandpa retired, he enjoyed playing Golf and keeping active. We all learned the importance of 'a good dry day' so that he could get his washing out and have a walk on the golf course! He very much looked forward to trips out with his girls for lunch. His favourite was a good plate of Fish and Chips at Tyndrum. With the ever extending family it was a lovely thing to watch grandpa as he got to know the next generation of Hunters - his great grandchildren. Grandpa got so much joy being around his family and he loved nothing more than sitting with a cup of tea, having a chat and telling old stories and watching his great grandchildren play.

Grandpa was the most supportive, dedicated and loving man. He is remembered and missed every day.



Ashleigh Hunter

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We are pleased to include below an operational update from Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance, which supports much of Scotland, including here in Killin

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance flies into the future with state-of-the-art helicopter air ambulance

Scotland's Charity Air Ambulance (SCAA) is set to launch the UK's most advanced helicopter air ambulance of its type.

The new Airbus H145 D3 is currently in production and will receive its customised aeromedical fit-out, along with some modification, before being ready for operational service with SCAA later this year.

The state-of-the-art twin-engine, five-rotor, aircraft will replace an existing EC 135 at the charity's Aberdeen base.

SCAA Chief Executive David Craig said the new aircraft announcement forms part of the most significant operational investment by the charity in its 12-year history.

"The H145 D3 is an aircraft that will help fly SCAA into the next decade," he said. "No one in Scotland should die because help can't get there in time and this new helicopter will offer greater range, endurance and capacity which significantly enhances our life-saving service and our ability to meet the ever-growing demand on pre-hospital emergency response teams.

"When our new H145 D3 takes to the skies, it will be the most capable air ambulance of its kind in the UK, operating in the most challenging environment," added Mr Craig. "It will be a lifesaver."

SCAA operates two helicopter emergency response air ambulances, based at Perth (since 2013) and Aberdeen (since 2020).

"The decision to strategically focus on introducing a new aircraft at our Aberdeen base was driven by reviewing our operational data across all of Scotland over the last five

years," said Mr Craig. "Working closely with the Scottish Ambulance Service and their doctor-led ScotSTAR North EMRS (Emergency Medical Retrieval Service), this enhanced and more capable aircraft will ensure that, when critical care is required anywhere in Scotland, we can provide a team of specialist doctors and two SCAA paramedics to the scene of an emergency. This will deliver a robust specialist and extensive multi-disciplinary team to any incident."

A new 10-year contract with aviation partner Babcock will also see crews at both Aberdeen and Perth equipped with Night Vision Imaging Systems (NVIS) technology to maximise operational capability.

Mr Craig said that NVIS has recently been introduced at SCAA's Perth base, enabling the charity to respond more safely to emergencies, increasing its ability to reach more patients during Scotland's winters. "SCAA is now able to deploy to non-surveyed locations anywhere in Scotland during darkness hours this winter using the very latest technology, to the benefit of both patients and crew," he said. "This will ensure each duty shift is unimpeded (by aviation restrictions) when the sun sets or skies darken, and SCAA will be available to respond whenever and wherever required by those most seriously ill or injured."

The operational enhancements will add an extra £2 million a year to SCAA's current £8 million costs and today's announcement sparks a major nationwide "Operation Skyward" fundraising campaign to support the upgrades and fly SCAA into the future.

"Other than the initial launch of our service, this new contract represents

the single most significant operational investment for the charity," said Mr Craig. "Funded entirely by public donation – without any Government contribution – SCAA has responded to more than 6,500 call outs since launching in 2013, with last year proving our busiest ever.

"In that time, the public has donated more than £65 million – hugely generous support that has allowed us to plan and evolve and grow to meet demand with a sustainable enhanced service.

"In order to meet the constantly evolving and increasingly high standards of both air ambulance crew and equipment, donations will continue to be invested in delivering our charitable purpose and our frontline operation is a priority as that ultimately saves lives.

"SCAA last upgraded its aircraft in 2015 after two years in service and launched our Aberdeen operation in 2020," added Mr Craig. "The time is right to advance yet again to ensure SCAA remains at the forefront of patient care and service delivery.

"Our patients will benefit hugely from the upgrade and our crews will appreciate the enhancements that a larger airframe with greater capacity and endurance brings to their life-saving work.

"But we can't do it alone and our appeal goes out to individuals, groups, organisations, businesses, trusts and foundations who share our ambition that no one in Scotland should die because help can't get there in time," said Mr Craig. "The Scottish public have proved lifesavers through their amazing support of SCAA to date and the many thousands of lives which will be saved and improved through our latest upgrades will be as a result of their continued generosity."

Breadalbane Heritage Society

The Breadalbane Heritage Society continues its regular winter programme of monthly illustrated talks with a presentation on rock art. This is of particular interest in this area, which is exceptionally rich in cupmarks, cup-and-ring marks and other carvings dating to the Bronze Age and Neolithic period.

On **Friday 21st February at 7.30 pm** Dr Joana Valdez-Tullett will talk on 'Rock Art from Loch Tay to the Atlantic Façade'.

Dr Valdez-Tullett spent five years as a researcher with Historic Environment Scotland on their 'Scotland's Rock Art Project' and now works with Wessex Archaeology as a Senior Project Officer.

She will discuss the results of the research on rock art in the Loch Tay area and how carvings in this area relate to other areas in Scotland and the wider Atlantic façade. Please note that this talk will be presented on Zoom. To be sent the link to attend it please contact Ian Stewart at bhsaberfeldy@gmail.com

On **Friday 21st March at 7.30 pm** John Mattingley will give a talk on 'Springtime in Cluny', in the auditorium of the Breadalbane Community Campus in Aberfeldy. Doors will open at 7.00 pm.

Privately-owned Cluny House Gardens near Aberfeldy have been popular for many years with both locals and visitors to the area. Spring is a gloriously colourful time at Cluny, April with its carpets of N. American bulbs and May bringing Candelabra primulas and vivid blue Himalayan poppies. Owner John Mattingley will talk about the history of Cluny, how it has developed over the years and the future of these beautiful gardens.

The BHS's website <https://breadalbane-heritage.org.uk/> features a video of local scenes of interest, and provides up-to-date information about talks and activities, events and publications.

Ongoing Society projects include the maintenance of the Killiehasie private burial ground in Strathtay, and the recent publication, in association with the Aberfeldy Museum Group, of an illustrated leaflet, *The Aberfeldy and Weem Heritage Trail*, with a trail map and information on the many places of interest in the area.

QR codes with information at each of these sites are currently being installed.

The BHS also provides a free service of assistance with family history research. Recordings of all the recent talks are available on the website.

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Killin	Kinlochard	Kippen	Locheamhead	
Strathblane	Strathyre	Stronachlachar	Tyndrum	

Further new build developments are being planned for Killearn, Balmaha, Croftamie, and Drymen. 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 to plan.



For a downloadable application pack please visit our website www.rsha.org.uk providing affordable homes: sustaining rural communities

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Previous donations include contributions towards:

	Play facilities (Buchlyvie)		Stirling Carers Centre
	Bench seat (Killin)		Purchase of a new van: The Food Train

 Eligible applications are awarded on a first come first served basis so don't delay, apply today. 

Further details visit our website news and events page:
www.rsha.org.uk/community-donation-fund/



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vibrant communities. Most people are familiar with libraries and also with rental shops, so Libraries of Things have the advantage of being both innovative yet familiar at the same time.



Recykillin began in lockdown, from chats about people looking for activities to do, such as gardening or sewing but not always having the tools they needed.

With the support of KAT, we applied for a start-up grant and opened to



the public in July 2021. The Library of Things movement started with tool libraries. What is believed to be the first tool library has been in operation since 1943 in Michigan, with a plan to get items gathering dust in people's garages, cupboards and attics into productive use and that is what we aim to do now. Libraries of Things work well and make sense: they provide a safe and reliable place to pick up and drop off items, they accept donations of products, and they create more

We also play a role in reducing greenhouse gases and climate risk. We bring tools back into use, keeping them out of landfill and reduce the need for individuals to buy new tools. We also assist individuals to repair, redecorate and upcycle, saving time, money, and resources.



We are about to open at Fassiefern, continuing our close relationship with the ReUse Shop and with MacGregor's Community Store who now stock hardware. You can view our catalogue at



<https://recykillin.myturn.com> but do come in and visit.

We also need more volunteers, so if you enjoy a community project, come and say hello.




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

Wed 22nd Jan	Join our pet Care Health Plan. This has been set up to enable you to spread the cost of routine preventative health care treatments.
Wed 5th Feb	
Wed 19th Feb	
Wed 5th Mar	
Wed 19th Mar	
Wed 2nd April	

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Wintry Pictures at the Head of Loch Tay



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Scouts 

had a visit to the library to see Kay! She explained what she does in her job and helped the Beavers find cookery books to look for some recipes as we're also going to do our cook badge this term! We're sure they'll really enjoy this one!

Beavers finished up our autumn term finishing our sports badge with a closing ceremony party as an

alternative Christmas party to continue our Olympics theme. They also achieved their teamwork badge

Beaver Scouts are aged 6&7, they meet 6-7pm in Killin on alternate



for all the great working together they've done.


Starting back in January we are focusing on the my world challenge badge. Part of this involved meeting someone who serves our local community and we

Tuesdays. We have space so if you'd like your child to join us please e-mail killinbeavers@yahoo.co.uk

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Frost Report



Nothing Lynx Up

So, the 4 lynx were caught quite quickly! It's a good job that the mountain rescue team spotted them, or they could have been on the loose for a while. When some are lobbying for lynx to be released, it's a bit worrying that the police were very quick to warn the public to keep their distance and not to approach them. Later the pro-release people said that it was just to prevent the lynx from being scared away and they may only become dangerous if cornered. Whatever you believe it didn't go well for the animal that died, maybe of stress or hunger. Apparently, they would be fine eating rabbits - good luck with that in many areas where rabbits have all but disappeared. Presumably the lynx become strictly vegan when in a lambing field. It is a concern that this may be an attempt to illegally introduce lynx as happened with beavers in Tayside, which is an act for which no-one has yet been prosecuted. At this moment it is still not known where the lynx came from. All licensed ones would have been chipped and so traceable. Sometimes just releasing is not the best, but it can be successful if done scientifically and responsibly. The tiny Desertas Island land snail had been thought to be extinct for 100 yrs (wiped out by introduced goats, rats and mice) but a few were found surviving on the Island of Deserta Grande. Careful breeding at French and UK zoos produced a population of 1300 that has been introduced to Bugio, a neighbouring Atlantic Island. Another species pronounced extinct for around 100 years, an Ecuadorian

frog, has been found still surviving. We don't know if all do we? Like the lynx story, the other hot news (excuse the pun please) are the fires in California and this, too, does not link in with legislation. The NFUS has been warning for some time of the increasing risk of large-scale fires in the woodland plantations that are springing up everywhere in Scotland. Some of their proposals are prioritising human safety, education and rewilding schemes having to include wildfire risk management. When I was a youngster (I know, many years ago) the new forestry plantation post WW2 all had wide rides which were wide and open pathways at regular intervals in the forest. Each one was wide enough to stop a falling burning tree from touching the next area. Forest management was rigorous with thinning out. In many countries controlled burning (like the heather moorland management) takes place. We were amazed to see this management even in The Masai Mara and the Serengeti to stop brush becoming too long and so, a wildfire risk. In view of the annual, usually Autumn, fires in this area you could wonder why most houses are built of wood. It was because of a government order prohibiting building in stone or brick because of the high risk of earthquakes. So you build fabulously expensive homes in a high earthquake and fire risk area? Some of our animal friends show better adaptation and 'joined up' thinking. A recent T.V. series about wild animals adapting to city life illustrates this well. Recently we saw

a couple of local examples. As our friendly neighbourhood buzzard was feeling the pinch with so few rabbits to eat, he has taken to patrolling the field on foot searching for worms. He has now taken to breakfast visits to the wee platform put up to feed mice to the owl in case there is a mouse left for him. It was maybe the shortage of usual fare that drove a stoat to chase a hare around the field for a good while. We don't know if he secured this large prey as they disappeared into the trees at the loch shore. Speaking of stoats, the RSPB has been trapping them on Orkney but have not been checking the traps every 24 hrs as is law. Of course, Mr. Fox is one of the best at adapting to new opportunities. He is generally known for his cunning but recently a pub in Birmingham called 'The Sly Old fox' had to change its name as the name was deemed offensive by an animal rights group. I bet Mr. Fox is sitting in the bushes with a lager and a bag of pork scratchings laughing his foxy socks off.

Tim Frost

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Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust invite you to join their weekly 'Walk in the Park' health walk & mobility-confidence building activities!

Walk in the Park – Christmas Lunch

Thank you to our Killin walk and S&B participants for another successful Christmas lunch with twenty-eight participants joining us at The Killin Hotel for food and plenty of festive laughs. A huge thank you goes to Isobel G who always does an amazing job for a fabulous, organised lunch. One hundred and ninety-one participants in total from our Walking group network joined in for 7 Christmas lunches last year!



Our Killin WITP participants were lucky to finish the year off with a beautiful walk down to Loch Tay - it was a beautiful day.



For 2025 - Join us for one of the best health walk programmes in Scotland!

Double lucky as we have now restarted our 2025 walks. Check out our January to March programme ready for you to join us, every Wednesday at 10:20am.

Killin On Wednesdays

Weekly Strength & Balance Sessions

In between our health-walks or just by themselves, join us for our weekly sessions in a safe environment. Led by our volunteers, strength and balance exercises focus on building strength, improving balance and mobility, which may help build confidence.

Wednesday's, 2-3pm, Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church.

We also like to end our sessions with tea and coffee, as the social element of our sessions is equally important. Our sessions are FREE with no need to book (although donations are appreciated no matter how small).

**** Back for 2025 ** Thursday's 2-3pm, Crianlarich Village Hall.**

Due to the success of our taster sessions in November and December in partnership with the Strathfillan Community Development Trust, they will return for 2025 and participants are invited to stay for a cuppa afterwards.

All our activities are volunteer led and coming up we have some great training including **Walk Leader Training**, as well as **Dementia Friendly Walk Leader Training** and a **Strength and Balance Demonstrator Workshop**.

For further information about any of our activities please drop an email to Fiona@trustinthepark.org or call on 07843 842323

Alternatively, please visit our website at www.trustinthepark.org for more details.

Date	Meeting Place	Walking Route	Carshare	Demerita Friendly
8th January 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Pier Road/Finlairg Castle		
15th January 2025	The Cappercaillie	River Dochart and old Railway to Memorial		
22nd January 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Ogle		
29th January 2025	The Cappercaillie	Craignavie Road		
5th February 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Golf Club		
12th February 2025	The Cappercaillie	Kinnell Estate		
19th February 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Pier Road/Finlairg Castle		
26th February 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Lochy from Moirlanich		
5th March 2025	The Cappercaillie	Tyndrum		
12th March 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	River Dochart and old Railway		
19th March 2025	The Cappercaillie	Craignavie Road from Forestry		
26th March 2025	The Pavilion Sports & Recreation Hub	Glen Ogle		





Wild Strathfillan

Sharon Cawston, Education and Engagement Officer for Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trusts' flagship Nature Restoration initiative Wild Strathfillan, shares the learning opportunities opening up in 2025!

Learn with us!

The snowdrops are out, the days are getting longer and spring is just around the corner. Now is the time to start thinking about new projects and getting outdoors as the weather (hopefully) gets warmer. The Wild Strathfillan team are excited to be looking forward to new getting new projects off the ground and seeing work we have already started beginning to grow and take shape. One aim we have already started to work on is **creating opportunities for people in Strathfillan and Killin to learn even more about the natural world** around them and to **develop skills** that could potentially help them to increase their employability in the rural job sector.

Growing native trees and much more!

In January we held an **induction day** for local residents and others to come and find out more about **how our partners at Glen Falloch are growing trees from locally collected seeds to expand their woodlands**. Our plan is to provide **training to those interested** to allow them to be able to identify seed sources, collect seeds, propagate, plant and grow them into the next generation of native trees to be planted out in Strathfillan. **It's not too late to get involved in this. If you are interested, please do get in touch!**



As well as this we are **planning to put on a series of courses to learn about local plants, butterflies, bats and birds**. In the coming months there will be talks, short courses and opportunities to practise your newly learned skills so you can help to survey and monitor the flora and fauna around you. So, look out for these being advertised on social media (search for **@trustinthepark**) and in your local community noticeboards.

What else would you like to learn?

If practical conservation is more your thing and you'd rather build a stone dyke, mend a fence or be trained in how to use a chainsaw then please do contact us and tell us what you'd like to learn. We are open to suggestions.

If any of these topics interest you or you have other ideas of what we could offer that would be of interest then please do get in touch. You can email our Education and Engagement officer at Sharon@trustinthepark.org.



Find out more!

Discover more about Wild Strathfillan and the Countryside Trust scan the QR code or find us on social media: **Facebook, X, Instagram @Trustinthepark**



The Wild Strathfillan project has been made possible thanks to National Lottery players.



Wild Strathfillan is supported by the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, managed by [NatureScot](https://www.naturescot.org/).

Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry

Applications open for Dùn Coilich Rural Skills Traineeships

Are you aged 16-25 and live in Highland Perthshire? Thinking about a land-based career but not sure where to start? Why not have a look at the free Rural Skills Training Course offered by the Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust, which is open for applications now? The next course starts in March 2025 and runs for 30 weeks every Wednesday and some Thursdays.



Based at Dùn Coilich Community Land outside Aberfeldy, the course offers trainees a chance to get hands-on training and industry-recognised vocational qualifications, all tailored to opening up opportunities in land-based careers. You'll learn everything from all-terrain vehicle (ATV) driving to

chainsaw handling, dry stone walling to ropes training – and a huge amount in between. And it's all completely free!

Previous trainees have found work in sectors such as forestry and farming, gamekeeping and conservation – and they've had a lot of fun along the way.

"We aim to create a supportive, friendly environment, where trainees are given chance to explore their individual strengths and interests," said Heather Hamilton, Project Officer. "As well as the practical rural skills training we also offer one-to-one support to help them

achieve their personal goals, as well as additional employability skills such as team work, leadership and time keeping.

"We've seen so many trainees increase in confidence and life skills during their time with us, whatever

their background - it's really rewarding to see them go on to the next stage in their lives having gained so much in a short space of time!"

Interested? Know someone who might be? Head to



<https://www.duncoilich.org/skills-training/> to fill in an application form, call Heather on 07849 268411 or drop her an email at projectofficer@hpclt.org



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NHS PHARMACY FIRST SCOTLAND

Your pharmacy is the first place you should go for advice and treatment for many winter illnesses. The pharmacy team will give you advice on how to manage your symptoms and, if necessary, supply you with free NHS treatment or arrange onwards referral. Both Laura and Melissa are prescribing pharmacists and will often be able to help you with a wide range of conditions; we ask that if possible you phone ahead to make an appointment if you wish to be seen for a consultation.



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operate weekly on a Tuesday
between 10.55 and 11.15 at the
Coach Stop.

**To advertise in the Killin
News**

**Advertising Rates from £17
Contact Tel: 01567 820298**

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

**Web sites: www.killin.info
and www.killinnews.co.uk**

**e-mail:
editorial@killinnews.co.uk
adverts@killinnews.co.uk**

**Address: Main Street, Killin
FK21 8UW
Office Phone : 01567
820014**



The Killin community hub continues to be a popular place to be on a Thursday.

Held in the Pavilion between 12:30 & 2:30 pm every Thursday, this is a chance to get together and enjoy a free light lunch in good company.

It's open to everyone and is run in partnership with Start Up Stirling, a charity providing food support & community hubs throughout the Stirling council area, independent of Stirling council, the National Lottery community fund which provides the venue and Citizen Advice Scotland, with their advisors regularly on hand to help with any issues with benefits, housing or energy costs etc.

The community hub is a great place to go to catch up with friends old and new.
Pop in anytime between 12:30 and 2:30 pm.

Gail and her volunteer helpers look forward to welcoming you every Thursday.

Your copy of Killin News

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

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

If so please please send
your details to us.
(See above)

Annual cost: UK £25:
Outside UK £35

Please make cheques payable
to Killin News

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What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

Coming Soon !

Monday

- Adult Badminton, 7-9pm, 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)

Tuesday

- Bee Creative, 10am-12pm, Community Rooms
- U3A Art, 2-4pm, currently being held in Lochearnhead Hall
- Beavers, 6-7pm, Lesser Hall (every other Tuesday)
- Tuesday Club, 2-4pm, Community Rooms
- Pilates 5.30pm and 6.30pm, Community Rooms, booking required on 07866 018629
- Aikido 7-9 Adults/Children from 13 years.
- Aikido 6-6.30 aged 5 to 7 - 6.30 aged 8 to 12.

Wednesday

- Walk in the Park, 10.20, refer to schedule for locations
- Strength & Balance, 2-3pm, Killin & Ardeonaig Church Hall
- Highland Hustle, 6.30-7.15pm, McLaren Hall
- Youth Club, P6/7 5.45-7.15pm S1-3 7.30-9.00pm [Sign-Ups: alasdair@cyp.org.uk]
- Multi-Sports Session - Wednesdays (Fortnightly), P5-7 5-6pm, S1-3 6-7pm [sign-ups: mckennac@activestirling.org.uk]
- Killin Comm Choir, 7.30pm-9pm, Killin Church

Thursday

- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark
- Killin Community Hub, 12.30-2.30 Sports Pavilion
- CAB drop-in session 12.30-2.30, Killin Sports Pavilion
- Golf Club - Junior Coaching Session, 6.30-8 pm. 8-16 years.

May to September

- SWI, 7.30pm (1st Thursday of month, Community Rooms)

Friday

- Pilates, 9am, 10am and 11am Community Rooms. Booking essential on 07866 018629
- Yoga, 10.15 - 11.30 McLean Hall, Fearnan.

Saturday

- Football in the Park, 12-17 years, 12-2pm

Sunday

- Football in the Park, 8-11 years, Check for times with Andy.
- Killin Gun Club, 3rd Sun of month March-December. Contact Stuart Ogston 07999 510014 Henry Paterson 01567 820354

February

- 11 & 12 Crianlarich Community Garden volunteer days p 12
- 13 SWT Callander p 22
- 17 SWT Pitlochry p6
- KPP meeting p14
- 21 Breadalbane Heritage p27
- 23 Community Meals, p19

March

- 13 SWT Callander p22
- 17 SWT Pitlochry p 6
- 21 Breadalbane Heritage p 27
- 22 Old Mill Makers Market & Heritage Hub reopens
- 30 Community Meals, p19

Church Services

- **Killin & Ardeonaig Parish Church**
- **1st Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship including Sunday School
- **2nd Sunday of the month**
10:00 Sunday worship including communion
- **3rd Sunday of the month**
10:00am Cafe Church including Sunday School
- **4th Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship
- **5th Sunday of the month**
10:00am Sunday worship
- **Episcopal Church**
- See www.strathearn-episcopal-churches.co.uk for details
- **Roman Catholic Church**
- Sunday Mass in Callander at 11:30am

Killin Library

Books, DVDs, dog waste bags and hearing aid batteries.

Monday	10-1pm	2-5pm
Tuesday	10-1pm	3-7pm
Wednesday	2-5pm	
Thursday	Closed	
Friday	10-1pm	3-7pm
Saturday	Closed	

Mobile Libraries

Please see the council websites for any updates.

Crianlarich/Tyndrum
Fortnightly Friday
31 Jan, 14&28 Feb, 13&27 Mar

Crianlarich
School 10:45-11:30
Glenfalloch Rd 11:40-12:00
Willow Square 12:05-12:25

Tyndrum
Green Welly 13:40-14:10
Mansefield 14:15-14:45

Perth and Kinross
Three week stops, Tuesday
4 & 25 Feb, 18 Mar
Tombreck 16.10-16.30

Which bin? Saturdays

8 Feb 15 Feb

22 Feb 1 Mar

8 Mar 15 Mar

22 Mar 29 Mar

Red = no bin collection

Grey = grey bin + blue bin

Brown = brown bin + monthly glass box

Green = brown bin + green bin

Recycling Centres

Callander

Booking Reference Required

Monday-Friday: 5pm-7.30pm

Saturday: 10am-1.30pm

Sunday: Closed

Aberfeldy

Tuesday and Thursday

9am-6-45pm

Saturday and Sunday

10am-4-45pm

Crieff

Broich Road, North Forr

All Year

Thursday-Monday 9am-4pm

Closed Tues & Wed

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