

KILLIN NEWS

KILLIN & DISTRICT
COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

February/March 2026

Issue 203

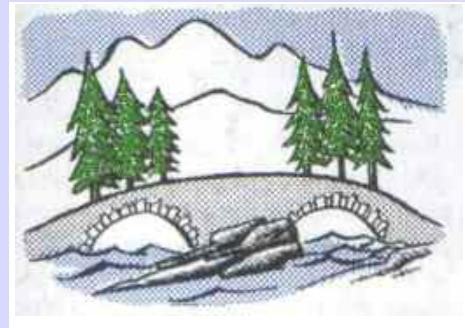
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Killin News

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.



DEADLINES

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

Index

| | |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Ads Index | 38 |
| Big Shed Loch Tay | 5 |
| Breadalbane Heritage Society | 22 |
| Crianlarich Primary School | 27 |
| Dun Coillich | 8 |
| Frost Report | 33 |
| Hogmanay Fireworks | 37 |
| Killin & Ardeonaig Trust | 18-19 |
| Killin Breadalbane Angling Club | 26 |
| Killin Community Bus | 32 |
| Killin Community Council | 23 |
| Killin Firefighters Fundraising | 10 |
| Killin Medical Practice | 31 |
| Killin Mountain Rescue | 6 |
| Killin Nursery | 17 |
| Killin Panto 2026 | 20-21 |
| Killin Primary School | 14-15 |
| Killin Pump Track opening | 3 |
| Killin Volunteer Car Scheme | 4 |
| Lantern Making & Procession | 30 |
| Local Planning Applications | 31 |
| Loch Tay Water Testing | 11 |
| McLaren Communities Futures | 22 |
| Mobile Banking Vans | 38 |
| Mobile Libraries | 39 |
| Obituary | 34 |
| S60 Bus under threat | 29 |
| Salmon Fishing Opening | 9 |
| Scouts | 32 |
| Strathfillan By The Way | 12-13 |
| SWT Pitlochry | 16 |
| Tombreck Market Garden | 9 |
| Walk in the Park | 28 |
| Weather Report 2025 | 24 |
| What's On | 39 |
| Which Bin | 39 |
| Wild Strathfillan | 36 |

Front Cover

Photo Ron Allner

KILLIN CELEBRATES OPENING OF STIRLING'S FIRST PUMP TRACK

Sunday 7 December marked a milestone for Killin Sports & Recreation Hub as they officially opened a brand-new pump track cycling facility – the first of its kind in the Stirling Council area.

Getting the wheels in motion, the ceremony brought together invited guests and members of the community of all ages to hear about the journey that has seen the track come to fruition after many years, from those who made it happen. The star of the show was rightly the pump track though and is already proving a hit with its many banked turns, dips and slopes meaning that no two trips around its 100m layout are the same. But what is a Pump Track? Its purpose is to allow anyone to have



along the track are almost symbolic of the long process in getting the track developed. Chris McKenna (Active Stirling's Community Activation Officer) provided some insight into the years of work the hub and many partners have put into the project that has seen it stem from a community ambition into reality. Key throughout was community engagement and

at the facility. David Fettes (KSRH Chairperson) noted that the Sports & Recreation Hub are "proud to see Breadalbane Park transformed into a space where people of all ages can come together, be active, and share in the joy of cycling. It's a facility built not just for today, but for generations to enjoy."

So what are you waiting for, get into gear and get on your bike!

Article Notes:

KSRH would like to thank the following groups for their exceptional support with the project: Killin & Ardeonaig Trust, Sportscotland, Forth Valley Leader, Scottish Cycling, The Countryside Trust, UKSPF Community Spaces Improvement Grant, Cllr Martin Earl, Alan Jones Associates, Velosolutions and all in the community who supported the project.



fun and develop skills on just about anything with wheels. The hills and turns build confidence and inspire a love of cycling that will see riders progress to the many trails in the area.

The highs and lows that feature

voice, for example it was the community who selected its location in Breadalbane Park, where despite a winter building schedule, it is already fitting into the landscape as if it has been there for generations.

Now that it is complete, the pump track is open and free to use daily, with planning underway for structure sessions and events



Images courtesy of photographer, Ron Allner





Killin and District Volunteer Car Scheme

The Car Scheme continues to be very well used by many people from our community.

We are pleased to be able to tell you that we are in the process of handing the administration of the scheme to KAT. The Chair, Secretary and Treasurer have been fulfilling these administrative roles since we began in 2018, and all three feel it is time to step down, handing over the reins to others, enabling them to spend more time following their other interests.

At the AGM, and following further advertising of the vacant posts, no one

came forward, which resulted in discussions with KAT, who are pleased to help keep this important service going.

This change will not affect the day-to-day running of the scheme, which will remain the same, with the two coordinators and all drivers staying in their roles. Although the secretary, Chair and Treasurer will be leaving their current positions, they will remain as drivers and coordinator, they will also be heavily involved in supporting KAT to ensure a smooth transition of the administration to them, which is likely to take several months.

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The Big Shed Loch Tay

Look! A new logo. By the time you read this, the Big Shed will be well on its way to operating as a Scottish Charitable Incorporated Organisation (SCIO) rather than a Community Interest Company. OSCR, the Scottish Charity Regulator, even gave us a new logo. J & H Mitchell WS in Aberfeldy are helping us navigate the legal process.

The Big Shed is a bright, modern eco-building with excellent facilities, sitting in a beautiful spot adjacent to the Ben Lawers

National Nature Reserve, with views over Loch Tay. You can hire the building or parts of the building. It's a lovely space for wellness retreats of all kinds, as well as celebrations – most recently a birthday party for local primary school children. The Big Shed has recently been the venue for Killin Community Fridge's free cooking classes: here's the kitchen all set up for soup making.

To tempt you further...

1. There's a lower rate for people from the three Community Council Areas that border Loch Tay - Kenmore & District, Glenlyon & Loch Tay and Killin & Ardeonaig.
2. For people running workshops, retreats, or something similar at the Big Shed, local rates extend as far as Aberfeldy, Crianlarich & Lochearnhead. (Do get in touch if you're just beyond those places).

3. Events meeting one of the following criteria also qualify, wherever you're based - the preservation & conservation of the natural environment, sustainable rural development & sustainable rural livelihoods.

To find out more about the Big Shed, have a look at the website, the Facebook page or email us at

websitecontact@bigshed.org.uk



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The Big Shed is at Tombreck on the north side of Loch Tay, about 2 miles after the hill road turn off. Access is signposted from the main road and there is parking.

www.bigshed.org.uk

www.facebook.com/theBigShedTombreck
txt or phone 07508645453



2025 Operational Highlights

Our team remained consistently active throughout 2025, responding to a wide range of incidents across the region. The figures below offer a clear snapshot of the year's activity and the commitment shown by our volunteers.

Activity Overview

- 28 callouts during the year
- 22 full rescue deployments
- Assisted neighbouring teams on 4 occasions
- Average of 8 team members attending each callout

Callout Duration

- Average duration: 3.5 hours
- Longest callout: 10 hours (from alert to returning home)
- 1200 volunteer hours

Casualties & Medical Support

- 24 casualties assisted
- 18 callouts involved injuries or illness

Air Support

- Helicopter involved in 11 callouts

Weather Conditions

- Nearly half of all callouts occurred in fine weather

Locations

- 6 callouts to Ben More/Stob Binnean
- 5 callouts to Beinn a'Chroin/An Caisteall

Killin Mountain Rescue Team

In comparison to last year, we were slightly quieter but did have some longer callouts. We were fortunate in not having any long missing person searches potentially reflecting the nicer weather we had last year.

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 with the superb help of people fundraising on the Team's behalf and having more successful fundraising campaigns at the events we have attended.

As always, we attended over 20 events ranging from the Killin 10K, Killin Agricultural Show and Lochearnhead Highland Games 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 would like to remind people of the need to treat the conditions with respect. Exploring our hills and mountains in winter requires experience, skills and the necessary equipment to have a safe and enjoyable day.

It is also imperative to use specialist mountain weather forecasts and to consult the Scottish Avalanche Information Service as part of your planning in the days leading up to your trip. It is also imperative to be aware of you and your parties' abilities and expectations. We are blessed with a stunning winter landscape just now and we hope everyone can enjoy the views safely.



www.mountaineering.scot/safety-and-skills/thinkwinter

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

Andy Drynan
07784 726 609
Killin, Perthshire

drylandgs@gmail.com

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Dun Coillich – where people and nature thrive

Dun Coillich is a community owned landscape regeneration and rural skills training project in Glen Goulandie. The site is owned by the charity Highland Perthshire Communities Land Trust, which manages the land for wildlife and the local community.

Would you be interested in supporting our work?

We are seeking new trustees to join the HPCLT Board. We would love to hear from enthusiastic people of any age with an interest in or experience of hill landscape and wildlife, conservation, communications/PR, fundraising or financial management. If you are interested in joining our welcoming board and actively helping HPCLT, please get in touch with us to have a chat and find out more.

Please contact the Chair on info@hpclt.org before the end of February for more information and to arrange an informal chat.

Opportunity to do a Modern Apprenticeship in Rural Skills

Thanks to a unique partnership between HPCLT, Forestry and Land Scotland, the National Trust for Scotland and the Dalchosnie and Kynachan Estate, there is an

opportunity for two people to apply for a one-year apprenticeship operating across land held by these partners. Starting in March, this is a great opportunity to earn a wage while gaining an industry recognised qualification and valuable experience in a range of land sector skills.

For anyone interested in a land-based career and seeking meaningful career progression, hands-on experience in a wide range of rural environments and a recognised Scottish Vocational Qualification this could be an ideal and exciting opportunity. Please contact us for more information – projectofficer@hpclt.org

Supporting rare plant species

HPCLT's Dun Coillich is becoming an increasingly valuable patchwork of wildlife habitats, supporting many species of plants and animals. The trust is currently working with the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh on the Scottish Plant Recovery project, which aims to establish three rare native plant species, the Alpine Blue Sowthistle, Whorled Solomon's Seal and Small Cow Wheat, in more locations in Scotland.



All three of these plants have now been introduced at Dun Coillich. The Alpine Blue Sowthistle and the Whorled Solomon's Seal were planted as seedlings, with stakes marking their positions and supporting vole guards to protect the young plants from small herbivores. Small Cow Wheat seeds were sown and GPS positions were recorded and a photograph taken so that it will be possible to see how the plants spread beyond the planting area.

The Small Cow Wheat plants are particularly interesting; they are hemi-parasites and their roots are able to intertwine with the roots of other plants and they penetrate the host's roots to 'steal' nutrients. However, the Small Cow Wheat can also photosynthesise so it is not completely dependent on parasitism.

For more information -

Visit the What's On page of our website www.duncoillich.org to find out where we are, what we do and how to get involved. You can also follow our Facebook Group (Dun Coillich Community Land) for regular updates.



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Opening of the Killin Salmon Fishing 2026



The West Loch Tay Salmon Fishing Association and the Killin and Breadalbane Angling Club held a ceremony to mark the opening of the Salmon Fishing Season on 15th January 2026. A piper led the procession from the Killin Hotel to the banks of the River Lochay. Rob Jamieson welcomed those attending and presented the Grouse Trophy. The opening was performed by Donald McClarty, with a blessing from Reverend Jeff McCormick.



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DALL LODGE

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We would like to express our gratitude towards the Killin News- team and their great work! **Menie & Bannen**

If you would like to support your local crafter, please check Facebook for the opening times of "The Nook". Our local honey can be bought from our new honesty stall.

Killin Firefighters Fundraising

We would like to thank the local communities and tourists alike for their continued support of our charity fundraising.

Last year we attended the Killin Highland Games, the Killin Show and did a car wash – all of these raising money for local charities & the firefighters' charity.

The money from the car wash has been donated to the firefighters' charity and as a crew we like to give back to our local communities, without whom none of this would be possible.

We have donated £200 each to the following groups, The Friends of Killin Cemetery, The Killin Media Team, Crianlarich Primary School & Killin Sports Hub. We hope you all had a Merry Christmas and a safe & happy New Year.

Thanks

Killin's Firefighters



Friends of Killin Cemetery



Killin Media Team



Crianlarich Primary School



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Loch Tay Association - Water Testing

Loch Tay community launches ambitious water testing project to safeguard the future of the loch

A powerful new community-driven initiative is set to transform how Loch Tay's water health is understood and protected. The Loch Tay Association has announced the launch of its **Water Testing Project**, an ambitious citizen-science programme designed to shine a light on growing environmental pressures affecting one of Scotland's most cherished lochs.

Although Loch Tay's waters may look pristine, early signs tell a different story. Increasing levels of sediment and nutrients—particularly nitrates and phosphates—are beginning to threaten aquatic life, water clarity, and the delicate balance of the wider ecosystem. Yet with limited official monitoring in place, the true scale of the issue remains unclear.

That is about to change.

Community Volunteers Take the Lead

At the heart of this project is the creation of the **Loch Tay Water Quality Monitoring Group**, a dedicated team of trained local volunteers who will carry out regular, scientifically robust water testing across the loch. Using validated tools and easy-to-use methods, volunteers will track key indicators of pollution, including Nitrates, Phosphates and Turbidity. These vital measurements will help identify pollution sources, reveal patterns over time, and build a comprehensive evidence base to guide future action.

Learning from Success: The Windermere Model

The project draws inspiration from the breakthrough

citizen-science efforts at Lake Windermere. There, local people partnered with **Freshwater Watch**, are uncovering serious pollution issues that had gone undetected by limited official monitoring. Their work ultimately prompted renewed attention and meaningful intervention.

Now, Loch Tay is poised to follow that successful path. By joining forces with **Freshwater Watch** and with funding provided by Griffin and Calliachar Community Fund, the Loch Tay community will gain access to expert training, high-quality testing kits, and global data platforms—empowering local residents to become guardians of their own waters.

This project marks a significant and proactive step forward. By combining community passion with scientific rigour, the Loch Tay Association aims to generate the most comprehensive picture ever assembled of the loch's water quality—and ensure that any emerging issues can be tackled early and effectively.

"This is about taking ownership of our loch's future," said Bill Oppenheim, Chair of the Loch Tay Association. "By coming together as a community and working with respected scientific partners, we can protect this extraordinary place for generations to come."

For more information on becoming a member of the Loch Tay Association, to volunteer or to hear more about the Water Quality Monitoring Group, please contact:

Loch Tay Association Secretary

Email: wilmakenmore@hotmail.com



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Strathfillan Community Development Trust

Woodlands

Works are finally scheduled to begin on constructing additional forest roads in the Tyndrum Community Woodland, to enable schedule felling operations. Our contractors will be on site from the end of January, as they look to re-develop the A82 access site and the woodland turning area. These works will take place over several weeks and will require temporary traffic management on the A82 to manage access to the site. These works are being completed to enable us to harvest the remaining conifer stands in the Tyndrum Community Woodland, which is scheduled to take place in the summer. The overall aim of this project is to further restructure the Tyndrum Community Woodland as an extensive area of native woodland. These works are supported through the Nature Restoration Fund, enabled through our participation in Wild Strathfillan initiative and cooperation with the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park.

The Trust are also hoping to secure funding to commission a comprehensive design of a re-developed car park for the Tyndrum Community Woodland at Dalriagh. We have made an application through the Loch Lomond & Trossachs National Park Authority Place Programme Fund, which delivers funding for strategic visitor management infrastructure and facilities investment across the National Park. If successful, we will be commissioning a design team to give us a shovel ready design of a re-developed car park, which we will hope to secure future funding to deliver.

On the ground, Jimmy has been busy repairing the perimeter deer fence in the woodland. Thanks to the Nature Restoration Fund and the Wild Strathfillan Project, we secured additional funding to purchase the materials necessary to complete repairs. The fence repair will offer protection to our re-planting efforts, following the completion of the harvesting works in the summer.

If you have any questions on anything going on in the woodlands, please drop an email to Euan@strathfillancdt.org.uk

Strathfillan Angling Association

The SAA have decided to keep permit prices level with the previous season. Permits and maps for 2026 will soon be available from the usual places, i.e. Crianlarich Stores, the Rod & Reel and the Green Welly Stop. Online permits and day passes will now be exclusively booked through our website.

www.strathfillancdt.org.uk/projects/fishing-in-strathfillan

The updated map for 2026 will also soon be available on our website. Follow us on Facebook and share your photos of your catch and our lovely area.

www.facebook.com/Strathfillanfishing

As always, thank you to Colin McGeoch for chairing and steering the Strathfillan Angling Association.

Bike Skills Park

Thanks to Jimmy for erecting the new signage at the Tyndrum Community Woodland Bike Trails! If you've got a bit of spare time, why not take the bike down to give them a go? The trails are fully open, so please stop in for a look if you are interested. Please bear in mind that these are Blue and Red graded mountain bike trails, so an appropriate mountain bike and helmet are required.



Crianlarich Community Cinema

We now have a large screen and projector and are ready to go! We will be advertising our film showings on all our social media channels and in the local area, so keep your eyes peeled! If you have any ideas for a film that you would like to see or if you would like to be involved in the project, please get in touch.

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60th Anniversary of the Callander to Oban Railway

On the 22nd of November SCDT hosted an event to mark the 60th Anniversary of the closure of the Callander to Oban Railway Line. It was well attended and we had 4 speakers and some films to watch. John Yellowlees spoke about 'Some personal Collected Thoughts'; Sandy Fraser had some great old photos and took us back to his time 'Going to School on a Steamie'; Bill Young regaled us with 'The Early History of the Railways' and Doug Carmichael gave an impromptu talk through his early years' trips out to Oban on the train. There is a particularly good free 20 minute video on YouTube called Ghost Train: Callander to Crianlarich (Lost Scottish Railway Animation) that's worth a watch <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-j7TWOo5gxA>. The Trust is looking to reinstate the old Callander Station stones (white painted stones announcing arrival into the village) in a project this year.

AGM

Our AGM was held at the Crianlarich Best Western Hotel on Monday 17th of November. We would like to extend a huge thank you to our two guest speakers, Acrux Gold and Treestory! Both gave excellent presentations, outlining some of the fascinating work they are both respectively doing in the area. Thank you to Rachael, Karel & Sean (Acrux Gold) and to Beth & Eleanor (Treestory). We'd also like to say thank you to all the locals who attended!

The AGM included an annual review of the Trust's operation from our Chair and a financial report from the Treasurer. All Trustees decided to

stand for election once again, and no new nominations were received before or on the night. While the personnel on the board remains the same, we have had a re-shuffle in office bearer positions.

Rena Baillie and Theresa Elliot have decided to step away from an office bearing role. As such, Julian Clarke and Mike Holroyd have volunteered to become the new Vice Chair and Treasurer, respectively. We give a big thanks to Rena and Theresa for their time spent in the roles, and we welcome Julian and Mike to their new roles at SCDT!

SCDT Board 2026

Dawn Skelton (Chair)
Julian Clarke (Vice Chair)
Mike Holroyd (Treasurer)
Rena Baillie
Theresa Elliot
Diane Mailer
Ellen Cattanach

Keeping strong and balanced at home

As we may have spent more time sedentary over the festive period, this month's exercise concentrates on lower limb strength and regular sit to stands aimed at improving strength. Did you know that if you added in 15-20 more slow sit to stands in a day your leg strength will improve. Your body weight is a considerable training aid! But slow is the operative word here, not with momentum but making the leg and backside muscles work. Don't be a 'plonker' instead aim for a refined landing when you sit.

Sit to Stands

Walk your hips forwards to just past centre of the chair

1. March the feet a bit to boost circulation
2. Bring your heels back a little, but keep your heels flat on the floor
3. Sit tall, hinge your trunk forwards Power up to stand
4. Stand tall and move your feet a bit to pump the blood
5. Step back a bit and feel for chair on back of legs
6. Bend the knees, lead with your buttocks, sit down with control
7. Repeat 3-5 times each time you get up in the day



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A Message from the Killin Parent Partnership

The Killin Parent Partnership came together to provide teas, coffees and cakes for all the family and friends who attended the Nativity on December 15th. After a call out for male bakers, we had a lovely array of home baking from men throughout the village. Thank you to everyone - men and women - who took the time to bake and to the team of parent volunteers who clubbed together to make the night a great success. The refreshments, along with the raffle tickets, meant we raised almost £500. An amount like this makes a big difference to us as we can put it towards the much needed Primary 7 Dalguise trip in March and other essential extras the school children will benefit from. Thank you to everyone who came along to the Nativity.

Leeanne Coyle, Treasurer and Jeremy Hannah, Chairperson.



Thank you to all the parents, family and friends of KPS who came to support our Nativity this year. I'm sure you will agree that the children put on a fantastic show and the singing was wonderful.



Ailsa and Emilia won a colouring competition run by Children First. They received a goody bag and a lovely little silver pendant designed by Malcolm Appleby MBE. Well done girls.



A huge thank you to the Killin SWI for another wonderful Christmas Party. The food, as always, was delicious and the dancing and games were lots of fun. Thank you also to Lodge Breadalbane St.Fillans 815 and community helpers for the fantastic tree and decorations. You made our Christmas Party a fantastic event.



We would like to thank the staff and residents at the Falls of Dochart Retirement Home for hosting a 'paint by number' session with our P7s. They thoroughly enjoyed their morning.





Class 3 had a fascinating afternoon with Sharon (Wild Strathfillan) and Helen (National Trust for Scotland). We learned names of deer, how to identify them, what they were used for in the past and how they are being managed now. We are now looking forward to the next part in our 'Hill to Grill' project with a visit to Auchlyne Estate later this month.

KPS would like to thank Helen who, after 37 years, is retiring from the NTS. She has been an excellent friend of KPS over the years, providing numerous workshops, offering expert advice and running Green Team. All the best, Helen.



Class 2 and 3, in line with their Habitats and Rainforest topics, enjoyed their outing to the Birk's cinema to see 'The Wild Robot' and 'Paddington in Peru'.



Thank you to everyone who used the village Christmas Post service. The children raised an amazing £160. This money will be used to buy the contents of the community bags next festive season. This year we were able to make and deliver 56 bags to deserving members of our community.



Well done to everyone who took part in this year's Spelling Bee and congratulations to our overall winners.

We are delighted to have been Highly Commended by Bikeability Scotland for our commitment to cycle training and promoting opportunities, along with our role as a Bikeability Hub for local schools.

The pupils are continuing to develop their enjoyment of cycling with the opening of the new pump track and regular cycling opportunities at school.



A huge thanks to the Killin Show for their donation of £400 to the school, which acknowledges the input and support from staff and pupils over recent years!

Scottish Wildlife Trust Pitlochry

Cluny House Gardens: red squirrels and magical woodlands Scottish Wildlife Trust talk Monday 16th February

Join Wendy and John Mattingley, owners of Cluny House Gardens near Aberfeldy, for an enlightening talk with the Pitlochry and Highland Perthshire branch of the Scottish Wildlife Trust on February 16th.

Cluny House is one of Perthshire's finest woodland gardens, and Wendy and John take a refreshing approach to gardening. Instead of controlling wildlife, they embrace the value the creatures that visit our gardens can

bring. Their talk will offer new insights into how we might all rethink our relationship with nature.

Cluny House is also renowned for its thriving red squirrel population, making it one of the best places in Perthshire to spot these iconic



creatures. Wendy and John's commitment to creating a wildlife-friendly and truly beautiful space is truly inspiring. Don't miss this chance

to hear their approach to gardening in harmony with nature!

Date: Monday 16th February 2026
Time: **7.20pm for 7.30pm start** - 9.00pm

Place: The Tryst, Church of Scotland, Church Road, Pitlochry, PH16 5EB.

Suggested donation: £3 for non-members, £2 for members (cash on the day).

Contact markandrosie@btinternet.com for more information. Sign up to hear about events and activities on reserves in our area and beyond. scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/sign-up-to-our-mailing-list/

If you are already a member and want to hear directly from the Trust, sign up to the mailing list and click the 'Events and information from my local group' option.

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STOP SMOKING SERVICE

Are you wanting to stop smoking in 2026? We provide a free 12 week NHS stop smoking service. It's much easier to stop smoking when you get the right support and with professional help, you're 3 times as likely to quit for good.

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.

Our pharmacist's lunch break is usually between 12.30-1.30pm. If they are not on the premises at this time we will not be able to hand out your prescription or sell certain medicines so please avoid this time if that is the purpose of your visit.

Davidsons Chemists, Myrtle Grove, Main Street, Killin Tel: 01567 829006 killin@wdavidson.co.uk

Killin Nursery



Killin Nursery would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy new year. We look forward to continuing to work alongside our families and our local communities to provide high quality early learning and childcare provision.



Since returning to nursery the children have been exploring the winter weather, engaging in outdoor play opportunities with ice and snow. The children have been using the school gym hall, accessing large physical play experiences such as balance beams, obstacle courses, throwing and catching, climbing and agility table.

Stay Play, Blether Away continues every second Thursday from 2:00pm till 3:00pm, commencing 15th on January 2026 in the school gym hall. Please enter through the double black gate to the gym hall door at the rear of the school to enjoy a play and chat with other parents and care givers.



We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to a local resident who very kindly donated money to Killin Nursery. We aim to use this money to update our ICT resources for the children.



RESPECTED RHIYA

I'm Respected Rhiya and I want you to know it's important you are listened to and involved in decisions about you.



Bookbug Sessions

Free story, song and rhyme sessions for babies, toddlers, pre-school children and their families

Erin continues to facilitate weekly Rhyme Time sessions in Killin Library at 10:30am every Tuesday. These sessions are free and accessible to all children and young people accompanied by an adult to engage in singing and story experiences. Please feel free to join us.



Congratulations to our long standing and awesome Senior ECE, Natalie Campbell who received her certificate recently for completing her PDA Level 9 in Childhood Practice. Natalie has spent the last 4 years working incredibly hard to achieve this well deserved qualification.



Community garden – would you like to be involved?

KAT has been funded by the Loch Lomond & Trossachs Countryside Trust, through the Wild Strathfillan project, to design a community garden. The sports pavilion has offered some land it would like to see used for this.

We have a small group of young people and community members who have come forward to help take this project forward, but there is scope for more people to be involved. Please contact Theresa if you are interested theresa@killinct.co.uk

New skills development project for young people in rural areas

KAT is launching an exciting new pilot: the Skills Development Project, a support programme designed to help young people (aged 16–25) to build confidence, gain practical skills, and take steps toward employment or further training.

Behind the scenes, we've been developing a range of free rural-based training sessions and courses, shaped to meet young people where they are. Whether you're unsure what to do next, looking for your first job, or just want to build your confidence, we're here to help. To find out more or register your interest, get in touch at skillsdevelopment@killinct.co.uk or phone 01567 230040 and we'll get back to you.

St Fillan's Church – interim survey results are in

Community Enterprise, the consultants carrying out a feasibility study, have been gathering information from the survey, hosting drop-in sessions and talking directly to businesses/local residents/community groups. The survey is still running and you can access it by typing this into a browser: bit.ly/TinChurchKillin – it will be closing soon so please submit your response quickly.

Interim findings

There have been 89 responses as of January 16:
85% were from local residents/businesses
53% of the respondents have never been in the church
5% used it weekly
76% feel that the church is extremely important or important to the landscape and culture of the community.

There are almost equal numbers of people for and against the proposal for creating a pilgrimage centre and providing visitor accommodation.

Supporters said: affordable accommodation would help young people, hillwalkers and walkers; it could boost local businesses year-round; and it would help make Killin more accessible and inclusive.

People who have concerns said: Killin already has sufficient accommodation; a previous hostel failed; the building is unsuitable for modern accommodation standards; accommodation would create parking, noise and unfair competition issues; and subsidised accommodation would distort the local market.

Shared principles were: the building is iconic and important to Killin; its future should benefit the local community; its heritage and character must be respected; and decision making must be inclusive and evidence based.

How the Diocese of St Andrew's, Dunkeld and Dunblane and KAT proceed from here is yet to be decided. Once the full results from the survey have been analysed, we will update the community with the findings and possible ways to progress.

Time to take stock as Fassiefern turns one in February

February 28 will see RecyKillin celebrate its first anniversary at Fassiefern. Looking back, we feel it has been a really great year with lots of events and milestones.

More than six tonnes of items reused

Probably the most important one is the turnover we have achieved in the shop, which is great for helping us generate an income to support other KAT projects but also means we have prevented a huge amount of items being thrown away (an estimated 6.3 metric tonnes), two of the three main aims of the project.

Take our online survey

The other main aim is to provide a fun and affordable shopping experience that complements the other businesses in the village. We hope you will agree that we are achieving this – and we would like your input into how we could improve the Reuse Shop, the Tool Library and the Community Fridge.

If you have 10 minutes, please do fill in our online survey either by typing this link into a browser

<https://forms.office.com/e/zQDRdiLnx>,

using your phone camera to scan this QR code, or head to our Facebook page www.facebook.com/reuseshopkillin/ where there is a pinned post with the link to the survey.

RecyKillin - we want your views



Join us for a celebration

Please save the date - **Saturday**

February 28 – to join us at Fassiefern for a wee look back and celebration during the shop opening hours.

New opening times

As January to March tend to be a bit quieter in the village, we have decided to open the Reuse Shop and Community Fridge five days a week instead of six, so we will now be closed on Mondays. The current opening hours are: Tuesdays midday to 4pm, Wednesdays 11am to 4pm, Thursdays midday to 4pm, Fridays midday to 4pm and Saturdays midday to 4pm. From March, we will trial opening later one day a week – look out for details on Facebook or in the shop.

The Tool Library opening hours remain the same – Tuesdays 2pm to 3pm and Saturdays midday to 1pm.

All the latest from Fassiefern

We continue to have Start-up Stirling and Citizens' Advice Bureau (CAB) coming in every Thursday before the warm hub – you can pop in to see them between 10.45am and 11.45am.

Our business and learning hub is available for bookings for:

- A meeting space for up to 30 people
- Need a place to work for a few hours? You can book a desk space
- Need to hold a video conference? We have great technology for this
- Want to organise a training event? Great space and technology for that, too
- Need a private space to meet clients/customers? We have a comfy, relaxed space to enable this to happen, too.

Whatever your needs are, come and chat to Theresa and have a look around – I'm sure we can accommodate you.

Hamper Draw



The Christmas Hamper draw was a great success again this year, the draw took place on 23rd December. The winners were Jim Whitley and John McNab.

All proceeds will go to local good causes, a big thank you to everyone that bought tickets.

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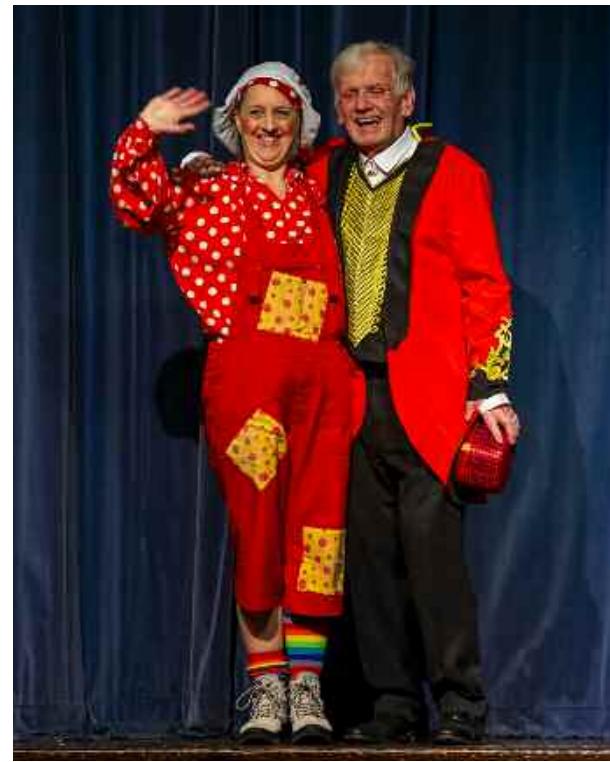
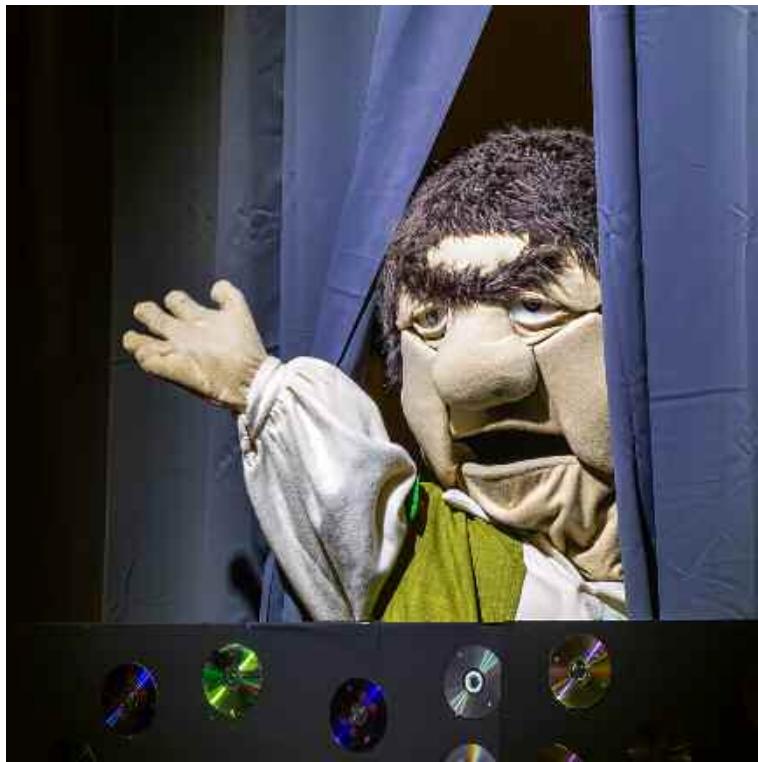
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Killin Drama Club Panto



- Jack and the Beanstalk



Killin Panto celebrates its 30th panto

What a show it was that Killin Drama Club put on this year! Bursting with special effects (a larger than life cow and a beautiful giant, to name but a few!), amazing actors and dancers and incredible sound and light effects. The amount of work involved in this production must have been incredible!

It was also Gordon Hibbert's 30th season as director. He definitely has not lost his enthusiasm for panto and we all hope to see him carry on in this role for lots more years. Well done Killin Drama Club!!



McLaren Communities Futures Forges Ahead

We're pleased to share exciting updates from the McLaren catchment collective - a group of 10 Community Trusts within the McLaren catchment area are exploring hopeful futures together with projects that strengthen our resilience as a region.

Some of the topics we are exploring to take forward, subject to funding:-

- Transport
- Housing
- Active Travel
- Repair Cafes
- Food Waste
- Employment Skill within Climate Areas

We've been awarded £9,000 from the Forth Valley Climate Hub (led by FEL Scotland) to build on our work with dedicated staff time. Our next steps include exploring governance structures, creating a dynamic action plan, developing communications, forming workstreams, and delivering quick wins.

In December 2025, members volunteered considerable time to co-author an Expression of Interest for the National Lottery's Climate Action Fund - potentially securing £1.3m for our work. We'll keep you updated when we hear more, fingers crossed.

We've hit the ground running in 2026, meeting to kick off this phase and identify key actions. We're excited about strengthening community resilience and advancing our priority themes throughout the coming year.

We're keen to connect with residents, landowners, and organisations across the catchment. If you'd like to know more or get involved, please email hello@mclarencommunitiesfutures.com



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SJP Approved 22/08/2025

Killin Community Council

Killin Community Council Minutes – 6th January, 2026 – Lesser McLaren Hall

Chairman's Welcome

C. Grant (Vice Chairman) welcomed all present and wished all in Killin a Happy New Year.

Recording of Those Present and Apologies received

Those present: C. Grant; P. Farquharson; S. Inglis; S. McRobbie and F. Inglis;
Apologies received: A. Dowling; D. Fettes (LLTNP); W. Simpson; A. Watson and L. Van de Coterlet

Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

Adoption of November 2025 Minutes

The previous Minutes were proposed for acceptance by S. McRobbie and seconded by C. Grant and passed unanimously.

No notes of interest from members of the public were received.

Chairman's Report

C. Grant proposed that a letter of thanks be forwarded to our local Fire Service and to the supplier of the village Christmas tree.

A request has been received regarding new lights for the Christmas tree as those in present use are no longer safe or satisfactory. It was proposed by S. Inglis and seconded by P. Farquharson that funds would be provided to purchase 2 reels for this year's display. C. Grant will make enquiries as to availability and cost. It has been brought to the Council's notice that metal bolts and welding on the Iron Bridge across the old railway line are rusting out and falling off the structure. T. Inglis will look into the matter of ownership and responsibility and report back to the Council.

C. Grant has attended a meeting in Stirling regarding an abundance of brand new equipment available to all local community councils under their resilience plans during a local emergency such as Storm Arwen. Only Crianlarich CC has so far taken up this offer. There is much equipment available and it is proposed that the Council asks for a demonstration to see what items would be of most help to the resilience team. A demo will be requested. The team would

however have to find suitable secure premises to store the equipment and suggestions of likely buildings or sheds would be helpful.

Treasurer's Report

As at 29th December 2025 funds held by the Community Council were £5200.00 received from SSE Renewables to be transferred to KAT towards the upgrade of the old railway line path; £513.89 from Stirling Council grant. The total funds held are £10,186.23 of which £3,400 is available to the Council for projects. Monies ringfenced for previous schemes has already been accounted for. This leaves approximately £6600 to be transferred to KAT towards the railway path project once this has been agreed.

Stirling Council Report

Not available due to weather conditions.

Police Report

Not available.

Planning Report & Related Issues

There had not been many issues – Auchline approval of a venison storage larder; Greenbank requesting a side door entrance instead of the front, replacing cladding to the existing porches and approval requested for the painting of the front railing. Although the KCC had written a protest against, this had not proved enough with regard to the approval granted for proposed building works scheduled for Maragowan caravan site. Lochay power station modular switching station is going ahead.

The Lochay hydro power station project is going ahead although behind schedule. The battery storage facility at the Biomass site is going ahead with much already in place. They are awaiting a link between their interest and the national grid. The battery storage will be quite substantial and is not within the Biomass building. It is in the open at the far end of the building itself. The building is empty at this time.

KAT Report

A community survey exploring the possibility of buying St. Fillan's Episcopal Church (the tin tabernacle) with a view to offering visitor accommodation and heritage initiative focused on pilgrimage, is

underway to evaluate community support, risk and financial viability. It is essential that the community puts forward their views and ideas NOW and the survey is available online or paper copies can be picked up from and returned to KAT at Fassiefern. It would be no use complaining later that this is not what the village wants if you have not put forward your views now. Much has been said on social media and it was remarked that the KCC should make more use of a social media presence to share all the information and ideas that come in to us and to involve the community as much as possible. It was proposed that we ask Tony Dowling in this regard.

There are other projects like the Re-use, the Old Mill and the railway path but all are on hold over the Christmas period.

KAT has been approached to take over the running of the Community Volunteer Car Scheme which is now a vital part of village life as those at present running the scheme wish to retire. Whether this project could fall under the KAT umbrella is being assessed at the moment as it is felt it is vital to keep this scheme running as efficiently as at present as so many people now rely on it.

Roads Report

S. Inglis had put in a phone call during the meeting to Stirling Council emergency dept. asking for gritting to be done to the pavements and other pedestrian surfaces which were absolutely lethal that evening. The Council had done some work to potholes in the Killin to Lix stretch on the left hand side but the weather conditions were making progress unlikely at present.

AOCB

A request be put in to Stirling Council to finish the yellow lines project in the village with particular attention to the double yellows at the start of Lyon Road opposite the school and in the Main Street where parking is getting out of hand.

Date and time of next meeting

7,00 p.m. Tuesday 3rd March in the McLaren Lesser Hall.

Note that these are the unapproved minutes and are to be approved at the March meeting.

WEATHER REPORT 2025

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

Summary

The total rainfall recorded at the Met Office automatic weather station at Kirkton in 2025 was 2524.4 mm (99.4 inches). This was very close to the 30-year 1991-2020 average of 2597.7 mm. The wettest month was October (330.0 mm; 13.0 inches; 60.6 mm above the 30-year average). Both the summer and autumn rainfall totals were above the 30-year averages. The driest month was April with 87.0 mm (61% of the 30-year average). The 159.8 mm of rainfall recorded in January was less than half the 30-year average. The highest rainfall over a calendar week (Monday to Sunday) was 176.0 mm between the 27th October and the 2nd November (Week 44). There were seven calendar weeks when the total rainfall exceeded 100 mm (Weeks 1, 4, 8, 37, 40, 44 and 50). The highest rainfall in a single day (09:00 GMT to 09:00 GMT) was 66.2 mm on the 3rd February. There were an additional six days when more than 50 mm of rainfall was recorded, and a further 23 days with more than 25 mm of rainfall. The highest rainfall in a single half-day 12-hour period (09:00 GMT to 21:00 GMT) was 48.6 mm recorded on both the 27th March and the 21st July. A total of 67.6 mm of rainfall was recorded in the 24-hour period from 21:00 GMT on the 20th February to 21:00 GMT on the 21st February. The total number of rain days was 239 (65.5%). There were two calendar weeks when no measurable rainfall was recorded (Week 19 and Week 20). In the 21-day period from the 2nd May to the 22nd May there was no measurable rainfall. There were 52 days during the spring when no precipitation was recorded (57%), compared to 31 days during the summer (34%), and 19 days during the autumn (21%). Torrential rain on the 21st July resulted in some localised flooding of the Kirkton farm buildings when the burn that flows past the office burst its banks.

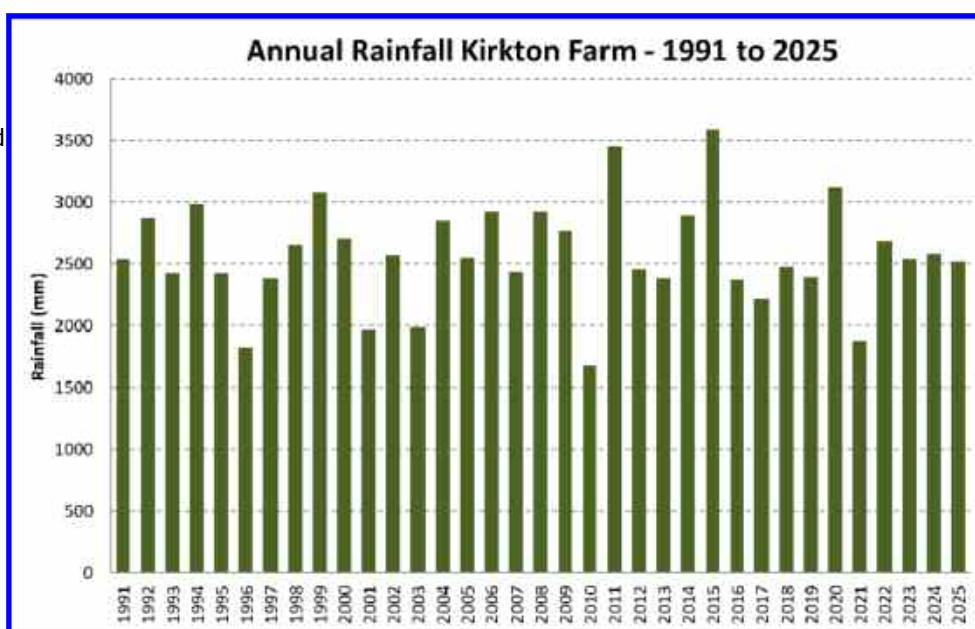
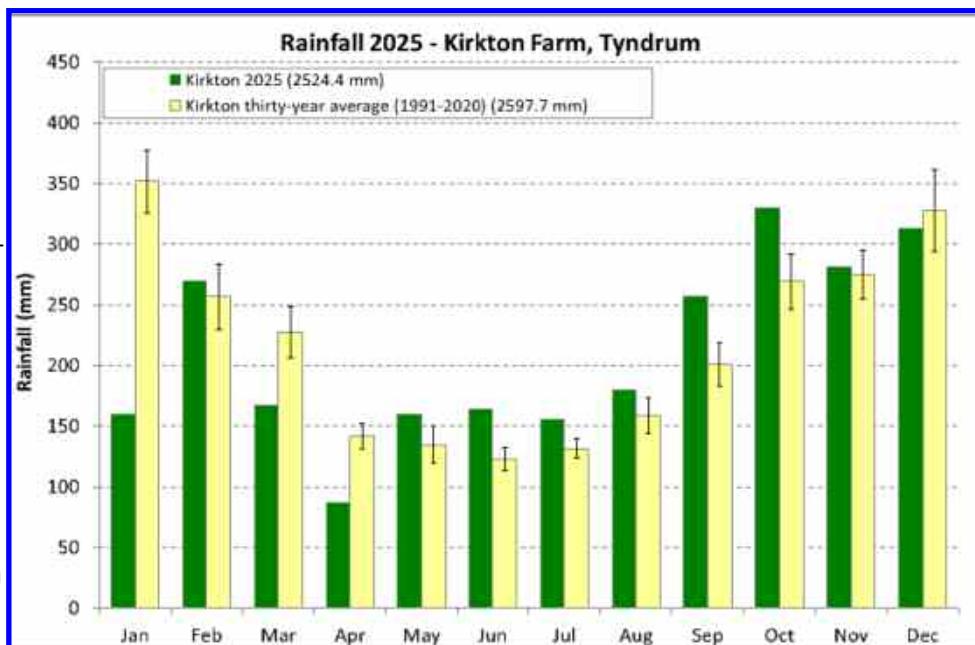
The lowest temperature recorded during 2025 was on the 11th and 12th January when the temperature fell to -9.2°C on two consecutive nights. There were 14 days when the temperature fell below -5.0°C. There were only two days in 2025 when the temperature failed to rise above freezing (29th and 30th December). The lowest maximum temperature was -0.8°C on the 30th December. An air frost was recorded on a total of 70 days.

The highest temperature in 2025 was recorded on the 12th July when the temperature reached 29.7°C. This was the highest July temperature since recording began in 1991. A maximum temperature of 28.7°C recorded on the 13th August was the highest August temperature on record. Temperatures of 25°C or above were recorded on a total of 9 days, while temperatures above 20°C were recorded on a further 33 days. July was the warmest month with a mean maximum temperature of 19.9°C. April 2025 was the warmest April since recording began in 1991, with a mean maximum temperature of 14.9°C, which was 3.6°C above the 30-year average. 2025 was the warmest year on record with a mean annual temperature of 8.91°C, which is 1.1°C above the 30-year average. Only January and September had mean temperatures below the 30-year averages.

An Atmos-41 weather sensor located at Kirkton recorded a minimum atmospheric pressure of 93.3 KPa (933 millibars) at 09:30 on the 24th January as the eye of Storm Éowyn passed over the farm. This was a record low pressure reading for the farm and if accurate is one of the lowest atmospheric pressures ever recorded in Scotland. As the eye of the storm passed over the farm the wind dropped and there was a brief period of calm before the winds increased again.

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

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





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| Deanston | Doune | Drymen | Gargunnock | Gartmore |
| Killearn | Killin | Kinlochard | Kippen | Locheamhead |
| Strathblane | Strathyre | Stronachlachar | Tyndrum | |

Further new build developments are being planned for Balmaha and Tyndrum. 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

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Killin Breadalbane Angling Club



Another year is upon us here at the Angling Club. On behalf of the Committee, I want to wish all Anglers, Tight Lines for the year ahead.

One of the objectives of the angling club, within the community, is to promote angling in general within the Killin area and to organise fishing outings. With this in mind, this year the club has made the decision to look closer to home for outings and here is the list with locations.

| Day | Date | Month | Location | Method | Cup | Numbers | Transport |
|-----------|------|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|------------|----------|-----------|
| Sunday | 5 | April | Lake of Menteith | Fly Fishing | | 10 | Bus |
| Sunday | 3 | May | Loch Tay | Fly Fishing | Peter Ross | 10 | Car |
| Sunday | 7 | June | Loch Earn | Any Legal Methods | | 10 | Car |
| Sunday | 5 | July | Orchil (Coarse) | Any Legal Methods | | 10 | Bus |
| Wednesday | 15 | July | Mackeral (kids) | Feathers | | 9 Kids | Bus |
| Saturday | 18 | July | Mackeral (Adults) | Feathers | | 12 | Bus |
| Sunday | 2 | August | Lawers | Fly Fishing | | No limit | Car |
| Sunday | 6 | September | Breacalach | Fly Fishing | | No Limit | Car |

These days out will be, in the first instance, open to members and then to non members. If you are interested please email kbacsecretary@gmail.com. If you would like the club to run some tester sessions then we can create some dates and get them shared to the village if you can let us know if interested please!

Salmon

The new season for Salmon fishing started on the 15th of January 2026 and thank you to West End Salmon Association for running the opening ceremony. It is great to see it being brought back.

At the Annual General Meeting it was raised about salmon being caught, and the ask was put to the committee and members that all salmon should be returned.

Trout

Another change that was agreed, is the minimum size of keepable trout for Loch Tay. The size has been increased to 12". Again this is to help to look after the stock of Trout within the Loch and to enjoy them for years to come.

Signage

The club will be replacing and putting up new signage within our areas within this year. This is a huge task to assist with landowners and raparian owners. So look out for the new signs!

Grounds

The club is looking for someone to help with keeping up to date with the ground around the jetty and at the shed. If you would be able to help with this please email kbacsecretary@gmail.com

If you are able to help the Angling Club, whether you like to fish or not, but would be able to donate a couple of hours a month, we would love to hear from you on kbacsecretary@gmail.com

**Stephen Hay
President of KBAC**

The members voted on this, and it was agreed at the AGM that for 2026 all salmon that are caught, must be returned in all of the Killin and Breadalbane Angling Club waters. There is no exception. This decision has brought the club in line with other fishing organisations and this is to help with the preservation of salmon within the Loch Tay river system.

There is a great video of the opening of last year's season available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rFZauLVo2Kc>





Pantomime

On the 9th December, the whole school went to the Pavilion in Glasgow to see Jock and the Beanstalk. This was funded by staff and pupil fundraising. We were sat on the balcony which was a great view. The Party Committee bought us all an ice cream.

Singing to Strength and Balance Group

All pupils went to the village hall to sing Christmas carols to the Strength and Balance group. It was nice to meet new faces. They gave us sweets to enjoy and we made them some shortbread.



Sharing the Learning

We had families in to enjoy Christmas themed songs and activities. Pupils in the school who play instruments played them (drumming, tin whistle and ukulele) while the rest sang along with families. After, we worked with our families to create wooden Christmas ornaments for our trees. To finish, everyone went to the village hall to do some Ceilidh dancing, this was great fun! (Evey and Hunter, P7)



Moving together – keeping fit, happy and connected. Join us for our range of free movement inspired weekly wellbeing activities supporting people to be more active, more often, connecting with each other and nature.

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In 2025 we celebrated another fantastic year of staying active and connected through our **Walk in the Park weekly walks** and **Strength and Balance sessions**. These programs have brought people together, and in nature, to support their mental, physical and social wellbeing. We delivered **342** walks and **246** Strength and Balance sessions throughout the National Park, supporting over **530** participants. Highlights included a record **93** people joining our All Group Walk and our first Strength and Balance Volunteer Evaluation and Development Day.

We rounded off the year with Festive Fun and Community Spirit as **231** participants joined us to celebrate the season. Together, we enjoyed **Body Boosting Bingo** with a festive twist, sang **Christmas carols** alongside local primary schools, and shared plenty of laughter over delicious **Christmas lunches**, mince pies by the tree, and even a festive cream tea.

A huge **thank you** to everyone who came along to our annual Killin Walk and Strength and Balance Christmas Lunch, there was lots of festive laughs and great food. Thank you, Isobel, for organising this special event for us again and a big thanks to the fantastic staff at the Killin Hotel, who treated us to amazing food and service. One participant summed it up perfectly:

"Great Company. Great Lunch!"

Health Walks

Winter can be a difficult time to keep motivated, just to get outside can be hard, never mind taking exercise but science shows us that even weak



winter sun helps us regulate our mood and can help us get a good night's sleep and short bouts of exposure to cold increases alertness and improves our circulation.

Health Walks are local, safe, accessible short walks which take place in communities led by trained volunteer walk leaders. They are a great opportunity to meet new people, explore new local routes and are a great opportunity to learn about your local area and have a chat!

Meeting at the Sports Pavilion and Recreation hub (and Monemore, see below) join us every **Wednesday at 10.20am**. See the table at the bottom of the page for what we've got in store for you throughout February and March

Our walks are **FREE** with thanks to funding from: Loch Lomond and the National Park Authority, Peoples Postcode Lottery, Scottish Forestry.

- Wednesday 11 February – Meet Sports Pavilion – Golf Club Walk (CS)
- Wednesday 18 February – Meet Monemore – Acharn Railway Line (DF)
- Wednesday 25 February – Meet Sports Pavilion – Glen Ogle (CS/DF)
- Wednesday 04 March – Meet Sports Pavilion – Pier Road/Finlairig Castle (DF)
- Wednesday 11 March – Meet Monemore – Kinnell Estate (DF)
- Wednesday 18 March – Meet Monemore – Craignavie Road from forestry (CS/DF)
- Wednesday 25 March – Meet Sports Pavilion – Head of Loch Tay (DF)
- Wednesday 01 April – Meet Monemore – Acharn Railway Line (DF)

(*D/F symbolises a dementia friendly route/CS symbolises a car share – contact Fiona@trustinthepark.org for details).

Strength & Balance Sessions

Both our Crianlarich and Killin Strength and Balance groups rounded off 2025 celebrating the festive season with special visits from their local primary schools. After a quick warm up from our volunteers the groups were treated to festive songs, and we even kept moving learning some of the associated moves to these fun festive songs. We very much look forward to continuing this in intergenerational collaboration in 2026, with lots of fun movement inspired activities.

As we age, maintaining strength and balance becomes crucial to prevent falls and injuries. The simple exercises are effective and can be done seated or standing. Strength and Balance exercises focus on building strength, improving balance and mobility which may help build confidence and improve our overall wellbeing. The classes are always welcoming, fun and a great opportunity to socialise with others.

With thanks to funding from **Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority, Stirling Voluntary Enterprise, Peoples Postcode Lottery and Scottish Forestry** our sessions are **FREE** (although donations are greatly accepted) with no need to book - just turn up!

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

We also like to end our sessions with tea and coffee, as the social element of our sessions is equally important.

Thursday's 2-3pm, Crianlarich Village Hall - weekly

In partnership with the Strathfillan Community Development Trust our Crianlarich sessions are weekly with participants invited to stay for a cuppa afterwards.

To find out more about: Walk in the Park, Strength & Balance, or volunteering with us please visit our website at www.trustinthepark.org or get in touch: Fiona@trustinthepark.org or call 07843 842323 (Monday to Thursday)

Could this be the end of the road for the S60 Bus?

Stirling Council has launched its Big Conversation for 2026/27 looking at cutbacks to save money and this will have closed before Killin News is published. This time round, one of the suggested cost savers is taking away the S60 bus which enables residents of Killin to travel directly to Stirling. Many residents who don't drive rely on this bus for many reasons such as weekly shopping and onward travel from Stirling. It is also a chance for a day out from the village and the isolation many people feel when they are stuck at home. Being able to visit cafes and meet friends for lunch in Stirling's vast selection of eateries is valuable for well-being and health. The bus is also a social occasion where neighbours can catch up and chat. In the summer the S60 is well used by tourists visiting Killin.

The journey takes 70 minutes from Killin to Stirling which is around 30 minutes faster than using the C60 and 59 connecting in Callander. There is plenty of luggage space on the S60 for shopping trolleys, rucksacks, suitcases etc and there is disabled access, which is not the case on the C60.

Residents of other villages on the S60 route have services run by Ember and Citylink running every day of the week not only to Stirling but on to Edinburgh, and to Oban and Fort William heading in the other direction. The future of the S60 service relies on those starting and finishing their journey at Killin, as they make up the vast majority of the passengers and don't have the alternatives due to the problems getting to and from Lix Toll.

A recent council survey collecting feedback from people living in Stirlingshire found residents were already unhappy about infrequent,



expensive, and sometimes non-existent rural bus services. The S60 only runs one day a week and improves the lives of villagers who pay ever increasing council tax and do not have the luxury of other Stirlingshire residents with a regular public transport network. It appears whatever transport is provided for Killin will constantly be under threat as Stirling Council look for ways to save money. We would not have the C60 without the hard work of the Save the C60 bus group. This has made a big difference for workers and students but space for both luggage and passengers is limited. We hope the C60 will continue after June and not leave us without transport yet again.

The Big Conversation ended on 1st February with the council meeting to discuss the cuts earmarked for 26th February. If you feel strongly about saving the S60 then please

contact your local councillor prior to the meeting and if you don't currently use the bus please do! The Midland Bluebird app has timetables, and buses including the S60 can be tracked.

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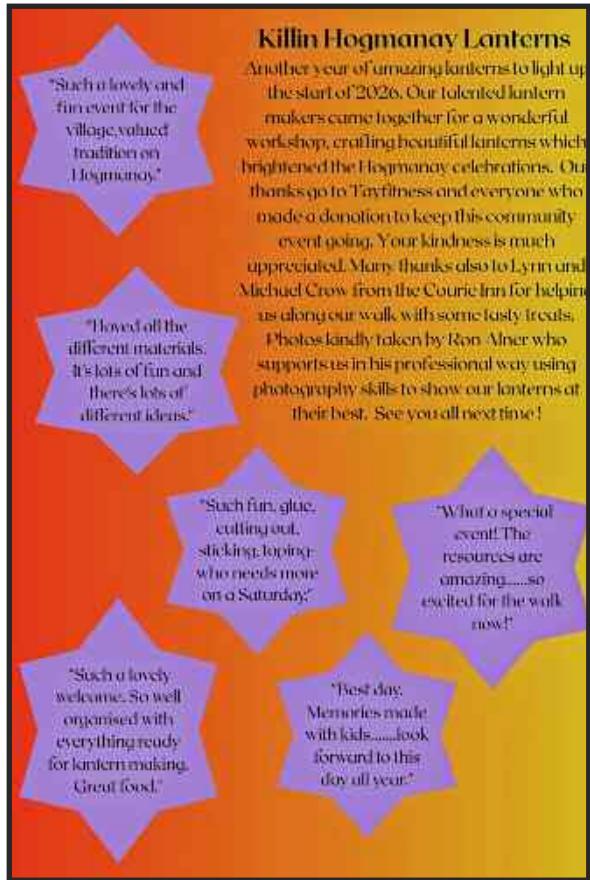
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Lantern Making and Parade



Local Planning Applications

National Park

29 Oct 2025

Proposal: Proposed new access door to side of dwelling and replace existing cladding to entrance porches, paint boundary railings
Location: Greenbank Main Street Killin

Applicant: Mrs V Burns
Application Type: Householder
Planning Permission
Decision: Current

15 Dec 2025

Proposal: Erection of building for storage purposes (forestry)
Location: Dalrigh Carpark Tyndrum Community Woodland Dalrigh

Tyndrum
Applicant: Mr Euan Palmer
Application Type: Prior Notification
Decision: Current

Perth & Kinross Council

12 Dec 2025

Proposal: Formation of footpath
Location: Land 5.7km North Of Rynachulaig Farmhouse Killin
Applicant: The National Trust For Scotland
Application Type: planning permission local
Decision: Approve the application

Stirling Council

18 Dec 2025

Proposal: Application under Section 42 of the Town and Country Planning (Scotland) Act 1997 to vary Condition 1 of planning approval 22/00674/FUL
Location: Land 1280M East Of Firbush Point Field Centre Killin
Applicant: Ms Ilse Mikula
Application Type: Full
Decision: Awaiting decision



Welcome to Heartland Vets Clinic in Killin

We offer a clinic in the sports pavilion in Killin. We run this every two weeks to help those that are unable to get through to our practice in Aberfeldy. Our clinic opens at 9:30am and finishes at 12:30pm. Repeat prescriptions, food etc can be provided and collected on the day.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT YOU ORDER THEM IN ADVANCE

4th Feb 18th Feb 4th Mar
18th Mar 1st Apr 15th Apr

Appointments: 01887 820 771

Have you heard of our pet health club?

The pet health club is a fabulous way to save money every year on your pets vaccinations, flea, tick and wormer, 6 month health checks, urine sample check and much more!! If you join the the PLUS plan this includes unlimited consultations!

There are discounts on some lifelong medications & treatments. You can also get information regarding prices by scanning the QR code provided.



email: aberfeldy@heartlandvets.co.uk
www.heartlandvets.co.uk



Killin Medical Practice

Greetings

A very happy New Year to all our patients.

Thank you very much for all the lovely cards and gifts we received for Christmas.

Graduation

We are very pleased to say Jamie Anderson graduated and completed an MSc in Advanced Rural Practice :

In November I graduated with three other rural practitioners at Inverness after successfully completing an MSc in Advancing Rural Practice. I was part of the first cohort to graduate in this course, which has been developed in partnership with University Highlands and Islands and the National Education for Scotland board.

I would like to extend my sincere thanks to everyone who supported me in the last two years to achieve this academic qualification, and especially to the patients who participated in my improvement project last summer. Without the commitment of those 30 patients I would not have successfully produced a weight management



Jamie (far right)

support group, that proved that in rural practice flexibility is essential.

I look forward to developing as a Rural Practitioner in Killin Medical Practice and continuing to increase my confidence and abilities for our community.

Jamie Anderson
Advanced Rural Nurse Practitioner & General Practice Nurse
Killin Medical Practice

Public Holidays 2026

Good Friday 3rd April 2026
Easter Monday 6th April 2026
Monday May 4th 2026
Monday October 12th 2026
Friday 25th December Christmas Day 2026
Monday 28th December 2026
Friday January 1st 2027
Monday 4th January 2027

Two further dates and training afternoons may be scheduled and will be published on our website once confirmed.



Beaver Scouts are back up and running following our Christmas break. Before the end of term we finished up with a trip to the care home to do some Christmas crafts and then a Christmas party. The crafts finished off our creativity badge which we were awarded at the end of term.

This term we have lots of exciting indoor badges lined up to tackle before we can get back outside when the light nights return. We're going to be doing our builder, experiments and communicator badge!! We



kicked off our building skills with a night full of Lego challenges and planning our own creations which will be built next session!

Beaver Scouts are aged 6&7, they meet 6-7pm in Killin on alternate Tuesdays. We have space so if your child would like to join us in the Autumn, please e-mail killinbeavers@yahoo.co.uk

Laura Carmichael
Beaver Leader
07708216065

Killin Community Bus

Use your Community Bus!

Killin has been lucky to have its own community bus for over 50 years, but, like anything, if you don't use it, you lose it.

The Killin Community Bus holds 13 passengers plus the driver. It can be driven by anyone aged 21 and over who has held a full UK driving licence for a minimum of 3 years and has no more than 3 penalty points. To drive it, you must register with us. All this involves is filling in a short form, and once it's been reviewed, you'll be cleared to drive it.

There's no need to be apprehensive about using it. It's lovely to drive; you'll be given a guided tour and a practice drive before you take it out, and it's got parking sensors plus a reversing camera to help with manoeuvring. To register as a driver, simply contact Ron



Allner on 07909 984868.

It can be used for lots of different purposes, anything from club outings to family outings, social trips to shopping trips. All this at a hire cost of a mere 85p per mile, with a minimum hire

charge of £25.00. Booking is very easy via our online booking system <http://tiny.cc/BookTheBus>. If you need help booking or want to hire it and need disabled access, please contact Rhowena on 07779 115551.



Frost Report

Silly Season

Silly season is a name given to the time when Parliament and other major organisations are on holiday so there are few news items, therefore all kinds of silly stories hit the news.

This last period of holiday between Christmas and Jan 6 has, unfortunately, not been free of major news but there have still been some weird and wonderful stories emerging.

For instance, we have been informed that 15 Scots per day are treated for injuries from dog attacks. And they want to bring in wolves!

You could beat that with the story of a Belgian chap who is using mussel beards to produce acoustic insulation suitable for music studios, offices and restaurants. The mussel's beards are not facial fashion items, but a few fine threads used to anchor them and are currently a waste product of the mussel industry. The threads are 'harvested' and pressed into boards. I'm just wondering how many mussel beards does it take to insulate an office block? And how did he find out about their insulating qualities? Oh, and another plus is that they are flame retardant.

Amongst these golden nuggets of news is the odd 'advert'. Nature Scot are looking for beaver hosts. Nature Scot are having to deal with some naughty individuals which we had been assured were 100% advantageous and would solve all our flood related problems. The number of naughty beavers shot, because they were beavering away where they shouldn't have been, reduced to 20 last year as they are being translocated instead. So, if you have a bit of water that needs attending to you may be able to adopt a goofy toothed furry friend from Nature Scot. Easy to feed and doesn't need taking for a walk.

Another rogue, more frightening, is the elephant in the Eastern Indian Jharkhand forest which has killed 13 people in 2 days. In this same area 1,300 have been killed in the last 23 years.

A little less awful are the brown ship rats which have taken to entering bat caves in Northern Germany where

they stand upright on their hind legs to grab a passing bat which they proceed to crunch. The rats have also been seen to catch extra bats to store up. Similarly in New Zealand, the brown rats which invaded from a ship in 1967 are now decimating the native short tailed bats.

Other great news which you have all been waiting for – fly farming may soon get the go ahead. This is not as silly as it may first sound. Apparently black soldier flies could be used in the production of edible protein and fertiliser while dealing with waste management. The protein production would decrease reliance on imported soya, the frass (organically produced fertilizer) will be vital as chemicals used for this are becoming rare and cow poo could become extinct! Waste reduction is always welcome, and the flies would eat up waste from food outlets and processors. Not such good news for your urban rats and foxes etc. which currently 'clean up' in many areas.

It was interesting to see that one piece of news that was included was the fact that many more remote rural areas were cut off in the recent snow and the only way that they were accessed was by farmers, keepers and the like clearing tracks with their tractors and 4x4s. If some had their way and all 4x4s were banned, where would they all have been? Presumably many were those helping with the fires in the summer.

A much sadder story is that of acorn poisoning. A number of sheep both locally and in Wales have died and also cattle. Every few years oaks have a 'mast' year when all oaks produce a heavy crop. This aids dispersal but does it produce extra

poisonous fruit? or extra tasty? And why can deer eat them and be fine? There must be a PhD in there for someone.

Most of you will have watched David Attenborough's recent film about wildlife in London. A great deal of footage is of the large number of urban foxes there. It is thought that the density is around 12 per square km. Although the density in the Scottish uplands is down around 0.2 per square km their range may be growing. A dead one was recently found on Orkney where none were thought to be.

Our Mr. Fox appears to be enjoying himself in the recent seasonal spell as he has been seen, in the grounds of Lincoln Cathedral no less, standing up on his hind legs and playing with a snowman. As yet there are no reports of him singing "Walking in the air." But it would make a good Christmas movie.

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James Sinclair Obituary

29.09.52 – 22.11.25

James was born in Killin on 29th September 1952, the third son to Tom and Ena Sinclair. He had a happy childhood growing up with his two brothers, John and Peter and younger sister Elizabeth.

James attended Killin School and on leaving he worked in the local post office. The postmaster, John Forster, introduced James to skiing, initially on Ben Lawers. He continued to enjoy this pastime over the years and went on skiing holidays abroad with friends.

James had an interest in cars, especially fast cars! He was fortunate enough to be able to follow his interest through employment as a mechanic in local businesses. Initially at Horwoods Garage and later at Lix Toll Garage, where he remained until his marriage to Evelyn in 2003, when he moved to Greenock.

James always loved the outdoors. He was involved in deer stalking on local estates and with the National Trust at Ben Lawers. He was a member of Killin Gun Club, taking part in clay pigeon shoots and doing well in competitions. He was very fond of animals, particularly dogs and he enjoyed taking them on nice long walks. He had a lovely gentle way with the dogs and they adored him.

James made many friends through his work and interests. He had a



great sense of humour and he and his pals were often getting up to mischief. No doubt there will be many stories that will remain untold!

In 2002 James suffered a traumatic accident which had a life changing impact. He began his recovery at home in Killin before moving to Greenock. He and Evelyn later moved to Inverkip, where he had the countryside on his doorstep, ideal for getting out with the dogs. They later moved to Eldon Street in Greenock where they had a beautiful view over the Clyde estuary. He was proud of his garden and always had it looking

immaculate. They had good neighbours and spent lots of time enjoying their company. James made his home there but he never forgot his roots in Killin. He often returned to visit family and friends or to attend a clay pigeon shoot or other events like the Killin Show. He enjoyed seeing familiar faces and having a good catch up with them.

James was diagnosed with Parkinson's disease but as time went on it became apparent to medical staff that he had Multi Systems Atrophy. As his illness progressed he and Evelyn moved to Dargavel to be nearer Evelyn's daughter for support. James was a kind, caring, gentle man who bore his illness so bravely and never complained.

James died peacefully in Accord Hospice in Paisley on 22nd November.

The family are grateful to all those who cared for James throughout his illness. They would also like to thank all those who knew James for their kind, supportive messages and attendance at his funeral.

John Sinclair, Peter Sinclair and Elizabeth Hancock.

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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 light lunch in good company.

It's open and free to everyone and Citizens Advice advisors regularly attend 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.

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WILD STRATHFILLAN COMMUNITY UPDATE

January 2026



Lifelong learning in Wild Strathfillan

Lifelong learning is a key strand of Wild Strathfillan's delivery. From **bat walks** and **lichen hunts**, to **seed propagation** and **creative workshops**, we offered **9** opportunities over this past year for local people to discover, learn and connect with nature.

We've got **even more workshops and courses planned this year** — so keep an eye out for upcoming opportunities to get involved! You can follow us on social media @Trustinthe park or contact sharon@trustinthe park.org if you'd like to keep updated.

We'd love to hear from residents in and around Strathfillan and Killin:

- What topics would you like to learn more about?
- What skills would you like to develop or share?



Wild Strathfillan

This is just a glimpse of the Wild Strathfillan initiative. Led by local land managers, communities, organisations, schools and businesses the Initiative is all about enhancing nature and strengthening rural life in Killin, Tyndrum, Crianlarich and Inverarnan. The work is coordinated by Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust, with support from the National Park Authority.

Wild Strathfillan is funded primarily through the Scottish Government's Nature Restoration Fund, managed by NatureScot and the National Lottery Heritage Fund, with support from the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Authority and Loch Lomond and The Trossachs Countryside Trust fundraising.



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Hogmanay Fireworks



Thanks to everyone involved in putting on the Hogmanay Fireworks. There is a lot of work involved in organising this much appreciated display including fundraising, and getting all the necessary permissions. Thanks also to all those involved in putting up the Christmas lights.



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Ads Index

| | | | |
|----------------------------|----|------------------------------|----|
| Ally Baird | 35 | Ian Dingwall Joiner | 34 |
| Anderson Funeral Directors | 8 | Jason Campbell | 12 |
| Ardeonaig Hotel | 7 | John Morris Safety | 10 |
| Ardeonaig Taxis | 34 | Killin Hotel | 19 |
| Baird Optometrists | 4 | Killin Library | 36 |
| Callander Physio | 5 | Killin Outdoor Shop | 35 |
| Charles Grant | 10 | MacGregors | 25 |
| Comrie Garden Services | 29 | MacIntyre Wealth Management | 22 |
| Cooper Cottages | 11 | Malcolm Appleby | 33 |
| Courie Inn | 35 | Mancave Barbers | 9 |
| Crianlarich Store | 12 | Marshall Roofing | 13 |
| Dall Lodge | 9 | Marshall Electrical Services | 13 |
| Davidson Chemist | 16 | Mike McDougall painting&dec | 38 |
| Doune Woodyard | 11 | Morag Felgate Massage | 10 |
| Dryland Gardening Services | 6 | NSB Contracts ground works | 35 |
| Eric McAllister | 12 | PFK Callander | 13 |
| Escape | 35 | R & C Luke Coal | 25 |
| Fabric Studio | 38 | Reflexology Works | 4 |
| Feeds & Stoves | 7 | Rural Stirling Housing | 25 |
| Gourlay Events | 25 | Scott Thomson Decorators | 34 |
| Grants Laundry | 6 | S.Forster Electrical | 33 |
| Graham Grant | 36 | Simon Evamy Kitchens | 29 |
| Green Welly | 40 | | |
| Heartland Vets | 31 | | |
| Iain Watson joiner | 9 | | |

What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

Monday

- Adult Badminton, 7-9pm, McLaren Hall
- Junior Badminton, 6pm, Crianlarich Hall
- Bridge, 7.15-9pm, Killin Hotel, contact Marion 07879 258229
- 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 5.00pm Community Rooms, booking required on 07866 018629
- Aikido 7:30-9 Adults/Young people from 16 years.
- Aikido 6-6.45 aged 5 to 8, 6:45 - 7.30 aged 9 to 15.
- Rhyme Time 10.30am Killin Library

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
- Pilates 6pm Lesser McLaren Hall booking required. 07866 018629

Thursday

- Running Club, 6pm, Acharn Forest carpark
- Killin Community Hub, 12.30-2.30 Sports Pavilion

Which bin?
Tues/Wed

3 Feb 4 Feb 10 Feb

17 Feb 18 Feb 25 Feb

3 Mar 4 Mar 10 Mar

17 Mar 18 Mar

Green=green bin

Blue=blue bin

Brown=brown bin

Grey=grey bin Red=glass

What's On In Killin And District

Regular Activities

- 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)
- Stay Blay Blether away. Killin School Gym hall. 2pm fortnightly.

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 Iain Lowther 07468245239 Henry Paterson 01567 820354

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.org for details
- **Roman Catholic Church**
Sunday Mass in Callander at 11:30am

Coming Soon !

February

- SWT talk, p16
- KAT celebration, p18

March

- 3 KCC meeting, p23

April

- 5 Killin Angling Club , p.26

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

13 +27 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

10 Feb, 3 Mar, 24 Mar

Tombreck 16.10-16.30

Recycling Centres

Callander

Booking Reference Required

Monday-Friday: 5pm-7.30pm

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

WE ARE RECRUITING



Retail & Restaurant Team Members



Seasonal, Full & Part Time positions available

- * Competitive Pay
- * A High Standard of Staff Accommodation available
- * Employee Benefits:
 - Discounts on Staff purchases (including fuel)*
 - Free on shift meals*
 - Discounts at other major retailers*
 - Discounts on hotels, restaurants & travel*
- * Fantastic location for exploring Scotland

Contact us for more information
office@thegreenwellystop.co.uk
01838 400271



www.thegreenwellystop.co.uk